



Sub-national and Subject Board Updates 2019

ADEPT Engineering Board update 2019

Key messages

- Engineering Board meetings are well-attended and discussions are lively. It has had a diverse range of guest speakers and organisations such as the LGA and RAC Foundation request return visits to both give and receive updates.
- The board has strong links with the Department for Transport and with other organisations such as the Highways Terms Maintenance Association and the Road Surface Treatments Association
- It has become more active over the last two years and this is linked to its meetings being held at the Department for Transport's office at Great Minster House.
- The terms of reference were reviewed in October 2018.

Who's who

- Chair: Mark Stevens (Suffolk)
- Deputy: James Bailey (Staffordshire)
- Secretary: Liz Kirkham (Gloucestershire)
- Bridges Working Group Chair: Kevin Dentith (Devon)
- Lighting Working Group: Keith Tovee (Essex) – to be confirmed
- Soil, Design and Material Specification Group: Stephen Child (SMC Consultancy)

Board meetings and Working Groups

The board meets three times a year – in January, June and October. Attendance at meetings is normally from between 15 and 20 local authorities. Although the number of board members is in excess of this, those attending does vary from one meeting to the next, depending on individual availability.

Following the decision to no longer use the Institution of Naval Architects as a meeting venue, the Department for Transport has hosted most Engineering Board meetings in the last two years. This has proven beneficial in terms of securing attendance from specific teams within the DfT – such as the Connected Autonomous Vehicles Team, the Road Condition Team and the development lead for Street Manager. This closer working with the DfT has not only fostered more open conversations about funding and policy but also led to the development of the joint ADEPT/DfT document, 'Potholes – A Repair Guide'.

By being at the table, the DfT provides a regular update on what it is focussing on, what its own pressures are and what is coming over the horizon. The DfT very much sees the Engineering Board as a knowledge and skills resource that it can tap into. The growing relationship will often result in the DfT intervening on issues on ADEPT's behalf – including issues that the Bridges Group has had with the Canals and Rivers Trust and Highways England (such as the HE/LHA boundary responsibilities).

Besides the board receiving a presentation from Highways England on its major overhaul of the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, its working groups have also been able to take a participative role with Highways England in the content of many of its documents. Equally, the National Winter Service Research Group has embarked upon a review of its winter maintenance guidance (formerly constituting Appendix H of the Well-Maintained Highways code of practice) – and presented on this to the board and sought input into the amended documents.

Through the engagement of some members of the board with Proving Services' Future Highways Research Club, there has been a growing understanding of the impact of its value for money assessment tool. As this is the only substantive mechanism for independently assessing local highway authority performance, the desire of other Engineering Board members to use the tool has proven to be the catalyst behind the establishment of the partnership between ADEPT and Proving Services. As this has opened up the potential for new research clubs (i.e. for waste and heritage/tourism), the Engineering Board's exploration of this has had wider benefits for ADEPT.

Although it is currently undergoing organisational change, the Highway Term Maintenance Association continues to express a desire to work more closely with ADEPT. Two board members have attended the HTMA's Service Delivery Working Group meetings, to particularly review concerns regarding in-sourcing and enhanced contractual partnership working.

Traditionally, the board's meeting in October would be a provincial one – i.e. where a member authority would act as host, enabling the Engineering Board to visit works in progress as well as conduct its normal business. In previous years, these provincial meetings have included the development of the London Olympics stadia, the second Tyne Crossing in Newcastle, the national sailing and yachting facilities at Portland (linked to the Olympics) and the Blackpool tram system. However, with increasing pressure on finances and time away from the office, the provincial meetings have been far less regular in more recent times with only a visit to the Mersey Gateway project occurring in the last three years.

