

RECRUITMENT, RETENTION TRAINING & SKILLS

The 2024 conference takes place at the Celtic Manor Resort in Newport, Wales, and will be our largest ever conference.

It has never been more difficult to recruit people into our industry. Lifestyle changes mean less people are willing to work away and roadworker abuse by road users continues.

In an industry with a predominantly aging workforce we must recruit and retain, ensuring our workforce is also properly trained to give them the skills they require to deliver quality maintenance solutions in a rewarding industry.

The conference will focus on how the recruitment and retention issue is being solved, getting the training to arm the workforce with the skills they require, and the measures being implemented to help protect our workforce from verbal and physical abuse.

Agenda

8.30	Registration, coffee & exhibition Caernarfon Foyer
CONFERENCE IN THE CAERNARFON ROOMS	
9.15	Chair's welcome and introduction Benn Teasdale, Colas
9.20	Will we have world-class roads by 2034? Paul Boss, Chief Executive, RSTA
9.30	Reflections from DfT: Network North and a decade of change Tim Rowland-Deverell, Head of Local Highways Strategy and Environment, Department for Transport
9.55	Making Ground – Kier's prison engagement and employment programme Megan Porter, Recruitment Diversity Manager, Kier
10.20	Break and Exhibition Caernarfon Foyer
10.40	People: the key highway assets, find them, train them, keep them Amanda Richards, Assistant Director Highways, Network and Asset Management, Surrey CC and LGTAG President
11.05	Grants and funding update Natalie Burd, Engagement Advisor, CITB
11.30	Stamp It Out – roadworker abuse in the UK Richard Hemmingway, Health, Safety and Wellbeing Director, Milestone Infrastructure, on behalf of Stamp It Out
11.55	Q&A
12.00	Buffet lunch and exhibition Caernarfon Foyer
13.00	2024 Annual RSTA Golf Tournament Sponsored by Stabilised Pavements Ltd Outdoor Pursuits Sponsored by Foster Contracting Ltd
18.30	Afternoon activities close

MAIN EVENT SPONSOR



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



TIM ROWLAND-DEVERELL

Head of Local Highways Strategy and Environment
Department for Transport



Tim is Head of Local Highways Strategy and Environment at the Department for Transport – working on responding to some of the big strategic challenges facing the sector like long-term funding, climate change adaptation, skills and the environment.

He has extensive experience in environmental policy and delivery, most recently leading DfT's response to the Environment Act 2021 and biodiversity strategy.



AMANDA RICHARDS

Assistant Director Highways, Network and Asset Management, Surrey County Council and LGTAG President



Amanda works for Surrey's Highways and Transport Service as Assistant Director for Highways. She manages Network and Asset Management functions including strategy setting, network management, digital infrastructure, programme generation and delivery. She also takes the lead within the directorate on Innovation, Skills and Recruitment. With a keen interest in developing in Highway Engineering she successfully completed an MSc in Highway Engineering.

As well as her work in Surrey, Amanda is the current President of LGTAG (Local Government Technical Advisors Group) and is also a key player in the development of better road condition information at a national level as a member of the UK Roads Board and chair of the Road Condition Management Group.



NATALIE BURD

Engagement Advisor
CITB



I joined CITB in April 2023 moving directly from a HR and Training background within the construction industry.

My main focus is ensuring that employers know about the full range of CITB grants and funding that are on offer and how this can help businesses grow and thrive. I also support the many construction stakeholders in the region through partnerships and relationship building.



MEGAN PORTER

Recruitment Diversity Manager
Kier



Megan is Kier's Recruitment Diversity Manager, leading our Making Ground programme; an award-winning programme which provides people with convictions access to meaningful employment.

Megan also leads our programmes for other people who may be disadvantaged by a traditional recruitment approach, such as veterans and refugees. She is passionate about working with candidates to understand where they will thrive in our business and also works closely with our supply chain partners.

Megan started her career in the British Army, leading troops on deployments and exercises around the world. Whilst in the British Army, she worked in operational roles, training roles as well as recruiting the junior leaders into the Corps of Royal Engineers.



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



RICHARD HEMMINGWAY

Health, Safety and Wellbeing Director
Milestone Infrastructure, on behalf of Stamp It Out



Richard has gained a wealth of safety experience in construction over 30 years.

Richard is HSW Director for Milestone Infrastructure Ltd (a division of M Group Services) the UK's leading highways maintenance contractor looking after 24,000 miles of roads, 280,000 lighting assets and 20,000 miles of footways, with a view to ensuring that all works are carried out as sustainably as possible and with minimal impact to local communities.

As a contractor representative on the Stamp It Out leadership team, Richard is passionate about tackling the issue of roadworker abuse. He says "This is a daily threat experienced by people going to work to earn a living. They deserve respect for undertaking their roles as key workers for the UK economy."



STAMP IT OUT
Putting A Foot Down Against Workforce Abuse

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**ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
2024
GOLF DAY &
GALA DINNER**