

Minutes of the 47th meeting of the UK Bridges Board held at the Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation on 4 June 2015

Dana Skelley	TfL (Chairman)
Nick Burgess	Transport for London
Graham Cole	ADEPT
Robert Dean	Network Rail
Kevin Dentith	ADEPT Rep/Devon
Colin Ferriss	Transport NI
Satbir Gill	TAG/Ringway Hounslow Highways Limited
Nicola Head	Transport for London
Jason Hibbert	Welsh Government
Rod Howe	Canal and Rivers Trust
Bob Humphreys	CSS Wales Rep/Gwynedd Council,
Gary Kemp	DfT
Liz Kirkham	ADEPT Rep/Gloucester (Deputy Chairman)
Neil Loudon	Highways Agency
David Mackenzie	SCOTS Rep, Highland Council
Stuart Molyneux	Metropolitan Councils
Paul Monaghan	LoBEG/City of London
Justin Ward	CIHT (Secretariat)

In attendance:

Simon Ellis (item 2) from Mott MacDonald

1. Welcome, introduction and apologies

Dana Skelley welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were recorded for Richard Fish, Wayne Hindshaw, and Andrew Stevenson. The Board welcomed Paul Monaghan who was representing LoBEG and also Nicola Head who was taking over from Stephen Pottle on behalf of TfL, and Colin Ferris, who was taking over from Harvey Hamilton of Transport NI.

2. Presentation: Network Rail/Mott MacDonald - holistic review of the requirement relating to the height of parapets on bridges spanning over Network Rail's infrastructure.

Rob Dean and Simon Ellis gave a very good presentation on work undertaken by Network Rail and Mott MacDonald. The Board noted that the research demonstrated that public behaviour risk is often not sufficiently understood or considered in design.

Action: A copy of the presentation slides to be circulated with the minutes

3. Minutes of last meeting

These were approved as an accurate record the actions were all either completed or in progress. The action from the last meeting to Rod Howe could be removed.

4. Code of Practice Review

Noted that comments on the first draft of the Overarching Code would go through Nicola Head from TfL for UK Bridges Board matters. Liz explained that she was dealing with the representation through ADEPT.

Action: UK Bridges Board comments on the Overarching Code to Nicola Head by 24 June 2015

Action: Satbir Gill to provide comments on the inclusion of Whole of Government Accounts and relevance to inventory and maintenance issues

CSS Wales highlight their concerns about limited resources within smaller authorities with the move to fully risk-based approaches.

5. Structures Toolkit

The UK Bridges Board agreed to the establishment of the Structures Toolkit Accreditation Board, as a sub-group of the Bridges Board, which can take decisions without having to refer back to the Bridges Board.

The following will be members of the Accreditation Board: Satbir Gill, Liz Kirkham, and Stewart Molyneux. Liz Kirkham will be chair of the Board.

6. Research

The research proposals were discussed with the following agreed:

- **BIM research**
 - **Action: proposal to be widened to include other assets owners beyond highway authorities**

The Board agreed that a process to establish a timetable and governance process would be useful.

- **Safety Critical Fixings**
 - **Action: Richard Fish to revise the cost proposal and DfT to agree to their contribution**
 - **Action: Highways England agreed to commission the research.**
 - **Action: Neil Loudon to project manage**
 - **Action: Project brief to be developed and agreed before issuing for commissioning**
- **Deterioration**
 - **Action: Board supported the proposal for Keith Harwood to project manage the research**
 - **Action: Keith Harwood to be contacted as Herts could be a potential organisation to lead on the commissioning**

7. UK Bridges Board Business Plan

The Board discussed how it would be useful to suggest draft proposals for the strategic direction and priorities for the UK Roads Liaison Group meeting (post meeting note this was circulated to UKRLG members as follows):

- Safety and Risk
- Asset Management and Performance
- Climate change and Resilience

- Economy and Efficiency
- Competence and Resource

The Board agreed to a session on business planning/review of business plan (post meeting note, date agreed as 6 July 2015 from 10am to mid-day).

The Board noted that the document published for Local Road Authorities just needed some further work to deal with bridge parapets and agreed:

Action: Graham Cole could look to draft some additional paragraphs to close off this gaps for the document on road restraints for local authorities to cover issues related to bridge parapets

8. National Bridge Condition Survey

Kevin Dentith confirmed that it was not going to be possible to use the Structures Toolkit, or the Treasury WGA readiness questionnaire to carry out the survey. It is now proposed to run it through the ADEPT National Bridges Group. The questions to be asked were to be finalised at the NBG meeting on the 11th June, and the survey would be circulated through the NBG email network. It would also be circulated to members of the UK Bridges Board so that they could provide information for non local authority bridges if they wished to.

9. Network Rail Liaison

There was a discussion on RAIB Recommendation 1 relating to Aspatria.

Action: DfT and Network Rail to review the scoring methodology for risk ranking sites: action on Gary Kemp and Robert Dean.

10. Boundary issue

The Board thanked Neil Loudon for providing an update on the work related to boundary issues (on the interface between Highways England and Local Authorities). Neil said that he would share the draft document as soon as possible and with a reasonable amount of time for review and comment from Local Authorities.

11. National Bridge Inspector Competency Scheme

The Board welcomed the development of this piece of work and that this should be highlighted to the sector.

Action: Neil Loudon to draft a letter to introduce the scheme

Action: Neil Loudon and Justin Ward to work on an article for Transportation Professional on the Scheme when appropriate

Action: Ensure that the Scheme is industry wide. Rob Dean to work with representatives from London Underground and the Canal & River Trust to ensure that these scheme is applicable to those organisations

12. Any other business

DfT update on Ministerial changes. Gary Kemp provided an update on changes of Ministers with the appointment of Andrew Jones and continuation of Robert Goodwill (although for a new Ministerial brief).

Large bridges group – David Mackenzie highlighted the changes with the Forth Road Bridge and new Forth Crossing [post meeting note: Barry Coldfield will no longer represent Large Bridge Owners on the UK Bridges Board]

Possession planning – Rob Dean highlighted that he had investigated this within Network Rail (the issue was raised at the last meeting). Dana Skelley suggested that some work on lessons learnt might be helpful. David Mackenzie gave an example of where the process worked well and this could perhaps be a case study for the Code of Practice.

13. Date of next meeting

13 October 2015.