

## **TRAFFIC SYSTEMS WORKING GROUP: BUSINESS PLAN 2015/16**

### **1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Traffic Systems Group (TSG) is open to any person properly representing a Local Highway Authority interested in traffic control. It functions under the auspices of the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport (ADEPT) Transport Committee.

The Traffic Systems Group:

- Acts as a pressure group for traffic information and control system users
- Seeks to improve quality of manufacture, maintenance and operation of traffic information and control systems
- Receive requests for information and investigation from the ADEPT Transport Committee and initiate response. Advise the ADEPT Transport Committee on emerging issues affecting traffic systems.
- Represent UK local authorities in liaising with DfT on relevant legislation. Receive consultation documents from DfT to coordinate feedback.
- Provide a forum for discussing emerging issues and sharing best practice, and connecting engineers with experts in all fields of traffic control.
- Champion professional development, working in collaboration with professional bodies to promote traffic control and develop the necessary skills in new recruits and facilitate continuing professional development in established practitioners.
- Represent UK local authorities on traffic control issues arising through related developments e.g., UTMC.
- Disseminates advice and promotes discussion amongst Local Highway Authorities on issues related to traffic information and control

Key Objectives for the year:

- Working with the Association for Road Traffic Safety and Management (ARTSM) through the Traffic Technology Forum, complete the

implementation of TOPAS technical specifications for traffic control and associated equipment, and the registration of products to these specifications, in readiness for revisions to the Traffic Sign Regulations and General Directions.

- Raise awareness of the planned withdrawal by BT of low bandwidth telecommunication circuits in 2018, and the need for Local Highway Authorities to plan for their replacement, particularly in relation to Urban Traffic Control systems. The Traffic Systems Group will provide advice and guidance to Local Highway Authorities and liaise as necessary with Ofcom.

## **2. PURPOSE OF GROUP**

The Traffic Systems Group (the Group) provides a forum for the exchange of information on traffic information and control systems and equipment between users of such systems and equipment manufacturers and regulators. It works with other ADEPT Committees to ensure a common approach on cross-cutting matters.

It represents the "User" view in discussions with the Department for Transport (DfT) (and through the Department with the Commission of the European Communities) and other organisations on matters relating to traffic information and control systems and equipment and any other technical matters affecting Highway Authorities related to the traffic information and control system and equipment functions of the DfT Headquarters Section.

The Group seeks to promote knowledge of traffic information and control techniques, to liaise with professional institutions and training organisations and to encourage training and staff development in public and private sector organisations in traffic information and control techniques. It aims to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of traffic information and control systems through dialogue with the DfT, the Highways England and with industry, and sharing of good practice among its members.

## **3. DEFINITION OF TRAFFIC INFORMATION AND CONTROL**

The term traffic information and control is defined in this context as the use of any electronic device, apparatus or system installed on or adjacent to the highway which can be used to improve the efficiency of the highway network, reduce pollution from vehicles, improve road safety or improve the environment, together with any instation computers used to control such devices.

The Group therefore has an interest not only in traffic signalling but also in all aspects of Intelligent Transport Systems, including UTMC, traffic and travel information, route guidance, bus priority, real-time information, car park

management etc, and the processing of data for all forms of transportation. Consequently, these topics are also discussed at the Group's meetings.

#### 4. CONSTITUTION

The Traffic Systems Group functions under the auspices of the ADEPT Transport Committee as a working-group of the Committee.

#### 5. MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to any person properly representing a Local Highway Authority. These representatives can be the Authorities' own officers or consultants nominated by the Authority, with the following restrictions:

Not providing a forum for marketing products or services other than between Local Authorities for the purposes of shared services or the provision of technical support.

Not providing a forum for airing personal grievances against manufacturers or other service providers.

