

Paper UKRB xx/09

Minutes of the UK Roads Board 30/10/2009

Minutes of the 32d meeting of the UK Roads Board held at the Institution of Highways & Transportation

Present:

Matthew Lugg	CSS (Chair)
Andy Bailey	DfT
Edward Bunting	DfT
Phil Cadenne	CSS Wales/Cardiff
Kevin Fuller	Footway Group Representative
Les Hawker	TfL
Richard Morgan	Welsh Assembly
Donald Morrison	Transport Scotland
Anthony Radford-Foley	TAG
Ramesh Sinhal	Highways Agency
Gary Warner	Bromley LB/LOTAG
Lester Willmington	Asset Management Group
Justin Ward	IHT (Secretariat)

In attendance:

Chris Chiverrell (For item 4)	CIRIA
Brian Fern (Presented item 2)	IHT
Daryl Lloyd (For all items)	DfT Statistics
Jonathan Niman (For all items)	DfT Statistics

1. Welcome, introduction and apologies

Apologies were received from Chris Capps and Pat Doherty. The Board welcomed Andy Bailey from DfT and also Daryl Lloyd who will both attend future meetings of the UK Roads Board.

2. Presentation from Brian Fern, TRL

Ramesh Sinhal provided an introduction prior the presentation delivered by Brian Fern on Traffic Speed Deflectometers (TSD): Ramesh noted that the Highways Agency was going to roll TSDs out from November 2009. The Board noted the links with SCANNER – which helps monitor problems with the surface of the road network – and considered that this would be worth further investigation. The Board noted links with Asset Management and how TSD could be applied at both the local and national level. The Board agreed that this would be very helpful to measure the structural condition of the network and that it would be useful to assess the application of this throughout the UK.

Action: UK Roads Board Sub Group - PCMG to look at high level feasibility of TSD and report back to UK Roads Board in February 2010.

3. Update on National Road Condition Reporting

Daryl Lloyd presented a paper on Final Report from: Unclassified Road Condition Data Group and endorsed all the recommendations, but noted an additional point on

Paper UKRB xx/09

Minutes of the UK Roads Board 30/10/2009

recommendation 6) with the suggestion that 'bandwidth or compliance interval are well ascertained in a survey to ensure confidence in reliability and repeatability of results': The Board noted that recommendation 4) fits with the earlier recommendation from the UK Roads Board following the presentation by Brian Fern from TRL on the TSD and that the remit for the PCMG should encompass both recommendations.

- 1. The Group recommends that pending the outcome of the further research, LAs continue to monitor the condition of unclassified roads using Coarse Visual Inspection (CVI), unless already using DVI or SCANNER.*
- 2. The Group recommends that the CSS continues to collect the results from CVI and DVI surveys from LAs. These results should be calculated by LAs following the methodology previously used for BVPI 224b. The results should be published at a national and regional level in DfT's National Statistics release 'Road Conditions in England'.*
- 3. The Group recommends LAs monitor condition using a combination of survey types for different road types. These survey types should deliver consistent, comparable data between LAs at a reasonable cost.*
- 4. The Group recommends that the Pavement Condition Management Group be tasked to investigate the different survey types with a view to establishing the appropriate surveys to be recommended for different types of unclassified roads by Autumn 2010.*
- 5. The Group recommends that the Pavement Condition Management Group be tasked to develop a methodology to compare, at a LA level, the different measurements of road condition produced by the surveys methods selected as part of R4 by Spring 2011. This development should take into account similar work being carried out for the introduction of Asset Management.*
- 6. The Group recommends that these data (as set out in R3-R5) on the condition of unclassified roads be collated at a national level [by DfT?] and published in DfT's National Statistics release 'Road Conditions in England'.*

Daryl Lloyd provided an update on the Road Condition Publication Group and the Board agreed that trends are important for presentation confirming that historic information should be included in the publication.

