

MEETING SUBJECT	ADEPT Transport & Connectivity Board	MEETING DATE	17 March 2023
RECORDED BY	Karen Brown	TIME	10:00 -13:00
		VENUE	TEAMs

ATTENDEES PRESENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ann Carruthers (AC) (Chair) • Adele Wearing (AW) • Alex Dodds (AD) • Allan Creedy (AC) • Andrew Summers (AS) • Ceren Clulow (CC) • Charlie Bird (CB) • Clive Thomson (CT) • David Boyer (DB) • Edward Shortridge (ES) • Gary Bartlett (GB) • Grahame Bygrave(GB) • Hannah Bartram (HB) • Jamie Hullah (JH) • Kamal Panchal (KP) • John Lamb (JL) • Lindsey Vallis (LV) • Mark Corbin (MC) • Mark Kemp (MK) • Owen Wilson (OW) • Paul Copeland (PC) • Paul Fermer (PF) • Rachel Wileman (RW) • Rose McArthur (RM) • Rupert Furness (RF) • Sam Edwards (SE) • Sarah Spink (SP) • Shona Butter (SB) • Simon McGlone (SMcG) • Simon Jeffrey (SJ) • Suzanne Winkels (SW) • Trevor Brennan (TB)
IN PART	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Fidler (SF) • Rupert Furness (RF)

APOLOGIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthony Ferguson (AF) • Anthony Payne (AP) • Chris Henning (CH) • David Boyer (DB) • David Davies (DD) • Felciity Tidbury (FT) • Julian Gould (JG) • Matthew Crane (MC) • Paul Crick (PC) • Rupert Thacker (RT) • Stuart Proffitt (SP) • Tim Lawton (TW)
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ITEM		BY WHO
1.	<p><u>Welcome and Apologies</u></p> <p>AC welcomed everyone to the meeting. AC thanked Paul Crick for chairing the December meeting and expressed thanks again to Paul Crick and Grahame Bygrave, as vice chairs of this group, in providing support and assistance to AC's Chair role in her absence.</p>	
2.	<p><u>Minutes of last meeting and Matters Arising</u></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 9 December 2022 were agreed.</p> <p>Action log updated and to be circulated.</p>	AC/KB
3.	<p><u>Travel Demand Management – Update on Policy Challenge Paper</u></p> <p>AC said that following the workshop session on Road Pricing last November a challenge paper was prepared on ADEPT's position. The findings, key principles and structure of the paper was presented to the meeting.</p> <p>Discussion/comments received from ADEPT Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Title of 'Road Pricing' not the way forward and required a more positive angle on it. • Clear strategy required on how this should be communicated. • Need to look at how to get input from politicians and members of public and comms professionals on how this is shaped to make it acceptable. • 15-minute neighbourhood is an issue. • 80% of vehicles from rural areas so possibly lose a group who create a lot of traffic/movement. • Select Committee – understand how their ruling is guiding thoughts on this. • Important to build on thinking to develop ideas. • Future of mobility to give people a choice of transport modes. • Any new Government will want to keep this simple and possibly apply a flat rate. • EVs to contribute as other road users do but in a way that does not impact on uptake. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to ensure that people who have no other option other than to drive are not disadvantaged as quite a few villages have no public transport provision. • Extending/changing the interval between MOTs is a concern from a road safety perspective. • In terms of reluctance to adopt policies around road user charging there is evidence from case studies internationally that over time local opposition will fade and in terms of balance most systems are equitable in terms of investment and delivering transport solutions. • Question of timing on this and negative opinions – there is a funding gap if Treasury do not do something. • ADEPT should think carefully in terms of whom these sensitive conversations are with. • Strategy should have clear benefits about the investment and where this is going. • Suggested objectives agreed. • Linking income to future transport investment is key – if people see “local improvements the reaction might be more positive. • Under such extreme funding pressures, that the only 'sell' would be income generation that is ringfenced to highway maintenance. • Suggested short and long-term options agreed. • Change key asks of Government to what key sale points. <p>AC thanked the Board for their comments which will be taken on board and a final draft prepared for further discussion.</p>	AC/ES
4.	<p><u>Updates from Working Groups – circulated with the agenda</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Traffic Managers Forum – Mark Corbin The 5th Annual National Traffic Managers Scheme to be held in Northampton on Wednesday 4th October 2023. AC highlighted the discussion on the shortage of Halogen lamps which was also discussed at the Traffic Systems Working Group - to be linked in with the DfT across the board. • The Rights of Way Working Group – Shona Butter AC highlighted the Network Rail , IPROW and ADEPT webinars for Level Crossing Orders. • The Road Safety Working Group – Paul Copeland The Rural Road Segmentation research was now published which the group had some input into. • The Traffic Systems Working Group – Adrian Gray • The Digital Connectivity Group – Ceren Clulow CC gave a brief update on the work of the Group which will be circulated with the minutes. 	<p>All to note</p> <p>All to note</p> <p>AC/KB</p>