Recent presentations/discussion pieces include:

- Interim assessment of the survey response to the CIHT Lugg Review (by Matthew Lugg)
- Benchmarking opportunities through the APSE Network (by Andrew Martin, a former board member)
- The research work and reports of CIRIA (by Dirk Vennix, CIRIA's CEO)
- Closer working with the RAC Foundation (by Steve Gooding, CEO)
- Plastic in roads (by Peter Clay of Cumbria CC)

Following on from discussions at the board, there have been supplementary breakout group meetings (hosted by Atkins) regarding procurement options and drainage. The procurement options report was subsequently shared with the HTMA. More recently, the potential for reviewing the CSS Guidance on Commuted Sums has been considered.

The next Engineering Board meeting will focus on the current and potential application of 'community self-help' schemes as a mechanism to 'delegate' unaffordable aspects of local highway maintenance to local communities – one aspect of the Future Highways Research Club work. The October 2019 and subsequent meetings will provide a forum for discussion on the ADEPT/DfT SMART Places Live Labs projects and their respective progress.

There is also a strong ADEPT Engineering Board presence at the DfT-led UK Roads Liaison Group (UKRLG) which ultimately defines much of the UK's highways-related national policy. With secretarial support from the CIHT and attendees from Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales also present, ADEPT representation comes from the Chairs of ADEPT Engineering Board (Mark Stevens), the UK Roads Board (James Bailey), and the UK Bridges Board (Liz Kirkham). Mark Stevens also attends the World Roads Association UK Committee (which is also attended by the DfT). The WRA generates regular reports of relevance to the Engineering Board under its former title PIARC (Permanent International Association of Road Congresses), comprising 122 member countries.

Annual Conference representation

2017: Workshops on Industry 4.0

2018: Workshop on the Future Highways Research Club

Responding to recent consultations

- Transport Select Committee Inquiry into Local Roads Funding and Governance (September 2018). This resulted in ADEPT attendance at the first sitting of the Committee on 19th November 2018 with the Policy Position Statement for Highway Maintenance being submitted as evidence.
- DEFRA's Protecting Trees and Woodlands (February 2019)
- Manual for Streets Redesign (March 2019)
- DfT's Specification for the reinstatement of openings in highways (ends May 2019)

Environment Board 2018/19 report for ADEPT AGM 27th June 2019

The Environment Board has a broad and diverse remit, including some of the cross-cutting issues which don't sit neatly under the other subject boards (e.g. climate change, air quality). The board has become bigger and more active over the last two years. Its agenda is currently largely driven by the government's 25 Year Environment Plan and the new environmental legislation and regulation that will be needed as and when the UK has left the EU. The board has strong links with government departments, particularly Defra, with the wider Defra family including the Environment Agency and Natural England, and with other organisations.

The board has reviewed its work over the last year. We were the first subject board to submit a 'deep dive' report to the Leadership Team last September. We surveyed our members' views last autumn, asking them about the main benefits of being part of the board and seeking views on the frequency, format, and content of meetings. We reviewed and updated the board's terms of reference in October.

Our work is divided into five priority areas lead by Working Groups – Flood & Water Management, Waste Management, Energy, Natural Capital & Heritage, and Resilience/ Adaptation (via the Local Authority Adaptation Panel). During the year we have been pleased to welcome new Chairs for three of the Working Groups:

- Waste – Ian Fielding (North Yorkshire County Council)
- Flood and Water Management – Julia Beeden (Cambridgeshire County Council)
- Natural Capital and Heritage – Rachael Bice (Cornwall Council).

It has been a busy year for the board, especially for the Waste Management Working Group, and a lot of effort has gone into responding to government consultations, engaging with civil servants and partners, and contributing to ADEPT events such as the annual conference and partners' seminars. Responses to have been submitted to the following consultations:

- Clean Air Strategy
- Designated Landscapes (National Parks and AONBs)
- Environmental Principles and Governance
- Biodiversity Net Gain
- Waste – consultation responses on consistency, extended producer responsibility, deposit return scheme, and plastics tax (following the publication of the Resources and Waste Strategy)
- Minerals extraction and archaeology.

