

ADEPT Update from Kylie Russell

Transport

1. ADEPT and the Future Highways Research Group published [The Carbon Calculation & Accounting Standard \(CCAS\) Carbon Reporting Guidance for Local Highways Authorities](#) on 31 October. Developed by the FHRG and the result of an 18 month long project which drew in 19 commercial and supply chain partners from across the sector, the guidance will support Local Highway Authorities in establishing their carbon footprint. It also supports the goals for reducing carbon emissions set out in the Climate Change Committee's Sixth Carbon Budget.
2. We have published a SEND transport toolkit ([here](#)), which was co-developed with Directors of Children's Services. In addition, we have co-published with ADCS a homes to school SEND policy paper ([here](#)) that sets out shared analysis of the issue and the solutions which we consider will make the most significant impact. The intention is to send a joint ADEPT / ADCS / ATCO letter to DfE/DfT, plus possibly CCN and LGA.
3. The National Infrastructure Commission published the 2nd National Infrastructure Assessment ([here](#)). NIC attended the ADEPT leadership team to present on the report's conclusions.

Devolution / Growth / Planning

4. There will be a joint Sustainable Growth / Environment Board meeting on 13 December focusing on flooding. The objectives are to: 1) help place directors and their teams integrate flood risk management (FRM) and response into place shaping and place services 2) develop a joint understanding of the science and climate change projections – is what we are experiencing going to continue and how much worse will it get? 3) discuss how we integrate FRM and adaptation into planning and all investment decisions, what are the barriers and how can we tackle them and 4) discuss how can we respond to increasing climate change and understand and prepare for the impacts on surface water. If you would like to attend please email Kylie Russell (kylie.russell@eastsussex.gov.uk).
5. We put out a media comment on the Autumn Statement (see [here](#)).
6. ADEPT and Colas published new toolkit to tackle local government staff retention crisis - see [here](#).

Environment

7. We hosted a workshop with 20+ LAs to share some of the challenges experienced in working with iChoosr / Solar Together. We then held a highly productive meeting with iChoosr; encouragingly, the provider is already actively addressing concerns outlined in ADEPT's report. They remain keen to collaborate in addressing any further issues moving forward.
8. We responded to two government consultations on Simpler Recycling: [ADEPT response to Consultation on exemptions and statutory guidance for Simpler Recycling in](#)

[England](#) and [ADEPT response to Consultation on additional policies related to Simpler Recycling in England](#).

9. The government finally published its [response](#) to the Glover Review (of protected landscapes). The new package of measures includes launching a search for a new National Park, 34 new landscape recovery projects, new forests and funding to help more children get outdoors. It also published draft guidance on biodiversity net gain ([here](#)), which will come into force on the date the regulations come into force and biodiversity net gain will commence. This will be updated once the date is confirmed.

Events / Other

10. Dates for your diary:
 - a. Due to the train strikes / overtime ban, we have rescheduled the green finance training day (originally 6th December) till 7th March. You can book [here](#).
 - b. The next Lunch & Learn – *Liveable Neighbourhoods* - is on Friday 26 January and hosted by Atkins.
 - c. The Spring Conference and Annual Awards Dinner will be held in London on Thursday 16 May 2024.
11. A write up of the 2023 Autumn Conference is [here](#).
12. The application window is open for the ADEPT / SOLACE Leadership Development Programme – see [here](#). Over 130 people have now completed the programme, which continues to get excellent feedback. The deadline is midnight on 5th January.

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