

ADEPT Engineering Board
12 January 2024 - 10.00hrs – 13.00hrs Via Teams
Meeting notes & actions

Attendees: Highlighted – attended both part 1 & part 2

Name:	Initials	Representing
Mark Stevens (Chair)	MS	Haringey Council
Hannah Bartram	HB	ADEPT
Kathy Moore (note taker)	KM	Haringey Council
Andrew Loosemore	AL	Kent County Council
Andrew Tatt	AT	Rutland County Council
Anthony Ferguson	AF	DfT
Andy Warrington	AW	Arcadis
Laura Bigley	LB	
Barry Mason	BMa	North Yorkshire County Council
Bill Manby	BM	East Riding Council
Brian Richards	BR	Dorset Council
Louise Bower	LBo	
Carl Skelton	CS	East Riding Council
Joey Carter	JC	Environment Agency
David Laux	DL	Northumberland County Council
Doug Wilkinson	DW	Enfield Council
Ed Bradford	EB	
Gary Kemp	GK	DfT
Gareth Owen	GO	Cheshire West and Cheshire Council
Innes Thomson	IT	Association of Drainage Authorities
Jack Wiltshire	JW	Dorset Council
Jagjit Mahal	JM	Warwickshire County Council
James Mead	JMe	
James Bailey	JB	Staffordshire County Council
Jo Bradley	JBr	Stormwater Shepherds
Joanne Conway	JCo	Hertfordshire County Council
Joanne Matthews	JM	Southend Council

John Lamb	JL	South Yorkshire Combined Authority
John Monk	JMo	Lincolnshire County Council
Kathryn Moreton	KMo	Walsall Council
Kylie Russell	KR	ADEPT
Lee Sencier	LS	
Louise Bower	LB	
Paul Maddison	PM	Wakefield Council
Malcolm Fairhurst	MH	Bolton Council
Martin Carnaffin	MC	Nottinghamshire County Council
Martin Hutchings	MH	Devon County Council
Max Tant	MT	Kent County Council
Mohamed Admani	MA	Nottingham City Council
Navid Afsher	NA	Norfolk County Council
Neil Hoskins	NHo	Southend Council
Nick Henstock	NH	West Northamptonshire Council
Nick Mills	NM	Southern Water
Owen Grove	OG	
Peter Massie	PM	Essex County Council
Roger Nowell	RN	
Rose McCarthur	RM	Cheshire West and Chester Council
Sabina Kupczyk	SK	
Saloni Paudel	SP	Peterborough City Council
Simon Jeffrey	SJ	LGA
Stephen Child	SC	SMC Consultancy
Sue Kinsella	Ski	Kent County Council
Tim Simpson	TS	
Tom Blackburne-Maze	TBM	Derbyshire County Council
Vicki Westall	VW	
Vikki Keeble	VK	
Zeinab Faris	ZF	Dorset Council