We are currently (June 2019) preparing a response to the Environment Agency's draft Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy, and were pleased that ADEPT was invited to be part of the panel at the EA's launch event on 9th May.

As well as submitting written responses to consultations, the board has been actively engaging with a range of forums and workstreams including:

- Clean Air Legislation Contact Group (with Defra and UK100)
- Environment Bill Stakeholders Forum (Defra)
- Nature Recovery Network (Natural England)
- Green Infrastructure project (Natural England)
- Select Committee inquiry into the impact of the Resources and Waste Strategy on local authorities (Housing, Communities, and Local Government)
- Ad hoc meetings with senior officials at Defra.

ADEPT has published a number of policy position statements during the year, including in January the Resources and Waste position statement here. We have led the development of the position statement on climate change which is due for publication in late June, alongside the LAAP guide on preparing for the impacts of climate change *Preparing for a changing climate: good practice*

guidance for Local Government. With the declaring of climate emergencies by government and a number of local authorities, we expect climate change to continue to be an important aspect of our workplan.

The board meets quarterly, and we usually combine morning business meetings with afternoon workshops. We have benefitted from great contributions from partner organisations and ADEPT members. Defra has been a particularly important partner; we are grateful for their regular participation and for hosting some of our meetings. Main agenda items during the last year have included air quality, the BEIS Local Energy Programme and Hubs, the Designated Landscapes review, climate change, and the Resources and Waste Strategy. In April 2019 the board trialled a Skype meeting for the first time.

Afternoon workshop subjects and partners during the last year have been:

- Natural capital and delivering the 25 Year Environment Plan (July 2018), with Defra and Natural England
- Waste management (October), with Suez
- Smart Procurement (January 2019) – jointly with the Environmental Industries Commission (January 2019).

For the ADEPT annual Conference in November 2018, colleagues from the board delivered workshop sessions on ‘The circular economy: myth or reality?’ with speakers from Defra and Amey.

Climate change was the focus of ADEPT’s first seminar for corporate partners in March 2019, and we were pleased to welcome speakers from Defra, the Environment Agency, Sussex University/ Greenpeace, and the UK Health Alliance for Climate Change.

Paula Hewitt,
Chair and Vice President

For more information contact the Chair Paula Hewitt <mailto:prhewitt@somerset.gov.uk> or Secretary Sara Mein <mailto:scmein@somerset.gov.uk>

Planning, Housing and Regeneration Board

The Planning, Housing and Regeneration Board held three meetings during the year. The first meeting of the presidential year was on 22 June 2018. This included a range of speakers including some from the Cities and Growth Unit at MHCLG/BEIS and the Local Government Association (LGA). The board received a presentation on the work of the Town and Country Planning Association (TCPA) and NHS England in developing practical built-environment guidance for Healthy New Towns. Working with The King's Fund and other partners, the TCPA developed a guide on how to bring forward future generations of healthy developments. This was followed by a presentation from James Harris from the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) on Planning for Climate Change – guidance for local authorities. This is the first sector-led environmental planning guidance of its kind since the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) took effect in March 2012.

The focus of the meeting held on 26 October 2018 was housing. The meeting received contributions from the Association of Consulting Engineers on its report Unlocking Housing, and Susan Emmett from Homes England gave an update on the role of the agency, including a range of partnerships. Nick Porter from the Local Government Association gave an update on the role of the association in the field of planning and housing. The meeting concluded with a presentation from Hilary Chipping, Chief Executive from the South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership on the work of the LEP in supporting the delivery of housing in the region.

The final meeting of the presidential year took place on 8 February 2019 in London. The focus of the meeting was on digital infrastructure. The board meeting opened with a presentation from Nick Corrigan, Director for Digital Futures, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council on the work that was being done to deliver digital infrastructure and capability in the authority. This was followed by a presentation from James Cushing from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on the Local Full Fibre Networks Programme and Business Vouchers Scheme. The board also heard from Phil Foxwood from DCMS on the government's focus on superfast provision and the Future Telecoms Infrastructure Review. The work of the Barrier Busting Taskforce (established in 2017) was then outlined by Richard Maddock from DCMS. Mr. Maddock drew the board's attention to the Streetworks Toolkit, an updated version of which will be launched this year, and the Digital Connectivity Portal.

