

MEETING NOTES

MEETING DATE	06 September 2019		119 Britannia Walk, Hoxton, London N1 7JE
MEETING SUBJECT	Transport & Connectivity Board	RECORDED BY	EE

PRESENT	Allan Creedy – Wilshire Andrew Jones Andrew Murray – Northern Ireland Ann Carruthers - Leicestershire (sub Ian Vears) Clive Thomson - Staffordshire Ellis, Emily (EE) - ADEPT Gary Bartlett - Leeds Grahame Bygrave - Norfolk Ian Church - Northamptonshire Jamie Hulland - Devon John Lamb (dial in) Kamal Panchal - LGA Keith Willcox - Hampshire Mark Corbin – Transport for West Midlands Mark Kemp (MK)- Hertfordshire (Chair) Matthew Piles - Dorset Nicola McCoy-Brown (NMB) - Nottinghamshire Paul Copeland – East Riding Paul Newark – Birmingham Sarah Spink – Midlands Connect Stewart Turner (Replaces Gordon MacKay) - Ayrshire Catriona Henderson - DfT David Molony - NAO Antonia Gracie NAO Naomi Green – England's Economic Heartland
APOLOGIES	Hannah Bartram, Paul Rusted, Stephen Fidler, Ann Carruthers, Paul Crick, Simon Statham, Peter Molyneux, Neil Gibson, Mike Ashworth, Rupert Clubb, Ruth Bendell, Adrian Gray, Anthony Payne, Ben Smith, Jason Humm
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CONFIDENTIALITY	Confidential

ITEM	SUBJECT	ACTION
1	Introductions	
2	Minutes of Last Meeting and Matters Arising No matters arising were discussed	
3	Updates from National Organisations 1) Local Government Association	
	 Spending round: Generally pleased with outcome with good overall direction (especially for social care the £1billion is needed and welcome) Transport - £200million buses and upgrading technology and decarbonisation welcome. £30 million for air quality announced to help councils lower nitrogen 	

dioxide emissions however clarification required on who what and where funding is applicable. £1billion for SRN but not clear if this is additional or just a reannouncement? Bus funding disappointment; big ask is on revenue and concessionary fare support. Will continue to lobby on this. Continue to work on future transport work e.g. published a guide for elected members on making the case for EV infrastructure Event being planned with EV charging infrastructure experts Cenex (March) New board chair David Renard (Swindon) Continued lobbying for: Roads maintenance revenue funding Less fragmentation / more streamlined approach to local transport funding The Traffic Management Act Part 6 Good response rate from recent survey (50%) - hoping to talk to DfT on the back of it Continue to work on payment parking/TROs - Geoplace/DfT useful report ALL Urge all members to respond to the 'Home to School Travel and Transport: Statutory Guidance' consultation **Updates from Working Groups** 1) The Rights of Way Working Group Decided to change function at national level to have more influence and effect. Currently chair has most of the work so instead portfolio will be split into following categories and each region will be responsible for pursing the agenda of one theme (oversight from National Group will continue): Health & wellbeing; working towards DEFRA 25-year Environment Plan DfT Active Travel Digital data Network rail; e.g. level crossings Legislation; what are the impacts on the rights of way network Geoplace conference attendance Board to write to Highway Authorities to underline the importance of including rights PΝ of way information in NSG data Noted that someone from The Rights of Way Working Group attends Environment Board meeting Commented that there is a disjoint between how the DfT and DEFRA see active travel network and how local authorities see whole network. Agreed to speak to Sustrans. National Rail conference: a point of contact is needed within ADEPT to discuss ALL carriageway crossings and their subsequent impacts e.g. on congestion Request that any authorities who have a large number of carriageway crossing/anyone with level crossing knowledge who they can nominate to be point of contact. 2) The National Traffic Managers Forum Previous meeting in June Useful Atkins presentation on the collaborative traffic management tool that aims to improve the relationship between Highways England and the Local Highways Authority Concern over Highways England partnership agreements; lobbying for more consistent agreements across all local authorities Next meeting week commencing 9th September and inaugural conference 3rd October. Awareness that there is a need to bring traffic managers across UK together (not just those in England) at a strategic level and consider how can traffic managers can contribute to NM agenda.

3) The Road Safety Working Group

- No meet since last Transport & Connectivity Board
- Data collection been underway related to safety stats and due for publication
- Government Road Safety statement published in July welcome
- International Road Safety conference relevant as UK statistics reveal a plateauing level of improvement. International conversations could prove useful and UK is open to learning lessons from other countries.

4) The Traffic Systems Working Group

ADEPT Traffic Systems Group (TSG) post meeting update

The most recent Committee Meeting was held on Tuesday 18 June 2019, hosted by Jacobs in London. Concerns raised about and aging workforce, skills shortages and succession planning, with these problems being exacerbated in places by a move away from retained expertise in preference for generalists. In many areas apprentices are being recruited, but there is a gap opening up in the middle ground as specialists move to generalist service delivery, with expertise also being lost as older staff retire. While there is a good skills base in design, there are shortages in operation and maintenance, and this gap is not being filled by technical expertise in consultancies or in contracting.