Items	Topics for Discussion	Action by
Part 1: Joint meeting with the ADEPT Flood & Water Management Group		
1.	<p>Welcomes, introductions and purpose of joint meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MS welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that it was in two parts – the first being a joint meeting regarding flood and water management, and the second, the main Engineering Board meeting. Due to the large number of attendees, MS asked attendees to state their name and organisation before speaking. 	
2.	<p>Implementing Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010: Max Tant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MT explained he had attended this board approximately a year ago when he gave an overview of Schedule 3. At that time, the original timetable indicated there would be a consultation on Schedule 3 in November 2023. MT explained Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act sets out a whole new process for requiring sustainable drainage in new developments. The approval process for that would be undertaken by the upper tier authority and then an adoption mechanism. This means the local authority would adopt any SuDS that served more than one property and maintain it. This is obviously a very substantial change to what we currently have in place now. There are currently 6 draft statutory instruments that are associated with it which the Government would be consulting on. Government has currently delayed the planned consultation, so it is possible at the end of this month – we don't yet know. Adopting body might need to change in relation to roads and highways on new developments. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MT to return to the Board once we have the consultation process for Schedule 3 in place. 	MT
3.	<p>Challenges & opportunities to implementing SuDS in highways: Nick Mills, Southern Water:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NM gave his presentation on the work he/Southern Water has been doing looking at more sustainable ways to manage surface water plus groundwater with the aim of reducing storm overflows. 	
4.	<p>Water pollution from roads: CIWEM study: Jo Bradley, Stormwater Shepherds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JB delivered her presentation, illustrating the full extent of the problem and why this subject needed greater consideration by all, not just local highway authorities. 	
5.	<p>Discussion on enhanced ways of working between flood water management and highways professionals: Mark Stevens:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MS gave his presentation on works that have been completed in Haringey. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MS also provided detail on the proposed 'Tottenham Green Chain' scheme providing on-street interventions between Down Lanes Park and Harrington Park in the east of the borough. 	
6.	<p>Q&A:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JM asked about design primacy – highways versus drainage versus SuDS. Issues experienced in Sheffield when trying to install SuDS but the design of highways means the spare greenspace is in the wrong place for SuDS. NM suggested that this is something that is put higher up on the agenda. MS shared his experience at Leicestershire County Council when his predecessor naively believed road gullies need only be emptied at the bottom of the hill. JM said Lincolnshire is ensuring designers from highways and SuDS talk to one another to get an agreed joint strategy. KMo explained her experience at Walsall.-A member of the Flood Risk Management team has gone on to manage the capital programme on the highways side. This brings experience and collaboration between the grounds maintenance team and drainage team. They automatically consider each other's challenges and the services that each other deliver. MS asked NM to clarify if the funding for household SuDS by Southern Water was in its totality which NM confirmed was correct. MS said it would be useful if other water companies would take up on their lead on this as it would make a big difference. NM advised further work being done on this. Currently modifying a slow drain water butt of which 3000 have been trialled. This has been very successful, but they have seen some blockages. There is a mark 2 design now which is anti-block and they are looking to put a patent in for the design. MC asked NM about retrofitting as he had been involved with Seven Trent Water attempting to do an extensive scheme. NM confirmed he had been up to Mansfield and said it's fantastic the work they are doing. He confirmed he has a proposal to use the powers of the highways authority and is working with Max and AKC to effectively pay them to delivery on their behalf with their supply chain. JL wanted to raise a few comments and shout out for the work that is embryonic where JB and the Roads Board support and feed into the UK Roads Board. There is a massive crossover and there has been some discussions around this. LB stated about the understanding of the legal and regulatory framework and what highways authorities can and can't be required to do as a project management authority in their own right. As a hiring authority with the duties under the Highways Act, it seems like a missed opportunity that there's no duty or responsibility on them like there is on other local authorities to improve water quality which is hugely frustrating. Perhaps groups like ADEPT and others can highlight some of these issues and challenges under the appropriate manner. There is a lot more attention being given by the highway industry or highway colleagues on sustainable drainage systems. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS explained as he had at the start that the meeting’s purpose is a start in getting more of a dialogue going in relation to bringing together different parts of highway authorities together on flooding. As explained earlier, in Haringey, highways engineers, parks officers and flood engineers work as one to come up with an all embracing solution to some of the challenges. They look at what the funding source opportunities are but also look at different opportunities to use all highways and parks land in a positive way to reduce the burden on the local sewer and watercourse networks. • JL came in advising this is why the ABC Board he leads is there to try and help. The Engineering Board has a very broad remit. This discussion has been held on a number of occasions and believe there is a responsibility on us. • IT advised there is a small subset of local authorities who will interface with internal drainage boards. He wanted to flag that the Internal Drainage Board Chief Engineers , Chief Execs or Clerks will be delighted to talk to their highways counterparts in any way, shape or form. This means they can work a bit closer with members of this Board in matters of water management in our authorities. • IT also mentioned that he, LB, ASA and ADA are working very closely together on a catchment wide approach effectively for water management, covering not only drainage but very much a sustainable drainage perspective and also for water level management. • DW confirmed JL’s point about the work being undertaken in Enfield and if they aren’t engaged, he is sure they certainly would be more than happy to engage. Contact him and he will facilitate to make sure they are involved. • Whilst GO advocates SuDS, he comes to this from a different approach. He doesn’t believe enough is made about the design of the drainage system standards and this is never updated. Whilst there are revisions in other industries, we should keep pace with ongoing issues like climate change and other design standards. Lots of investment is needed from central government. • JB confirmed these exact points have been raised at UK Roads Board quite recently and agreed that those standards are very old and need some work. It’s sort of on the Roads Board agenda. • JM said there is a lot of innovative work, testing and learning projects going on that are covering a lot of the topics discussed at the Board today. She mentioned she is also leading a national group resilience action which is looking at where all the barriers to change are. Reviewing things like - what do we need to do? How do we need to work differently? She will be reaching out to a lot of different groups in the near future <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB/JL to map out and agree who is in the locus – and looking for volunteers to join offline discussion to achieve 	

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	<p>MS thanked the speakers and everyone’s participation in the Q&A session. He also clarified everyone was welcome to stay for the second part of the meeting as well which would commence after a short break.</p>	
	<p>Comfort break</p>	
	<p>Part 2: Engineering Board main meeting – 11.40</p>	
<p>1.</p>	<p>Welcome & apologies: MS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS opened the meeting. • Due to the large number of attendees still on the call, anyone wishing to speak should say who they were and the organisation they represented. 	
<p>2.</p>	<p>Plan for Drivers: Anthony Ferguson (DfT):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AF gave an update on the Government’s “Plan for Drivers” via a few slides. • He highlighted the Prime Minister’s interview with the Sunday Telegraph where he made an announcement that he would be reviewing LTNs. • LTN reviews kicked off in the summer. It was announced at the Tory conference a document was being developed (not a white paper). The political perception being that LAs have been focused on everything but the motorists so we need to re-balance things. The document has 30 commitments in and is divided into these 5 themes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Smoother journeys <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Streetworks – consult on w/e overruns, higher FPNs ▪ Motorbikes in bus lanes – republish TAL ▪ £70m for traffic signals – competitions ○ Stopping unfair enforcement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 20mph updated guidance ▪ LTN review – rapid evidence review, consult on guidance. ▪ Enforcement – sector and HMG guidance, call for evidence on revenue surplus ○ Easier parking <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ National parking platform ○ Inconsideration driving <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Middle lane hogging, noise cameras, littering ▪ Transition to zero emissions driving ▪ Faster installation – consultation on s50/permits/ • All the information will be combined into one report later this month and taken to ministers. • A question and answer session then followed. MS clarified that Haringey had recently implemented LTNs that appeared to be effective in reducing the adverse impact from unnecessary through-traffic. Unlike other schemes implemented elsewhere during lockdown, Haringey Council undertook both public engagement and consultation. • MS also flagged that the roll-out of EV charging points using LEVI funding was hampered by it being limited to infrastructure rather than covering 	