ADEPT Transport Board 2019 Update

Key Messages

The board holds well-attended meetings on a quarterly cycle, blending presentations and discussions led by guest speakers with the board's 'technical' work on issues such as responding to government consultations and providing guidance to its working groups. Meetings are normally held in London but will occasionally take place elsewhere, for example in conjunction with a visit to the Transport Systems Catapult.

Who's Who

Chair: Mike Ashworth (Derbyshire CC)

Vice-Chair: Paul Crick (Essex CC)

Secretary: Jim Seymour (Derbyshire CC)

Board Meetings and Working Groups

The board maintains strong working relationships with the Department for Transport (DfT), which will normally be represented at board meetings by a director or nominee. Meetings are also normally attended by Local Government Association officers, bringing particular benefits for the co-ordination of consultation responses. Regular contact is maintained with organisations including the RAC Foundation, CIHT, Network Rail and the Sub-national Transport Bodies, all of which have been represented at recent board meetings for discussion on key topics. The board is attended by the chair of each of its working groups, who keep the board in touch with current activities and seek strategic guidance over these.

- The Rights of Way Working Group (Chair Paul Newark (Birmingham CC))
Current areas of focus include access to Highways England Designated Funds and research into the impacts of autonomous agricultural vehicles on Rights of Way users.
- The National Traffic Managers Forum (Chair Mark Corbin (Transport for the West Midlands))
Current areas of focus include traffic impacts of HS2 construction, advocacy for 'Part 6' powers and the co-ordination of systems and processes.
- The Traffic and Safety Working Group (Chair Paul Copeland (East Riding Council))
The group constitutes ADEPT's point of contact with the national Road Safety Delivery Group, for which key areas of activity include the CRASH reporting system, monitoring the success of the Safer Roads Fund, and discussion around the creation of a Road Accident Investigation Branch.
- The Traffic Systems Working Group (Chair Adrian Gray (Hants CC))
The group now acts as 'user' representative and chairs the Traffic Open Products and Specifications group, key to the maintenance of technical specifications for signals and electronic signs. The working group is also engaged in Traffic Sign Manual updates.

Key Topics

The board devotes a significant amount of its attention to the flow of resources for the creation and maintenance of transport infrastructure. The National Roads Fund, through Major Road Network and Large Local Major funding streams, will be central to delivery for the foreseeable future, and the board will maintain close contact with DfT and the Sub-national Transport Bodies over this. One of its main areas of attention will be the availability of resources for the early stages of project preparation and assessment, without which many authorities will find it difficult to access the funds.

Associated with the above, the board will continue to monitor the progress being made towards the adoption of statutory status for Sub-national Transport Bodies and to play a role in lobbying for them to carry genuine influence on priorities for national networks.

Other funds, whilst providing resources for transport infrastructure, are predicated on non-transport benefits. The Housing Infrastructure Fund, [current] Local Growth Fund and [upcoming] Shared Prosperity Fund do offer opportunities for the delivery of transport infrastructure but require business cases reflecting housing or economic benefits.

With the above in mind, the board will seek to maintain a channel of communication with DfT in particular over resources for project assessment and preparation, both in terms of the quantum and in terms of longer-term certainty over availability.

As HS2 moves further into its construction phase, with other significant projects such as Northern Powerhouse Rail to follow, the board will need to maintain focus on construction impacts and their implications for local highway infrastructure, plus the impacts of HS2 on demand for travel.

