

Paper UKRB 05/09

Minutes of the UK Roads Board 24/02/2009

Minutes of the 30th meeting of the UK Roads Board.

Meeting held at the Institution of Highways & Transportation (IHT) at 10:30am on Tuesday 24th February 2009

Present:

Matthew Lugg	CSS (Chair)
Edward Bunting	DfT
Chris Capps	CSS/ UKPMS/SCANNER
Kevin Fuller	Footway Group Representative
Les Hawker	TfL
Donald Morrison	Transport Scotland
Andrew Oldland	DfT
Anthony Radford-Foley	TAG
Gary Warner	Bromley LB/LOTAG
Lester Willmington	CSS TAG Asset Management Group
Mary Lewis	IHT
Justin Ward	IHT (Secretariat)

In attendance:

Phil Chatfield (attended for item 11)	DEFRA/Environment Agency
Linda Aucott (attended for item 11)	DEFRA

1. Welcome, introduction and apologies

Apologies were received from John Dowie, Pat Docherty, Phil Cadenne, Ramesh Sinhal and Richard Morgan. The Chairman welcomed Mary Lewis and Justin Ward from the IHT.

2. Notes of last meeting and matters arising

a) *Notes of last meeting*

There was a correction noted to the previous minutes (item 4. Research Priorities) – section on Sustainable Drainage. Delete: 'In light of proposals to pass the responsibility for highway drainage from highway authorities to sewerage companies'

Action: Amended minutes from October 21 st 2008 to be circulated by Justin Ward

b) *Matters arising*

Ramesh Sinhal has not yet circulated the DEFRA report on Environmental Noise.

Action: Justin Ward to contact Ramesh Sinhal for Environmental Noise Report by DEFRA

3. Feedback from UKRLG meeting 12 November 2008 and update

The board reviewed the minutes from the UKRLG meeting and observed that the note mentioned in the minutes had not been circulated.

Action: Andrew Oldland to circulate note attached to the minutes of the UK Road Liaison Group

4. UKRB Terms of Reference/Business Plan

The Board reviewed the Business Plan and agreed that the focus should be on making sure the plan is relevant for 2009-2012 and takes account of resources involved and responsible owners. The Board agreed that the Business Plan should be a live document. The Chairman circulated an updated note on the Business Plan to demonstrate the wider cross-cutting issue that the UK Roads Board is involved with. The board agreed that they should take account of this when updating the Business Plan.

Action: Sub-group chairs to update relevant sections of the Business Plan and the Justin Ward will co-ordinate the process for this.
Justin Ward to circulate Business Plan update note from Matthew Lugg

5. Research Programme – agree approach

Following discussion the Board agreed it would be useful to identify what research is currently ongoing and what research is planned.

Action: Edward Bunting to circulate ongoing and planned research at the Department for Transport to the UK Roads Board through Justin Ward

Following some discussion on the Codes of Practice it was agreed that Donald Morrison would assist with the review process.

Action: Donald Morrison to assist with review of Codes of Practice

6. Revenue Support Grant – develop technical guidance for CLG

The Board agreed this was an important issue and had major implications within service areas for allocations of funding and ongoing maintenance requirements.

Action: Chris Capps to seek clarification on where the Revenue Grant Support from Karen Sussex at CLG and report back to the UK Roads Board next meeting

7. Design and Maintenance Guidance for Local Roads

Following discussion, Les Hawker volunteered to work on this for the Board

Action: Lew Hawker to assist review process

8. Feedback from sub groups

The Board thanked the sub-groups for their reports and it was noted that there was a lot of good work being achieved.

a) **Asset Management**

Following a discussion on Asset Management it was agreed to re-circulate the recent CiPFA Asset Management letter. Lester Willmington presented his update to the board (UKRB 01/09) and the Board agreed the recommendations in the paper:

Item 2 – CIPFA report – response from Government

- UKRB supported a nomination by the group to the CIPFA steering group
- UKRB supported the approach to wait for a clear steer from the project steering group before updating the Asset Management Framework
- UKRB agreed that the group had a role in advising and contributing to the revision
- UKRB agreed that synergy needed to be managed between the two boards and that Lester Willmington would produce a paper on this

Item 3 – Support contract for ukPMS and SCANNER

- UKRB supported the proposal

Item 4

- UKRB agreed to amend this point by covering this within the UKRB Business Plan

Item 5

- UKRB agreed that the Review of Codes needed to be formalised

Action: Justin Ward to re-circulate CiPFA Asset Management Letter

Action: Lester Willmington to produce a paper for Matthew Lugg to consider submitting to UKRLG on 18 March outlining the issues as they relate to the synergy between the Boards relating to Asset Management and ensuring that the correct channels of information are created.

b) **Footways**

Following discussion the Board agreed that the proposed measurement measure for pavements and agreed that this was an improvement on previous methods

c) **Pavement Conditions**

Following discussion the Board approved the paper and noted that involvement with the private sector was important for discussion on issues and the best way to achieve this would be through the HTMA Trade Association for the industry

9. Update on National Road Condition Reporting

Edward Bunting provided an update on SCANNER. The Board noted that it would be important to ensure work on this area should be incorporated within the Business Plan. Edward Bunting gave an update on the two task and finish groups.

Action: All: National Road Condition Reporting details to be included within the Business Plan

10. SuDS Presentation

Phil Chatfield and Linda Aucott from DeFRA gave a presentation on SuDS. Following the presentation there was a discussion of some of the potential issues for transportation in areas of Asset Management and the need for a full inventory of drainage infrastructure. The Board commented that the implications of SuDS could place increased budgetary strain on Local Authorities in regards to ongoing maintenance. There was also a discussion of how SuDS would be important to design guidance going forward.

Action: Justin Ward to produce paper on implications of SuDS issues for the UK Roads Board

11. Liaison with HTMA

This was covered under item 8c above.

12. Winter Service – implications of the recent severe weather

Paper UKRB 04/09. Following a lot of discussion around winter service the Board agreed that further clarity is required on the review process and the UK Roads Board involvement in the review

Action: John Dowie to provide more clarification on how the review process on winter maintenance is being carried out - Justin Ward to report back to the board.

13. Damage to Road Networks

The Chairman highlighted the implications of damage to the road network as a result of the recent severe weather and the Board sought clarity on what the compensation process would be.

Action: Chris Capps to feedback on opportunities of additional highway maintenance funding following the adverse winter.

14. Communication

Mary Lewis noted the two main communication channels: the website and content in Transportation Professional.

Action: All – provide contact names for distribution of Transportation Professional

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15. Any other business

The Chairman noted that the Highway Risk and Liability Claims was out now. The Chairman also mentioned the National Highways & Transport Network Public Satisfaction Survey 2009 and the Board stated its support for the work in this area

Lester Willmington – input on Asset Management
Chris Capps - UKPMS

16. Date of next meeting

June 16th 2009 in Northern Ireland

Action: Talk to Northern Ireland representative