

ADEPT South West Sub National Board – 25 January 2021

The SW Board welcomed Michael Greatwich, Director of Commercial Capability, Defence Equipment and Support at the MoD as the new SW Heads of Place, an initiative originally introduced by Mark Sedwill and now supported by the existing Cabinet Secretary. Currently in a pilot phase until the end of March with the aim of adding value and joining up central and local government presence in an area. A virtual event is being held on the 24th March to bring together all the senior civil servants in the South West.

The Board then received an update from the DfT on the COVID-19 communications campaign, concessionary fares and the Comprehensive Spending Review. Jamie Hulland and David Carter then provided an update on progress being made by Peninsula Transport and Western Gateway respectively; the region's two STBs. The Board discussed the wider implications of COVID and the CSR / local government settlement noting the ongoing impact of the pandemic on front line services in particular waste and highways and concerns around the upcoming budget and implications of the removal of the Revenue Support Grant.

Finally the Board received a presentation from Cathryn Brown, Clean Air Zone Manager at B&NES on delivering the Bath Clean Air Zone due to launch on the 15th March. Bath is in the 2nd wave of LAs directed to introduce CAZs under a legal duty to limit value for NO₂ in the shortest possible time, and by 2021 at the latest. The business case process commenced in 2018 and it was deemed that they could achieve compliance with a Class C Charging Clean Air Zone if a particular hot spot was addressed. Cathryn discussed how the CAZ would work, the public consultation process and the support available to individuals and community groups to move to compliant vehicles through their financial assistance scheme as well as some of the challenges faced and the impacts of the pandemic.