

UK Lighting and Technology Board minutes of meeting held on 8 April 2021

David Denner (Chair)	Welsh Government
Bijan Bassiri	Transport Scotland
Peter Harrison	ILP
Jonathan Hurley	Swansea Council, representing CSS Wales
Scott Denyer	Perth & Kinross Council, representing SCOTS
Keith Tovee	Essex Council, representing ADEPT
Graham Smith	HEA
Simon Langley	Highways England
Gary Ross	Department for Infrastructure Northern Ireland
Gary Kemp	Department for Transport
Dean Wendleborn	Westminster City Council, representing LoTAG
Justin Ward	CIHT

In attendance:

Brian Healy – Independent consultant - lighting expert

1. Welcome, introduction and apologies

David Denner welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Brian Healy - update on LED Lighting and the Spectral response – looking at how LED and is affecting the natural world

Brian Healy gave a presentation on the above issues. Brian confirmed the slides can only be shared with members of the Board and not shared externally. Following the presentation there were a number of questions:

Peter Harrison noted that most LED rollouts are led by procurement legislation not engineering. How can this be addressed for it to be more engineering led. Brian agreed with this point and said that other issues such as safety, ecology and impacts on human health were not being considered sufficiently.

Peter asked about domestic and commercial security and issues of control of this, Brian agreed this was an issue noting the LED lighting should be shielded. Brian added that this required education.

Dave thanked Brian for his input to the meeting.

3. Minutes of last meeting

These were noted.

4. Minutes of UKRLG

Dave noted that the State of Nation LED lighting report was presented at the meeting and has since then been shared externally.

5. Covid-19

Keith said that as restrictions are being lifted then the opening was putting in requests to put items on street lightings – banners etc. - to open up streets and areas. As a result there were pressures and it was noted by the Board that this had to be undertaken safely e.g. structural testing. Bijan highlighted there was a document published by ILP, using lighting columns for various purposes including festive purposes and said these best practice guidelines help inform the decision-making processes by lighting authorities. Bijan added: temporary signs, banners, festive lighting – these elements need to be catered for at the design stage. Dean said that Westminster City Council have a third-party guidance for parties wanting to install items onto streetlights and this is available online. It was noted that there is guidance being developed in Wales in a similar area and this would be shared when ready. Peter said the Guidance note 12 from ILP was now ready and the fundamental point of this guidance was highlighted – a lighting column's primary purpose is to support lighting and under the telecommunications act any utility company has a right to install items on a streetlight. Peter said this document was freely available and was useful to share back with requesting authorities highlighting the need to demonstrate to reasonable satisfaction that the proposal would not harm the life cycle of the asset and not be detrimental to allow for access to electrical equipment.

6. LightAware report

The Board took note of the report by LightAware adding that Brian Healy was working with LightAware and had covered a number of issues in the report earlier in the meeting. The Board members noted that they will take account of the reports from LightAware. Scott Denyer asked on behalf of SCOTS if there was going to be a national response to the report? David Denner said that the purpose of the Board was to share evidence and information across the UK but would not provide a national response.

Action: Peter Harrison would share details relevant to the LightAware report.

Gary Ross informed the Board the Department for Infrastructure Northern Ireland had been approached by Mark Baker from Soft Light. Peter Harrison gave some views back for a response. Gary said that compliance with regulation and standards was used as the framing for the response to Soft Light. The Board agreed that a coordinated viewpoint would be useful.

Action: Gary Ross to work with Board members on a coordinated response

7. SoN report version 2, how we take this forward and link into street lighting and community safety after the recent announcement about extra investment in street lighting.

David Denner said the report was well-received. Dave said that he had spoken with Matthew Eglington on gathering future evidence for a follow-up report. Dave said this was being scoped out now, adding that this would be less expensive since a lot of the structures were in place for the report.

Action: David Denner to work with Board members on scoping out a project for SoN version 2

Dave added that following the death of Sarah Everard there was a discussion on gathering evidence on night-time safety and lighting. Peter Harrison has produced a press release on behalf of ILP on lighting and safety issues and that this would be issued shortly. Peter noted that the document: PLG08 has a ten-step approach looking at the application of dimming and/or part-night light that was worth reviewing.

Dean said that LoLEG had carried out a survey – noting 30/40% of replies had had complaints about poor lighting and the majority were aware of the Safer Streets Fund. Peter Harrison said that the funding does not address the fact that authorities are capital rich but revenue poor.

8. Intelligent/dynamic/variable lighting using CMS (Central Management System). In Transport Scotland they are considering developing a policy document in this regard. – Bijan Bassiri

Bijan said that Transport Scotland are trying to implement dynamic lighting using PLG08 from the ILP for this. Keith said that Richard at Suffolk has been undertaking dynamic dimming.

Action: Keith Tovee to share contact details of Richard at Suffolk for work on dynamic dimming

9. Delivering additional functions – e.g. environmental type monitoring (noise, quality of air, road surface temperature, etc.) via road lighting assets that now have 24/7 energy supplies. – Bijan Bassiri

Bijan noted this issued and Dean said that Westminster are using a lot of different sensors for how the transport network is used.

10. LoLEG newsletter – for info – Dean Wendelborn

Dean noted that the monthly newsletter was available to share. This included future energy scenarios – including forecast of EVs, additional sub-station capacity required (i.e. the need for more energy)

11. EV charging points – tripping hazards - Dean Wendelborn

Dean provided an update on the issue noting that Siemens RCBO was to be updated to take account of the harmonics to prevent lights switching off when EVs are charging.

12. UK LED colour temperature – Gary Ross

Gary asked if there was a move to 3k for LED colour temperature. Both Keith and Scott said that the tenders are going out for going for 4k. Dave said that this was similar in Wales. Simon said 3k on all-purpose trunk roads but 4k on motorways was used by Highways England (due to spacing issues). Gary took account of the replies from application across the UK.

13. Occupational Competency – Graham Smith

Graham Smith the new CSCS card was not allowing the same permissions as the HERS ECS card. Graham said it was an 'access to site' card but would not allow for any electrical works to be carried out. Dave said that this was related to the clarification of 'work' i.e. this was not permitting the work with tools, but was allowing work under supervision and site visits.

14. AOB –

Update to research

David Denner said that a review/update on Electrical Traffic Equipment case would be made.

Peter Harrison asked about the legal T&Cs about shared assets noting that the Telecommunication Act gives 3rd party utilities the right to put equipment on lighting columns. Peter said that the request was to draft up a set of standard T&Cs on this to help authorities with legal advice on this. Dave said this was considered, but was difficult for DfT to provide this and that the action was settled on sharing a legal response from a particular authority who had had experience on the issue.

AOB – Lidar Survey Westminster –

Dean said that Westminster was carrying out a survey to create digital twin of assets to update the inventory.

AOB – trial Oxford Street –

Dean said research was involved to see how people respond to lighting and monitor this in terms of nudging behaviours – e.g. using light for wayfinding, for encouraging people to move around areas.

AOB: - Update to group on latest safety alert

Simon highlighted a Highways England safety alert which can be shared with the Board and wider members as required.

Graham Smith said that it is important that for safety alerts it is important to understand problems fully. This can be accomplished by working with suppliers and Contractors and by sharing the information.

AOB - Trials cast iron columns

Dean said that trials are being undertaken to see how they perform after being drilled into and so on. Dean added that he felt that testing should be more robust.

**Agreed – increase the time of the meeting for 30 minutes and agree to have a guest.
So 10:00 – 12:30**