National bus and rail strategy, the moves towards connected and autonomous vehicles and the emergence of new transport 'solutions' (smart ticketing, Uber, drone deliveries, data management, the concept of 'Mobility as a Service' etc) are moving transport planning into an uncertain but exciting future. The Transport Board will be ADEPT's eyes and ears in this arena, and seeking to provide individual highway and transport authorities with advice on how to make best use of their own resources.

East of England Board update for AGM June 2019

The East of England Board has moved to meeting twice a year.

This year the focus has been how Local Industrial Strategies are being developed across the East of England. The group received presentations from LEPs on the production of LIS and we also discussed the level of local authority engagement.

The South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership is in the first wave of Local Industrial Strategy development. SEMLEP have been identified as good practice in the use of data and evidence to drive the production of the LIS. The SEMLEP LIS is a building block of the wider vision for the Oxford/Cambridge Arc.

Hertfordshire LEP has used the LIS process to challenge some of the perceptions about the Local Economy and helped to create some new policy areas and approaches.

The involvement of Place Directors in the development of LIS was mixed and felt to be an area that needed to be more focused. We also discussed the role of Place Directors as advisors to local authority representatives on LEP Boards. There was strong representation from LEPS and LAs at the meeting.

The next meeting of the board will be an evening networking dinner. A visit to the DART project Luton will also be arranged.

ADEPT Midlands Board Update 2019

Background information:

1. On 22 May, Darryl Evers handed over the chair to Adrian Smith for the East Midlands and West Midlands Place Directors Meeting. This was the first time this group had met this year. The meeting, hosted by Warwickshire County Council, focussed on four topics:

- a) Role and purpose of the group
- b) Midlands Connect
- c) Update from the Leadership Group, and
- d) What's happening in Warwickshire.

2. Following a roundtable discussion, it was agreed that the purpose of this group meeting would be based on the following eight items:

- Shared Intelligence
- Engaging with the Midlands Engine and Midlands Connect
- Being recognised as the voice of the sector with a focus on regional body engagement
- Safe place to have dialogue on wider place agenda
- Peer support
- Assisting those individuals on a learning and development journey such as those on the ADEPT Aspiring Place Directors Programme and Deputies
- Focus on key themes and bringing subject group expertise around place. Looking at relationships around local and regional
- Emphasis on key cross themes important to all of us

3. Initial ideas for future discussion topics are shown at **Appendix A**.

Next Steps

4. To increase active participation, members of the group are now being surveyed to establish if they have anything further to add to the groups purpose and to comment on the future discussion topics.

Interdependencies

5. It has been proposed that the meetings alternate between the East and West Midlands, with the respective hosts of the meetings being asked to identify a key issue they are grappling with within their area. This way, attendees will come armed with some suggested help, as well as providing the opportunity to share their best practice tips.

Appendix A: Initial ideas for future discussion topics

Subject	Meeting Purpose
On behalf of the Midlands Engine, this group to lead on the three ADEPT themes (place-based funding, infrastructure and climate change & environment)	To focus on practical shaping of proposals to help the Midlands Engine shape the strategy. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mobilising network, brokerage into BEIS, broker • consultations and feedback to the Engine Team. • Where proposals exist, offer to undertake development and draw upon subject experts • Shaping evidence base and products for collaborative working (low emissions, CAV and EV's)
Pipeline of Major Route Network and Large Local Majors programme investment planning	Determine what can we collectively do, and which need support. Identify the pipeline for the next round
Strategic Transport Board – galvanise Midlands Partnership	As there is no STB policy position in government, assist in the development of the Midlands proposition. Identify where there are problems and issues

ADEPT South East (SEDEPT) Board Update 2019

SEDEPT has met several times over the last year, covering numerous issues from digital connectivity, the Waste and Resources Strategy, understanding more about the Oxfordshire Housing and Growth Deal, to more recently looking at the support we can access through ADEPT to, for example, the Future Highways Research Club supporting members with opportunities for service improvement, and attending the Hydrogen Roadshow event sponsored by Arval, showcasing the latest hydrogen car technology. The breadth of topics covered really shows the range of activities Place Directors are involved in, and the exciting opportunities that exist in future place shaping across the South East.