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	<p>staff costs. DW suggested he'd had recent positive discussions with London Councils on this issue and felt there was a potential solution.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DW/MS to discuss EV funding before reaching out to AF • If still needed, MS to send details of this EV question to AF for answer or to contact the correct person. 	<p>DW/MS</p> <p>MS</p>
	Standing Items:	
3.	<p>DfT updates: Gary Kemp:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not much further to update on other than the letter that was sent to LA chief executives in relation to the Network North announcements. Need an update on how funding will be spent on things like resurfacing, bridges etc. for 23/24 and 24/25. • Happy to discuss via email/phone • Guidance will come out and template to be designed • Info. to be published on the website • This has been driven by Ministers to ensure extra funding is spent on highways and nowhere else and used correctly. • TBM asked when we will know about the next 10-year funding – GK wasn't able to answer. Indicative figures have been given of what will be given for the next 11 years. • JB raised question around how Network North money is allocated and why some areas have been missed. GK advised not being distributed evenly but they are distributing it per a formula. Areas in the North are getting more money to reflect the original focus that HS2 would have otherwise had in those areas. Government also recognised investment in the Midlands was needed. The remainder would go to all other Las as highway maintenance top-up. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update on the remaining years' allocation was requested. 	<p>DfT</p>
4.	<p>Commuted Sums update: AW:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Final draft about 2 weeks away - should be done by of January 2024. ▪ Comments welcome as always and ready to launch ahead of the next Board. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AW to circulate the report to Engineering Board members at the same time as the editorial review so you will have it slightly ahead of time. 	<p>AW</p>
5.	<p>National Bridge Working Group update: KH:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update as KH not present. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ KT to be asked for an update to be circulated with notes. 	<p>KM</p>
6.	Soils and Materials Design and Specification Group update: SC	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decarbonisation presentation from TfL which was interesting – might be looking at asphalt being measured in terms of kg per cubic metre for years of service of the product. • Material resilience – produced a summary table • Attended the final meeting of the Achilles <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SC to send KM notes for circulation with meeting notes. ▪ SC to share the material resilience table with MS and JB for their comments. ▪ SC to share the notes from the Achilles meeting he attended. 	<p>SC</p> <p>SC</p> <p>SC</p>
7.	<p>Street Lighting Group update: SK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Last meeting held on 5.01.2024. ▪ Health and Safety alerts not being received. Social media is impacting this and LinkedIn. This is going to be reviewed as to who should be holding and managing these safety alerts in lighting industry. ▪ Ian David from National Underground Asset Register gave an update which was interesting. Open to England & Wales – Scotland have their own system but Northern Ireland will join shortly. ▪ Discussed energy prices – stabilised last year but we don't know how long that will last, given the current situation around the world. Will keep an eye on that. ▪ Provision of standard guidance on attachments for local authorities which will be reviewed as to what local authorities should and shouldn't do. ▪ Usual regional update and national meetings. 	
8.	<p>UKRLG/ADEPT Assess Management Board: NB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NB unable to join the board today but advised no update had been received since the Board last met. They are meeting on 1 February 2024 – focusing on research. Hopefully an update at the next Board. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NB to update at the next Board 	<p>NB</p>
9.	<p>Future items for discussion: All</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update on Schedule 3 at a future Board ▪ Future Highways Research Group to provide an update on what the group is up to ▪ FHRG to attend future meetings – to be invited ▪ HB suggested an update on the Live Labs 2 projects 	<p>KM</p>
10	<p>Minutes of meeting of October 2023: MS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reviewed – only one action which was completed. 	
11	<p>Future conferences: All</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Green finance training day March ▪ 17 April ▪ 16 May ADEPT spring conference ▪ Information on website and in the newsletter ▪ 22/23 May Traffex Conference 	

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	<p>Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ If you are not on the mailing list, please contact HB who will ensure you are added to the list. 	All
12	<p>Diary for future meetings 2024: MS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12th April 2024 • 12th July 2024 • 11th October 2024 	
13	<p>Any other business: All</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ JB – section 58 out of highway repair – anyone else experiencing these? Couple received in Staffordshire – others shared their examples in the chat ▪ JB – does anyone have a proactive maintenance programme of digging verge grips or is the activity more reactive. MS advised it was reintroduced in Suffolk on a routine basis before he left. BM confirmed they also have a routine programme. PM advised they did previously but don't now due to cost and safety concerns. 	

Next meeting: Friday 12 April 2024

10.00hrs – 13.00hrs