

## ADEPT South West Sub National Board – 16 July 2020

The Chair updated the Board on ADEPT business and the work of the Leadership Team who are currently meeting on a weekly basis. A draft ADEPT policy position paper on active travel will soon be available. ADEPT has held two events on Planning and decarbonisation which were really engaging and well attended. There is a webinar on climate change on the 30<sup>th</sup> July and those who wish to attend should get in touch with [Hannah.Bartram@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Hannah.Bartram@eastsussex.gov.uk). The Board were encouraged to attend the National Conference being held in Bath on the 5 and 6 November called *Resilient places: from recovery to renewal*.

The Board then received an update from Katherine Hunt, Head of Natural Environment Strategic Engagement Team at DEFRA on a number of key priorities within the Natural Environment (NE) Directorate including the Environment Bill, green recovery, COVID and the 25 Year Environment Plan. A Green Challenge Fund has been announced, to bring forward £40m funding from future funding years for conservation charities to bid to kick start projects that have been put on hold to boost the work on environment. The Board discussed the challenges around translating the 25 Year Environment Plan into delivery and how to quantify the value of natural capital.

The Board then received an engaging and inspiring presentation from Cllr Clyde Loakes, Deputy Leader of Waltham Forest Borough Council and Lead member for the Environment on Enjoy Waltham Forest. This was a major TfL funded scheme to encourage more active travel in the outer London boroughs. Waltham Forest received £27m focused on the main town centre. The Board discussed the challenges around implementing active travel schemes including encouraging behaviour change and dealing with public demonstrations against closing roads.

Finally the Board heard from Peter Kydd, Chair of the South West Infrastructure Partnership (SWIP) who updated on recent activities of the partnership. SWIP has recently held several workshops on the decarbonisation agenda which was combined with ICEs' State of the Nation engagement and the reports can be found on their new website [South West Infrastructure Partnership](https://www.southwestinfrastructurepartnership.com). Members were also encouraged to join SWIP as a [contributor](#).