We have welcomed numerous guests from government departments and related agencies, all of whom have provided a very valuable insight into policy development and how this will impact our councils in the short and medium term. One such guest was Andrew Morrison, Deputy Director,

Local Transport, Local and Regional Transport Analysis from DfT, who provided us with an update on future changes in DfT, policy direction and priorities. Andrew himself also enjoyed the Hydrogen Roadshow – and taking a ride in a 100% hydrogen Toyota – last seen heading out of Oxford!

Our thanks go to Stuart Jarvis, Director for Economy, Transport and Environment at Hampshire County Council who stepped down as Chair in the autumn of 2018. Matt Davey, Director for Highways and Transport from West Sussex County Council and Susan Halliwell, Director for Planning & Place took up the reigns as co-Chairs in 2019. It is likely to be a similarly busy but exciting year across the South East!

ADEPT South West Sub National Board - Update for AGM 27th June 2019

The SW Board met on five occasions from May 2018 to April 2019, having good attendance at meetings in both Exeter and Taunton. This was the first year with Anthony Payne (Plymouth) as Chair of the South West Board and he welcomed David Ralph to join as the new Chief Executive of the Heart of the South West (HotSW) LEP having taken over from Chris Garcia. The board was also pleased to congratulate Paula Hewitt (Somerset) in her first year as Vice President of ADEPT.

The board is grateful for ongoing participation from the DfT, BEIS/DCLG, LEPs, and Highways England. Particular thanks to David Glinos and colleagues at the DfT for their ongoing support across a range of transport related matters. Thanks also to various ADEPT members for stimulating presentations on a range of issues.

Following a lively debate with colleagues on the emergence of the two Sub-National Transport Bodies in May, the July Board discussed progress made to date with Andy Rhind, the Regions, Cities and Devolution lead for the Midlands, South West and Regional Programmes, also in attendance to discuss in broad terms expectations around SNTBs.

Board members also received a series of presentations, firstly from Jason Salter (Wiltshire) on public transport, including concessionary fares and community transport. Kat Deeney (Plymouth) then provided an overview of natural infrastructure in Plymouth and the innovative work being done to tackle plastics through the Plan for Plastics and the concept of developing the country's first Marine National Park. The final presentation was given by Alastair McMahon and Geoff Wappett from O2 Data & Insights who introduced the Trip Information System, a data capture and analytic product providing customer profiles and behaviour patterns on travel modes, journey routes and destinations.

The October Board discussed progress made toward developing Productivity Plans and Local Industrial Strategies (LIS) across the two LEP areas. The board heard how the West of England and Heart of the South West were making great headway as areas invited to be part of the government's wave 2 LIS. David Glinos and Charles Small as DfT lead on English Devolution Policy, SNTBs and Transforming Cities attended from the Department for Transport to provide their views on the progress of the SNTBs

In January the board received another series of presentations, first from Joshua Monahan, Devolution and Regions Lead on the Rail Review. Joel Murray and Peter Noyce from DEFRA then updated the board on the key points in the Resources and Waste Strategy and finally Simon Earles, Planning and Sustainability Director at Bristol Airport provided a presentation to the group on the next phase of growth at Bristol airport.

Hannah Bartram, ADEPT's Chief Operating Officer, was in attendance at the SW Board's meeting in April, which received an update on the work of the South West Highways Alliance (SWHA) from Mark King (South Gloucester) and on the development of the HotSW Local Industrial Strategy for the HotSW LEP from Eifion Jones.

In summary, the board's discussions over the course of the year highlighted the importance of ongoing collaborative working between both emerging SNTBs as vital to ensure cross-boundary working on shared priorities. The board also continues to engage with the DfT on the road and rail infrastructure investments needed for the South West and with DEFRA on consultations relating to the Resources and Waste Strategy to ensure that the voice of Local Authorities continues to be heard.