5.	<p><u>SEND Transport Issues – Joint Working ATCO, ADEPT and ADCS</u></p> <p>AC updated the meeting on ADEPT joint working with the Association of Directors of Children’s Services (ADCS), LGA and ATCO on a piece of work on Home to School SEN Transport.</p> <p>AC added that this was a challenging area in terms of growth and felt that the joint working across the associations would be valuable. The first Task and Finish Group was meeting on 28 March and the terms of reference set out two strands of work, 1) looking at the legislation and carrying out a review to make recommendations to the Government on how this can be improved, and 2) to look at a potential toolkit to help local authorities in delivering SEN transport.</p> <p>AC added that there would be monthly Task and Finish Groups for 6 months and ADEPT would be updated on progress.-</p>	AC
6.	<p><u>Updates from National Organisations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department for Transport – Stephen Fidler/Rupert Furness <p><u>Budgets</u> SF updated the Board on the recent announcement in terms DfT funding and the flat-cash financial settlement position. DfT taking approach of different transport modes to consume their own smoke e.g. HS2 delivery timeline and programme have overrun. SF informed that for Active Travel minimum budget allocation had been announced.</p> <p><u>Bus Funding</u> £2 fare and recovery funding extended until end of June and work being carried out on how this will be funded post June. SF indicated that local authority capacity and capability funding is being considered in the context of the Department’s wider financial position.</p> <p>SF shared a presentation which was the current proposal on how the funding could be provided to the sector across DfT and DHLUC. SF gave an overview of the proposal and comments were received from the Board.</p> <p>In terms of LTP guidance this has still not been agreed due to the changes in the ministerial team. RF understanding it will now be after the local authority elections.</p> <p><u>Active Travel</u> RF from the DfT will be covering Active Travel, LTPs, highways maintenance and reviewing how Local Transport Authorities are funded.</p> <p>RF reported that AT Round 4, which is £200m of funding in the current financial year, is due to be announced next week on local authority allocations. The Secretary of State announced latest ATE funding is £100m total over the next two years. The £100m is just the capital element and there was also the revenue funding settlements to be announced.</p> <p>RF highlighted the announcement of the extra £200m for potholes and that capital funding will be allocated in the next financial year. Allocations for the</p>	

