

ADEPT ENGINEERING BOARD

NATIONAL BRIDGES GROUP

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. The ADEPT Bridge Group (for clarity referred to here as the National Bridges Group, NBG) brings together local government bridge engineering representatives from across the UK to consider matters related to highway bridges, tunnels, other highway structures and related matters.
2. The NBG representatives consist of a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary and the Chairman and Secretary of Area Bridge Groups (ABG). The ABG representatives report back to the following 12 groups;
 - South West
 - CSS Wales
 - Yorkshire & Humber
 - West Midlands
 - East Midlands
 - Scots
 - South East
 - North West
 - Northern
 - Department for Infrastructure Northern Ireland
 - Eastern
 - Transport for London
3. The Chairman, Secretary and Vice Chairman are chosen by the NBG and have a tenure of 3 years after which a vote for each position will be taken by a show of hands at the appropriate National Bridges Group meeting (next due date February 2022)
4. As primarily an advisory body, the NBG aims to operate by consensus. Where there is no consensus a simple show of hands may be taken at the discretion of the chair.
5. The Chairmen and Secretary of the ABGs are engineers chosen by the ABG from amongst its membership and ratified by the NBG.
8. The **purpose** of the NBG and ABG is:
 - to develop and promulgate best practice on technical, financial, administrative and operational matters relating to the sustainable construction, maintenance, availability, safety and use of Local Authority highway bridges, tunnels and other highway structures.

- to provide a source of advice to local authorities and professional bodies on best practice and priorities in relation to bridges, tunnels and other highway structures
- to provide a link between local authorities and other bridge groups such as the UK Bridges Board and Bridge Owners Forum
- attendees at the UK Bridges Board will be the NBG Chairman and a representative from Metropolitan Councils, SCOTS and CSS Wales
- to consult and co-operate with other bridge owners and those having an interest in bridges
- to monitor and review progress on the programme of assessment and strengthening of bridges carrying public roads, including the funding arrangements
- to liaise with Network Rail by inviting a representative to the NBG
- to liaise with the Environment Agency by inviting a representative to the NBG
- to assist with production of industry documents such as Codes of Practice

9. The **working methods** of the NBG are as follows:

- the Chairman submits reports to the ADEPT Engineering Board
- from time to time to establish ‘task and finish’ sub-groups to undertake specific tasks
- to meet three times a year (usually February, June and October)
- to record the proceedings of meetings and to share with ABGs
- to share certain topics with UKBB and BOF
- to invite technical presentations from industry for delivery at NBG meetings

February 2021
Kevin Dentith
Chairman, ADEPT National Bridge Group