<p>Action: Matthew Lugg to review the original Terms of Reference for the publication process</p> <p>Action: UKRB to recommend to UKRLG that a report on condition of all assets – e.g. bridges, lighting – should be reported (similar to the Road Condition Publication)</p> <p>Action: UKRB Devolved Administration representatives to investigate the inclusion of adding condition information to the report and liaise with Daryl Lloyd</p>
--

4. Proposal from CIRIA

Chris Chiverrell presented a proposal from CIRIA on a research project on Transport infrastructure drainage – condition appraisal & remedial treatment. Chris noted that additional funding was required to start the research. Chris noted that Infrastructure asset management processes and procedures are well established for key assets such as pavements, bridges, and earthworks; however the drainage asset has long been overlooked. The link between poorly maintained drainage systems and the

Paper UKRB xx/09

Minutes of the UK Roads Board 30/10/2009

incidence of earthwork, pavement and trackbed failures has long been suspected and there is now improved knowledge and evidence of this relationship. This, together with recent high-profile flooding events, provides renewed impetus for development of good practice guidance on the condition appraisal and remedial treatment of these important assets.

The Board discussed the proposal and noted that further advice and direction might help shape a more useful product for the industry.

Action: Andy Bailey, on behalf of UKRB to provide advice on proposal to refocus the scope of the research and ensure there are links with the UKRB Codes of Practice

5. Notes of the last meeting

The Board noted the following outstanding actions:

- Anthony Radford-Foley to contact Chris Capps and circulate report on Revenue Support Grant
- Matthew Lugg to invite the HTMA to the February 2010 meeting of the UKRB

Matthew Lugg noted that the CSS was due to publish the guidance on Commuted Sums in November 2009.

6. Minutes of the UK Roads Liaison Group meeting

Matthew Lugg noted that a key focus of the meeting covered the Winter Maintenance review.

6. Asset Management Sub-Group update

Lester Willmington noted the CIPFA Code has been launched in draft form and the Board noted the good progress of the group

7. Footways

Kevin Fuller provided an update on the Footways Sub-Group

Action: Kevin Fuller to provide details of skid resistance to Ramesh Sinhal once the report is available

8. Pavement Condition

The Board supported the proposal that the SCANNER accreditation contract is extended.

Action: UKRB supported the proposal: 'The Department should also plan ahead and secure funding (at approximately the same level) for years beyond 2009/10, to ensure that SCANNER data are consistent and reliable, and fit for purpose

9. Business Plan

Paper UKRB xx/09

Minutes of the UK Roads Board 30/10/2009

The Board commented on the Business Plan and agreed to put forward final comments prior to publication on the website

Action: UKRB members to send comments to Justin Ward on UKRB Business Plan

10. Codes of Practice & Asset Management

The Board discussed an outstanding item on the issue of developing Complementary Guidance for safety fences and barriers. This issue has been raised a number of times by consultees through the WMH update process. The Board agreed that a proposal on this from ATKINS would help with moving this item forward.

Action: Edward Bunting to raise with Mike Bordiss to develop a proposal on managing and maintenance of safety fences to be presented to the Asset Management Sub Group on the 20th January 2010

The Board noted and agreed to the recommendations in the reports from ATKINS:

From the paper UKRLG and Boards Oct Nov 09:

1. The revised winter service elements of Well-maintained Highways are published as an 'essential' update to the Code.
2. DfT formally notifies local highway authorities of the winter service revision and takes the opportunity to notify authorities of the wider complementary guidance process.
3. A dialogue is opened with the Institution of Civil Engineers on the future of the ICE Design and Practice Guide for Highway Winter Maintenance.

From the paper UKRLG and Boards Oct Nov 09 Asset Management Guidance:

Revised transport asset management guidance should be published by the UKRLG to replace the CSS Framework for Highway Asset Management. The new document should build on and consolidate existing guidance, be developed based on lessons learnt from implementation of asset management, learn from any early experiences of implementing the new financial reporting requirements, and be published by autumn 2010.

11. Updates to Well-Maintained Highways

The Board supported the updates to Well-Maintained Highways: these included an update to the Complementary Guidance (with a November publishing date); an update to Appendix H on Winter Service Issues and an update to Section 13 of Well-Maintained Highways that covers Winter Service.

12. Research Projects

Action: All – to look for any proposal paper for research on carbon reduction

Date of Next Meeting

26th February, 2010