	<p>£200m are here: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/highways-maintenance-funding-allocations/additional-budget-2023-highways-maintenance-and-pothole-repair-funding-2023-to-2024</p> <p>ACreedy asked about funding highway authorities and when this change was anticipated. RF said that this would be around the period of the next spending review. ADEPT Board offered to engage and support with this which RF was grateful for as a forum to test thinking.</p> <p>JH asked in terms of Active Travel England if there were any reflections looking across the UK on how the pipeline of schemes has been developing and has that been affected by recent Government funding decisions. RF acknowledged DfT aware of need to steer away from the short-term funding.</p> <p>KP commented on the budget announcement for city regions of £8.8b which seems a sizeable lift from the current funding. SF said it may have been part influenced by the perceived success of SRTS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Government Association – Kamal Panchal <p>LGA on the Future of Flight Industry Group (drones and unmanned aircraft etc). There are expectations from Government that councils will play a pivotal role but needed clarification and information on what resources may be required. KP may engage with this Board for information/thoughts. HB to follow up with KP on this.</p> <p>There will be a political change for the LGA as Chairman James Jamieson will step down as his term will finish; Councillor David Renard term as chair of LGA Economy, Environment, Housing and Transport Board will also end. Local elections could change LGA political balance. LGA Spring Budget on the day briefing.</p> <p>Geoplace won £1 million project to explore net-zero and the street/roadworks sector funded from fines from TfL lane rental scheme. HB to follow up with KP on possible links to ADEPT live labs.</p> Association of Transport Co-ordinating Groups – Jason Salter <p>There was no update for this item.</p> 	<p>HB</p> <p>HB</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><u>Data for Smarter Investment in our local economy</u></p> <p>AC introduced Bradley Taylor from O2 and Matthew D’Archambaud from Bedford Borough Council to the meeting. A presentation was shared with the Board on a project they have been working on around town centre regeneration and the role O2 played in that.</p> <p>CC asked if the data used was from the O2 network and if the business cases and lessons learned from this project could be shared with other local authorities. BT confirmed it was the O2 network but also extrapolate the data from the other two network competitors to reflect the true number of people that have made these journeys and behaviours. MD’A said that the business case was still in its infancy but happy to share the background of how the business case was put together.</p>	

	<p>MC commented that the technology deepens the understanding of the public transport network and is going to be quite valuable in terms of how the future use of buses is considered in his area. MC to follow up a conversation with BT/MD'A.</p> <p>AC thanked Bradley and Matthew for attending and giving a very interesting presentation. The presentation will be circulated to the Group.</p>	AC/KB
8.	<p><u>Future of Freight</u></p> <p>AC introduced David Elvey from DfT and Alex Dodds from Midland Connect to the meeting.</p> <p>DE gave a presentation on the long-term plan for the Future of Freight and actions from this plan.</p> <p>AD from Midlands Connect shared a presentation on the current work streams and which are included in their business plan for 2023/24 with the assumption of working towards a net zero picture by 2050. AD added that Midlands Connect are working closely with other sub-national transport body partners to look at how this forms into a more national picture and also work with DfT to see how this informs view of the national freight network.</p> <p>JL noted the use of the Transport Research Innovation Board to facilitate early start up interventions and resilience is important as network closures have a major impact on the logistics sector. Lorry parking is a minefield and there is a lack of support for these key workers.</p> <p>KP commented that part of the problem that freight (lorries) have an image problem. DE said that this was a fundamental problem and is a job for the industry itself to breakdown some of those perceptions of the negatives of freight and do better with the positives.</p> <p>AC thanked David and Alex and commented that they are valuable pieces of work. AC offered for DE to attend a further meeting of ADEPT to share information or to get an input from ADEPT.</p> <p>Both presentations will be circulated with the minutes.</p>	AC/KB
9.	<p><u>Any Other Business</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Network Rail Liaison with Highway Authorities <p>AC asked the meeting if they had any challenges on engaging with Network Rail on highway processes. Various responses were shared with the Board.</p> <p>HB offered to follow up with NR and DfT leads on the Network Rail side of things to look at raising as a T & C Board issue to raise with DfT Colleagues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminders: <p>Highways Sector Resilience and Response Webinar – 30 March 2023 Lunch and Learn – 24 March 2023</p>	HB

	<p>ADEPT Spring Conference and Annual Awards Dinner – 25 May 2023, London. Midlands Connect Rural Conference - 12th June 2023 in Melton Mowbray. PACTS Spring Conference on 28 March 2023 on micro-mobility, safety and sustainability. AC informed the Board that David Davies from PACTS is retiring at the end of March and thanked him for his contributions and time given to the meetings.</p>	
	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Friday 9 June 2023, 10.00 – 1.00 pm via Teams</p>	