

ADEPT ENGINEERING BOARD

NATIONAL BRIDGES GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The ADEPT National Bridges Group (NBG) brings together local government bridge engineering and management representatives from across the UK to consider matters related to highway bridges, tunnels, other highway structures and related matters. The NBG is a sub-group of the ADEPT Engineering Board
2. The NBG membership consists of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, representatives of the Area Bridge Groups (ABG) (normally the Chair and Secretary of the ABG), and representatives of other national/regional groups as below:
 - South West
 - Yorkshire & Humber
 - West Midlands
 - East Midlands
 - South East
 - North West
 - Northern
 - Eastern
 - SCOTS
 - CSS Wales
 - Department for Infrastructure (Northern Ireland)
 - Transport for London
3. The Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary of the NBG are chosen by the NBG and have a tenure of 3 years after which a vote for each position will be taken by a show of hands at the appropriate National Bridges Group meeting (next due date February 2025)
4. As primarily an advisory body, the NBG aims to operate by consensus. Where there is no consensus a simple show of hands may be taken at the discretion of the chair.
5. The Chairmen and Secretary of the ABGs are engineers chosen by the ABG from amongst its membership and ratified by the NBG.
8. The **purpose** of the NBG and ABG is:
 - to develop and promulgate best practice on technical, financial, administrative and operational matters relating to the sustainable construction, maintenance, availability, safety and use of Local Authority highway bridges, tunnels and other highway structures.
 - to provide a source of advice to local authorities and professional bodies on best practice and priorities in relation to bridges, tunnels and other highway structures

- to provide a link between local authorities and other bridge groups, asset management groups and ADEPT groups including:
 - UK Bridges Board (UKBB)
 - Bridge Owners Forum (BOF)
 - ADEPT Engineering Board (AEB)
 - UKRLG/ADEPT Asset Management Board (AMB)
- NBG will be represented at UK Bridges Board by the NBG Chair and a representative from Metropolitan Councils, SCOTS and CSS Wales (or their proxies)
- to consult and co-operate with other bridge owners and those having an interest in bridges, inviting representatives to NBG meetings as appropriate from:
 - Network Rail
 - Canal and River Trust
 - Environment Agency
 - Other ADEPT groups
 - Other bridge owners or interested parties
- to assist with production of industry documents such as Codes of Practice and guidance

9. The **working methods** of the NBG are as follows:

- to report back to the ADEPT Engineering Board, of which the NBG is a sub-group
- to meet three times a year (usually February, June and October) and to record the proceedings of meetings and to share with ABGs
- from time to time to establish ‘task and finish’ sub-groups to undertake specific tasks
- to share topics where appropriate with other groups particularly UKBB, BOF and AMB
- to invite presentations from industry, or from other national groups, for delivery at NBG meetings

Keith Harwood
Chair

Kevin Dentith
Vice-chair

ADEPT National Bridges Group
February 2022