The discussions at the South West Board meeting align well with the three strategic cross-cutting issues being proposed by the ADEPT Leadership team of:

- Place-based funding post-Brexit
- Communities and Infrastructure and
- Climate change and the environment.

For more information please contact the current Chair <mailto:anthony.payne@plymouth.gov.uk> or Policy Advisor Lucy Davis <mailto:lucy.davis@plymouth.gov.uk>.

ADEPT Northern Ireland Update 2019

The Northern Ireland Branch met regularly during the year and members attended Leadership Team meetings, Subject Boards and Working Groups on a national basis.

In September 2018 Nigel Riglar and Hannah Bartram visited Northern Ireland to meet members and discuss some of the issues relating to the region. Nigel and Hannah also met with the Chief Executive of Newry, Mourne and Down Council, senior staff from the Department for Infrastructure and Planning Managers from the councils across Northern Ireland. These meetings proved very worthwhile and generated a wide range of discussion. We will continue our discussions with local councils with a view to expanding ADEPT membership in Northern Ireland.

SCOTS - Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland Chair's Report to ADEPT 2019

The SCOTS AGM and Technical Seminar ([link attached](#)) was held in Pitlochry in Perth and Kinross on 16 May and 17 May. The event was attended by 130 people which we understand to be a record. At the AGM, Stewart Turner, Head of Roads at the Ayrshire Roads Alliance ([link attached](#)) became Chair, with Gordon MacKay from South Lanarkshire Council stepping down after two years. We were to receive a keynote presentation from the Cabinet Secretary Michael Matheson MSP but he was unable to attend due to parliamentary constituency commitments.

In Scotland, the various professional bodies including SLAED - Scottish Local Authority Economic Development, HOPS - Heads of Planning Scotland, and SCOTS regularly meet to discuss ongoing issues across economic development, planning and roads. We do not have highways in Scotland as we are governed by the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984! The major cross-cutting legislative change concerns the new Planning (Scotland) Bill.

From a roads' perspective, the Transport (Scotland) Bill, which will become legislation early in 2020, focusses on local emission zones, the potential for local municipal bus services, increased powers for the Scottish Roadworks Commissioner, a potential workplace parking levy, and the one that is getting the largest press coverage is the proposed banning of pavement parking.

From a national perspective, Transport Scotland is currently preparing the second National Transport Strategy. The draft strategy is to be published on 31 July and it is expected to focus on a sustainable travel hierarchy model which probably means more walking, more cycling, and use of public transport for us all. It is quite difficult to disagree with this approach.

The overall purpose of this work is to:

- set out an updated vision for what kind of transport system Scotland should expect over the next 20 years
- look at how the strategic challenges are addressed
- inform the update of the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR) by setting out the national outcomes to be achieved from this investment when reviewing recommendations for strategic infrastructure priorities across Scotland

- be aligned with the emerging policy and legislative landscape in Scotland including the outcomes from the independent planning review, the Climate Change Plan, the Enterprise and Skills review, City and Region Growth Deals, and the Transport Bill.

Leading from the National Transport Scotland is the second Strategic Transport Projects Review which will describe the investment priorities for Scottish Ministers.

There has also been a private Member's Bill which was presented to the Scottish Parliament on restricting roads to a speed limit in urban areas of 20 mph. The Parliamentary Committee decided to not support this bill as they considered a "one size fits all" approach could not be managed effectively.

SCOTS has an active role in all this developing legislation and strategy across the 32 unitary authorities and seven regional transport partnerships. As a body SCOTS continues strong collaboration across our member bodies to provide strategic direction for the roads industry in Scotland. We work collectively to ensure we maintain an effective, efficient and improving transport system throughout the country. In addition we engage with many Scottish Government bodies.

This is some of the future, but who knows what is going to happen after 31 October!

Stewart Turner
Head of Roads – Ayrshire Roads Alliance
Chair – SCOTS
12 June 2019