#### 6. WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2015/16

		<b>Action/ Timescale</b>
6.1	One of the Group's principal objectives is to act as a forum for users. The Committee intend to expand the range of relevant information available through electronic means, such through an electronic discussion forum hosted by the Institute of Highway Engineers (IHE). By encouraging a greater involvement from Local Authorities, other objectives will be strengthened.	
6.2	To meet representatives from the DfT Headquarters Divisions and the Highways England to discuss matters of common concern (subject to DfT Agreement).	Three times per annum
6.3	To meet in open session to report on the action of special working parties and groups, report on meetings and correspondence with the DfT and ARTSM and to exchange information between members.	One time per annum, as resources and priorities permit.
	Open meetings are intended to provide more in-depth discussion and training on topical subjects relevant to the membership.	Programme Co-ordinator, Michelle Fillingham
	In 2015/16 it is planned that the subject will be:-	

		<b>Action/ Timescale</b>
	New telecommunications options for Urban Traffic Control systems and related equipment.	
6.4	To provide Working Groups to consider specific topics within the Group's Terms of Reference. Each Working Group shall:-	As and when required
	a) Be composed of a small number of members fully representative of all Local Authorities concerned with the Working Groups' Terms of Reference;	
	b) Have Terms of Reference defined by the full Group;	
	c) Prepare reports on their work and, where appropriate, draft specifications for consideration by the full Group;	
	d) Where appropriate to the Working Group's activities, have members from Authorities of both an urban and rural character.	
	Industry working groups meet to exchange information and discuss with manufacturers the operation of specific types of equipment, and may be attended by TSG representatives.	
6.5	Previously the Group was represented on the Electrotechnical Industries Traffic Control Advisory Committee (EITAC) and Action Groups where traffic control standards and other matters of interest are discussed with the DfT, the Highways Agency and Manufacturers' Trade Associations.	

		<b>Action/ Timescale</b>
	<p>With the demise of EITAC, TSG and ARTSM jointly formed in 2012 the Traffic Technology Forum to provide an equivalent arrangement for discussing technical specifications for signal equipment and emerging issues affecting the industry.</p> <p>In 2013, the Traffic Technology Forum initiated work to develop a replacement for Type Approval, along with a system to maintain national agreement on technical specifications for traffic control and associate equipment, following plans by DfT and HA to withdrawer from this regulated activity. This led in 2014 to the Traffic Technology Forum establishing TOPAS Ltd., a not for profit company to maintain relevant technical specifications previously maintained by the HA, and to provide a means for manufactures to voluntarily register their products against these specifications in a way similar to Type Approval. TOPAS will operate once the revised Traffic Sign Regulations and General Directions, which will remove the need for Type Approval, come into force. The Group is represented on the TOPAS Management Board.</p>	<p>One time per annum</p> <p>Four times per annum</p>
6.6	To continue to co-operate with the Institute of Highway Engineers (IHE) to run a four day residential course.	Annually
	To explore with other organisations the provision of other courses and training experiences.	
6.7	To carry out surveys of traffic control equipment.	As and when required
6.8	To liaise on an ad-hoc basis with:	
	a) ITS-UK;	
	b) Professional Institutions such as ICE, IHT and IHE;	
	c) Other ADEPT working-groups;	
	d) Urban Traffic Management and Control (UTMC) Urban Development Group (UDG);	
	e) Real Time Information Group (RTIG).	

		<b>Action/ Timescale</b>
	TSG meet with UTMC-UDG, RTIC and TIH at a Joint Chairs Group to coordinate activity.	

## **7. COMMITTEE**

The Group has established a co-ordinating Committee comprising Chairman, Admin and Technical Secretaries, and representatives from UK local authorities. Where vacancies occur, new committee members shall be elected if nominated and seconded by the remaining committee, except in the case of multiple nominations, where the membership shall be invited to vote. Committee roles shall be determined by the committee.

To provide maximum national representation, it is suggested that regional TSG committees should be encouraged along the same lines as those already formed in Scotland, the Midlands, East and Southwest. The regional TSG committees should where possible provide a representative at national committee meetings to coordinate activity. Regional and national meetings should be scheduled to take place within a short period of each other and of the ADEPT Transport Committee to maximise the dissemination of information.

Membership of this Committee should be representative of Authorities from both rural and urban areas, and from consultants

The names of the members of the Committee and the representatives of the Group on the various Working Groups and Panels are given in Appendix "A".

