

# Minutes of UK Network Management Board held on 15 June 2015 at the Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation

## Present:

Martin Low	<b>Chairman</b> ; Westminster City Council's City Transport Advisor representing The Local Government Technical Advisers Group (TAG)
Wayne Duerden	Department for Transport's Head of Traffic Engineering
Satbir Gill	Network Manager, Hounslow Highways, representing (TAG)
Mark Kemp	<b>Deputy Chairman</b> ; Deputy Director for Highways and Transport, Oxfordshire County Council representing The Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport (ADEPT)
Freda Rashdi	Netserve Highways England
Justin Ward	Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (Secretariat)

## 1. Welcome, introduction and apologies

Martin Low welcomed everyone to the meeting, apologies were recorded for David Brewer, Mark Whitaker, Helena Kakouratos, Roy Gordon, Hugh Gillies, and Dean Memory.

## 2. Notes of last meeting

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

## 3. Notes of UKRLG meeting

The Board noted the concerns highlighted regarding attendance and agreed that moving the meeting locations on a cyclical basis around the UK to ensure good coverage from Transport Northern Ireland, Welsh Government and Transport Scotland could be achieved (see item 9 for agreed programme).

## 4. Code of Practice review update

The Board noted the material in regards to the Code of Practice Review 'Overarching Document' and agreed to provide comments if necessary.

## **5. Highways England – how the UKNMB can help with operational challenges and opportunities**

Freda Rashdi provided an overview of the concept of operations (still draft at the point of the meeting). The Board noted the event held by Highways England (13 July 2015) and agreed that this provided an excellent opportunity for this engagement.

### **Action: Freda Rashdi to invite members of the UK Network Management Board to the Highways England workshop on 13 July 2015**

The Board agreed to the suggestion of exploring the idea trialled in Sweden to reward drivers who complied with speed limits. The Board agreed that this could be a useful mechanism for Highways England to engage with customers and also to reduce the speeds at road works thereby improving the safety of road worker operatives. Details of the Swedish initiative are here:

<http://www.wired.com/2010/12/swedish-speed-camera-pays-drivers-to-slow-down/>

### **Action: Freda Rashdi to explore the option as developed in Sweden of using speed cameras to enter drivers into a lottery if they comply with speed limits at road works**

### **Action: Next UK Network Management Board to include presentations on road safety including A9 average speed camera scheme from Transport Scotland and Freda Rashdi to invite a presenter to talk on behalf of Highways England**

## **6. Armadillos the "armadillo" delineators and safety implications of some hooped traffic signs**

The Chairman raised concerns about some of the "armadillo" delineators being used by some highway authorities as they might be a trip hazard for pedestrians and cause other road users to lose control if they hit them including any cyclists seeking to avoid a pedestrian crossing the cyclists' path or a powered two wheeler hitting them. Wayne Duerden explained that these were not regarded by the Department for Transport as traffic signs and therefore the Department for Transport had not authorised their use. Those who had discussed their application were advised that they should not install them over any authorised carriageway markings that were regarded as traffic signs. The Board noted the concerns for safety with armadillos and as a Board agreed that traffic authorities should assess any potential risk prior to installation.

The Chairman raised concerns about hooped traffic signs being used with no passive safety incorporated into their design being installed by some highway authorities, which have safety implications for road users. He had recently attended a Coroner's Inquest into the tragic death of a powered two wheeler rider who hit the back of one of the hooped traffic signs installed by TfL as part of its World Squares for All scheme. Westminster City Council has replaced these hooped traffic signs with signs mounted on Heritage Illuminated Guide Posts manufactured by Simmonsigns Limited. The Board agreed that it was important for highway

authorities to be made aware of the alternatives to the hooped traffic signs through TAG and ADEPT and noted that the Chairman had already informed their Transport Committees.

## **7. Bridge strike prevention group**

The Board agreed that the Bridge Strike Prevention Group would become a sub-group of the UK Network Management Board.

## **8. Post codes and issues for larger sites**

Mark Kemp noted an issue with postcodes and larger sites. Mark provided the example of the BMW mini site in Oxford, which has one postcode. However, the site has seven entrances which all fulfil different functions and the factory runs a “just in time” approach to materials delivery to optimise its performance. There are instances that HGV’s and other visitors are arriving at the wrong entrance, adding to congestion on the county network around the site. In discussion with the Highways Authority a new local signing regime has been developed and is being implemented but BMW also approached the Post Office to see if they could have additional postcodes to assist with navigation systems. The Post Office have not been prepared to agree to this.

The Board agreed that this was an issue worth exploring to get further similar examples to have an evidence base on which to take forward.

**Action: UK Network Management Board members to highlight examples of issues with postcodes for larger sites and the need for allocation of new additional postcodes when necessary. Mark Kemp and Justin Ward to coordinate**

## **9. Date of next meeting**

23 October 2015 in Belfast, Transport NI to assist with hosting

Programme as follows:

Jan/Feb 2016 – Edinburgh, Scotland

June 2016 – Cardiff, Wales

October 2016 – CIHT, London, England