

# ADEPT

Association of Directors of  
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

## North West Board Minutes

28.09.2022

Item	Notes	Who
Attendees		
Welcome and Introductions	Angela welcomed attendees and round the table introductions took place.	
Michael Friis (Department for Transport)	<p>Michael joined the meeting to provide the update on the ADEPT / DfT survey on inflationary pressures.</p> <p>Michael ran through the content of the survey, offering views from a DfT prospective and the broader economic challenges that had been identified.</p> <p>The survey had received 19 responses, 9 from organisations in the North West.</p> <p>The survey had very much been Highway's maintenance focused with the 2022/23 capital budget, forecast pressures, financing support with reference to the supply chains, delays, Inflation, labour, workforce, prospective maintenance and many experiencing staff shortages all identified as pressures.</p> <p>Tender quotes periods have been reduced causing anxieties.</p> <p>Michael went through the planned next steps. Explaining that DfT were working with other departments primarily DHLUC.</p> <p>The insights provided were felt to be useful and plans to recommission the survey before the end of the year.</p> <p>However, Michael welcomed organisations to approach him directly had they not had the opportunity to feedback.</p> <p>Angela encouraged continued dialogue and engagements with DfT.</p> <p>Questions raised included direct pressures to local majors, bridges and closed highways, the impacts also effecting other departments Health and Social care, Children's services etc.</p> <p>Where was the information gathered going?</p> <p>DfT have requested case studies, these alongside the survey will provide quantifying data with DHLUC oversight being fed into government forums and to be included in the briefing for the new minister.</p>	



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<p>Eamon Lally  (Senior Policy Adviser at the LGA)</p>	<p>Eamon joined the meeting and provided an update on the politics of Westminster and implications for local government following the recent appointment of the New Prime Minister Liz Truss, mini budget and other significant recent announcements.</p> <p>Conversations were around the current cabinet's view on growth and the market backlash that had seen the Bank of England launch an emergency and temporary bond-buying programme to prevent risk to UK financial stability.</p> <p>Investment zone conversations featured heavily, with some potential controversial subjects around shell gas and the concerns of fracking.</p> <p>Local Government budget worries were also included in this discussion, alongside some of the ongoing green policies with anxieties of how these will be viewed in light of Liz Truss' appointment and her selection of cabinet.</p> <p>The next big day in the calendar is 23rd November and more detail is expected to emerge.</p>	
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