## Appendix "A"

### ADEPT Transport Committee

#### Traffic Systems Group Organisation

Traffic Systems Group Committee				
Adrian. Gray (Chairman)	Hampshire	Tel: Email:	01962 846892 <a href="mailto:adrian.gray@hants.gov.uk">adrian.gray@hants.gov.uk</a>	Management of TSG business. Reports to ADEPT TOPAS
Brian Hodgson (Admin Secretary)	London TfL	Tel: Email:	020 30542513 <a href="mailto:brian.hodgson@tfl.gov.uk">brian.hodgson@tfl.gov.uk</a>	Liaison with DfT Programme for Open meetings.
Dave Kinnaird (Technical Secretary)	Cardiff	Tel: Email:	0292 0873321 <a href="mailto:d.kinnaird@cardiff.gov.uk">d.kinnaird@cardiff.gov.uk</a>	Circulation of documents.  Wales
Michelle. Fillingham (Presentation Secretary)	Bournemouth	Tel: Email:	01202 451399 <a href="mailto:Michelle.fillingham@bournemouth.gov.uk">Michelle.fillingham@bournemouth.gov.uk</a>	Liaison with IHE Programme of presentations for Open meetings.
Richard Ling	Cambridgeshire	Tel: Email:	01223 715916 <a href="mailto:richard.ling@cambridgeshire.gov.uk">richard.ling@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</a>	TOPAS
Gafoor Din	Warwickshire	Tel: Email:	01926 418065 <a href="mailto:gafoordin@warwickshire.gov.uk">gafoordin@warwickshire.gov.uk</a>	Liaison with IHE
Jayesh Parmar	Leicester	Tel: Email:	0116 4543707 <a href="mailto:jayesh.parmar2@leicester.gov.uk">jayesh.parmar2@leicester.gov.uk</a>	
Mark Cracknel	London TfL	Tel: Email:	020 30542128 <a href="mailto:Mark.Cracknell@TfL.gov.uk">Mark.Cracknell@TfL.gov.uk</a>	TOPAS (chair)
Richard Dolphin	Manchester	Tel: Email:	0161 2441800 <a href="mailto:Richard.Dolphin@tfgm.com">Richard.Dolphin@tfgm.com</a>	
Ben Catchesides	Highways England	Tel: Email:	0117 3726064 <a href="mailto:Ben.Catchesides@highways.gsi.gov.uk">Ben.Catchesides@highways.gsi.gov.uk</a>	TOPAS

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Declan Murphy	Northern Ireland	Tel: Email:	<a href="mailto:Declan.Murphy@drdni.gov.uk">Declan.Murphy@drdni.gov.uk</a>	
Bruce Slattery	CH2M Hill	Tel: Email:	01179102580 <a href="mailto:Bruce.Slattery@ch2m.com">Bruce.Slattery@ch2m.com</a>	
Colin Ridding	Mott MacDonald	Tel: Email:	0121 2341628 <a href="mailto:Colin.Ridding@mottmac.com">Colin.Ridding@mottmac.com</a>	



**Traffic Systems Group  
Regional Groups**

Eastern Region				
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South West Region				
Michelle. Fillingham (Chairman)	Bournemouth	Tel: Email:	01202 451399 <a href="mailto:Michelle.fillingham@bournemouth.gov.uk">Michelle.fillingham@bournemouth.gov.uk</a>	

Midlands				
Gafoor Din (Chairman)	Warwickshire	Tel: Email:	01926 418065 <a href="mailto:gafoordin@warwickshire.gov.uk">gafoordin@warwickshire.gov.uk</a>	

Southern				
Adrian. Gray (Chairman)	Hampshire	Tel: Email:	01962 846892 <a href="mailto:adrian.gray@hants.gov.uk">adrian.gray@hants.gov.uk</a>	

Scotland				
Cameron Ferguson (Chairman)	Transport Scotland.	Tel: Email:	<a href="mailto:Cameron.Ferguson@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk">Cameron.Ferguson@transportscotland.gsi.gov.uk</a>	

Wales				
Dave Kinnaird (Chairman)	Cardiff	Tel: Email:	0292 0873321 <a href="mailto:d.kinnaird@cardiff.gov.uk">d.kinnaird@cardiff.gov.uk</a>	