Good feedback received on the February Open Meeting, which was attended by 26 local authorities represented (30 people attended, 39 registered) and which was hosted by NAL. An Open Meeting is planned for February 2020. The TSG Committee would like to understand if ADEPT would fund a venue if a sponsor cannot be found?

5) The Digital Connectivity Group

- Digital Connectivity Policy position launched in June. Will be used to frame working group going forward
- Need to develop evidence base to engage Government and Ofcom over coverage discrepancies, data and the consumer
- Prime Minister pledge for full-fibre broadband coverage by 2025 welcome; what is required at local level to achieve this? Feasibility?
- Intend to undertake a leadership role in terms of planning reform and new development requirements
- First meeting to be on 8th October
- Will undertake review of the Spending Round and look at what it means in terms of digital connectivity
- Seminar 26th September with corporate partners is concentrating on theme of digital connectivity. Presentations to be shared after seminar.

5 Terms of Reference and Development of Forward Plan

1) Terms of Reference

- Drafted terms of reference circulated and aim to get signed off asap. Comments to be incorporated:
 - 'Future mobility' is a growth area and should be referenced access to everything/behaviour change/ shared mobility, emerging technologies, autonomous vehicles, micromobility, 'digital as a mode' considerations
 - Working groups are traffic/highways focused despite stating Transport & Connectivity board is multi-modal. Groupings to be revised (potentially by big issues e.g. air quality, congestion & structural maintenance).
 - 'Carbon champions' climate emergency impacts everything the board deals with

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2) Business Plan

UKNMB Business plan circulated as an example. Need comments from Board so that something can be developed and signed off at December meeting. Initial comments to be incorporated:

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- ADEPT Live labs project to be added Who is custodian of the project?
- Need business plans leads for each particular area
- Add column for themes relevant working group
- Some working groups have lost focus and needs to realign to current agenda/reset
- Live document that can be share online and with group leaders

3) Meeting Frequency

- 3 full meetings plus one in December (totalling 4) agreed upon
- Next meeting to coincide with CIHT annual luncheon on Friday 13th December, starting at 10am
- ADEPT to enquire about price of room at CIHT venue to maximise meeting time
- Ask on invite if member is attending the lunch
- Will send out meeting dates for the whole year
- Opportunity to hold a workshop/in depth session in the PM of two of the meetings

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6 Updates from National Organisations Continued.

1) The Department for Transport

- Catriona Henderson leads buses and taxi team
- Portfolio is split across ministers:
 - Baroness Vere (roads and local transport brief)
 - Chris Heaton-Harris (cycling and walking)
 - George Freeman (technology focus, environment and devolution)
- Andrew Gilligan current adviser on transport to PM and has significant interest in local transport
- Secretary of state enthusiastic about transport, driving hard agenda, keen on future mobility and electrification
- Spending round comments:
 - 1 year only and entirely focused on resource budgets not capital 11% increase deemed good
 - No cut in mall cycling schemes
 - No cut to BSOG
- Further capital spending potentially announced in October
- DfT is currently considering how to join up and simplify funding streams
- MRN schemes nominated by STBS received by 31st July and currently in assessment rounds. Then there will be a ministerial decision but not before end of '19
- £3.6billion stronger towns funds 100 small towns eligible plan for MHCLG to set out new towns deal in coming weeks
- Future mobility:
 - Preparing of future of mobility regulatory review e.g. how can regulations support FM work (barriers/opportunities). Consultation likely in October and will cover micromobility, MaaS, buses/taxis (flex bus service regulations), trials
 - Law commission on AVs publishing HARPS (highly autonomous road passenger systems) study in autumn
 - DfT working on a rural strategy (Midlands Connect Future of Rural Mobility Study with the University on Lincoln (& rural LEPs) could help)
- Buses:
 - Preparing advice for ministers linked to charging for spare places on home to school transport – hopefully this will lead to exempting certain PSVAR vehicles for a certain period of time e.g. 5-6 years to allow the situation to be resolved in a sustainable manner

	 Transport data strategy currently in development published early 2020 £200 million extra resource funding for buses, with focus on low emission buses and demand responsive transport. Further announcement planned (cover policy as well as funding) Bus subsidies confirmed – consultation requested before next funding Clarified that the BSGO formulae needs reviewing (currently based on 2012 figures) Franchises and enhanced partnership - support for places wanted to do franchising 	
7	NAO Study on Local Transport	
	 NAO slides to be circulated Member to consider what the NAO should be focusing their studies on/encompassing in their interactive mapping exercise and improving bus services in England study. 	MK/EE
8	England's Economic Heartland Draft Transport Strategy	
	 Responses requested to the questions at the end of each chapter end Members responses to be collated into overarching comment EEH aiming for a zero-carbon transport network by 2050 – Is this timeframe 	ALL EE
	ambitious enough? Any comments/reasoning from members?	ALL
9	AOB	

NEXT MEETING

10am Friday 13th December venue tba