Friday, March 6, 2026

ADEPT President's Awards 2026

Entry form

Main contact name	PAMELA MCGUINNESS
Email	pamela.mcguiness@liverpool.gov.uk
Phone Number	(07513) 122751
Award category	Delivering Sustainable Growth
Project Title	Liverpool Live Lab
Local authority	Liverpool City Council
Partner/s if applicable	• Aberdeen Council (Test bed for demonstrators) • Bird and Bird (Co-development of a procurement toolkit) • Colas (Programme delivery partner & Co- development of Infracare Asset Management approach) • Dowhigh (Contractor installing innovation products) • Huyton Ashphalt (Contractor installing innovation products) • Liverpool John Moores University (Development of innovation material) • Newcastle City Council (Test bed for knowledge sharing) • Pell Frischmann (Development of low carbon optioneering tool) • Proving Services (Testing of assumptions/approach to carbon recording)

Headline summary (150 characters max.)

Liverpool Live Labs 2 - driving innovation and green growth through materials, processes and tech to boost skills, products and commercial activity.

Please note we need at least one supporting image per award submission. Upload your image/s below.

Video - please paste links to any video evidence here. (Leave blank if not relevant.)

https://colase4.sharepoint.com/:v:/s/ADEPTLiveLabsII/IQAGC9NeRi6_S7_kWuN9LoKtAbbvP4acPl2P2dcu11aIKt8?email=krishna.sivaprasad%40colas.co.uk&e=Q3Hscw

Delivering Sustainable Growth: How is this project delivering sustainable growth – demonstrating ambition and vision, anticipating future challenges, protecting and enhancing the natural environment and futureproofing growth? (150 words max)

Liverpool Live Labs2 applies an ecosystem approach to drive innovation and support green economic growth. By trialling new low carbon materials, processes and technologies, the programme stimulated commercial activity, encouraged new product development across academia and industry, and supported specialist skills growth.
The Institution of Civil Engineers reports that local roads currently cost the UK £4bn a year to maintain and produce 1.5 million tonnes of CO_2e. By targeting these long-term inefficiencies, Live Labs 2 focused on lower carbon, higher efficiency infrastructure and secured procurement compliant routes to market, demonstrating ambition and forward planning.
Through testing climate resilient technologies and low carbon materials, the project has created new market opportunities for suppliers and contractors and gave local authorities greater confidence to trial innovative approaches. This supports sustainable growth by expanding low carbon techniques, boosting productivity and job creation, and strengthening the region's SME—future proofing Liverpool's transition to a greener economy.

Delivering Sustainable Growth: How is this project working across boundaries and with different partners to achieve long lasting clean and green growth? (150 words max)

Liverpool's ecosystem approach is built on cross boundary partnerships and collaboration across local authorities, commercial partners and academic institutions. This model stimulates innovation, reduces carbon, strengthens green supply chains, and supports skills and job creation—laying the foundation for long term, clean and sustainable economic growth.
A cross regional approach with authorities in Aberdeen and Newcastle created a network where innovations could be tested in different climates, geographies and operational environments. Sharing learning across these varied contexts accelerates adoption, avoids duplication, reduces costs and supports faster decarbonisation.
By combining research expertise with operational delivery and policy insight, the project ensures innovations are both scientifically robust and practically deliverable. This multidisciplinary team works together on whole life carbon solutions, considering the full road asset lifecycle from design and construction to maintenance and decommissioning. Focusing on lifecycle thinking ensures long lasting environmental and economic benefits, rather than short term fixes.

Delivering Sustainable Growth: How is this project proactively engaging with businesses and communities to tackle problems and find solutions, stimulating the clean growth sector at the same time? (150 words max.)

The ecosystem approach places cross sector innovation and proactive engagement at its centre. Bringing together local authorities, businesses, supply chains, academic partners and communities has enabled the co design, trial and evaluation of solutions to decarbonise the local roads network. This inclusive model is key to delivering community backed green growth.

We collaborated with a wide network of commercial partners, creating opportunities for suppliers, SMEs, engineering innovators and technology firms to develop and scale low carbon solutions. Trials included the first of its kind deployment of HALO RubberPave LIFE, a next generation asphalt designed for durability, circularity and long-term carbon reduction. These real-world testing opportunities accelerate commercialisation and stimulate the low carbon roads sector.
Across the city, 26 trials were delivered with active community participation, ensuring solutions reflect diverse local road environments. Apprenticeships also played a central role, helping build a locally upskilled workforce capable of supporting long-term growth.

Delivering Sustainable Growth: How is this project going beyond the 3–5-year budget cycle to prepare for future challenges including the use or consideration of innovative funding solutions? (150 words max.)

Live Labs 2 is a three-year programme running until March 2026, but its impact will extend far beyond the initial funding window. The collaboration provides a national blueprint for evidence based, whole life, low carbon highways delivery, built on an integrated supply chain supporting one of the UK's most ambitious decarbonisation programmes. The tools developed will enable Liverpool to plan ahead as an intelligent client for future years.
By adopting more durable low carbon materials (e.g., HALO RubberPave LIFE identified through optioneering tools), smarter maintenance processes (such as Colas Infracare for informed asset management), and circular economy approaches(working with partners to recycle and design for decommissioning through in situ recycling), the programme aims to reduce long term lifecycle costs.
The project will also feed findings into a five-year evaluation phase to continue monitoring the trialled innovations, enabling Liverpool's evidence to shape future policy and industry standards while advancing green growth.