

# PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN A CURE

**The RSTA 2025 conference will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> of April at the Celtic Manor Resort in Newport, Wales and is timed with a significant step change that is coming, which will impact positively on the approach to highway maintenance and for the surface treatments sector.**

The theme for the 2025 conference will be a hybrid of recent themes linked to carbon reduction, with most local authorities now having declared climate emergencies. The conference will also see the launch of the Second Edition Carbon Guidance which documents a longer term comparison of treatments versus asphalt, that considers cradle to end of life. We will also be hearing about the PAS 2080 specification requirements.

This will be combined with themes linked to preventative maintenance which has been the key message in recent campaigns, and is gathering momentum within the highway sector.

The conference will be an opportunity to reflect on the 'HMEP Pothole Review - Prevention is better than cure' guidance document, and the associated recommendations, which were published in April 2012, to see what has changed in that time.

But also to hear from local highway authorities who have embraced these themes and embedded preventative surface treatments into their maintenance programmes, and will discuss how this is supporting the Highways Service and Council objectives.

With increased maintenance budgets pledged by the Government for 2025/26 its more significant than ever, to adopt these preventative maintenance principles to secure maximum return on this investment, prevent the formation of potholes, whilst also keeping the associated carbon footprint to a minimum.

We will also hear from other representatives in the industry about issues raised by association members as areas of concern or interest.

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# Agenda

**8.30 Registration, coffee & exhibition**  
Caernarfon Foyer

## CONFERENCE IN THE CAERNARFON ROOMS

**9.15 Chair's welcome and introduction**  
Andy Jones, Stabilised Pavements Limited

**9.20 "Prevention is Better than Cure"**  
Mike Hansford, Chief Executive, RSTA

**9.30 Keynote speaker**  
Matthew Eglinton, Head of Local Highways Policy, Department for Transport

**9.50 Local Authority Perspective on Surface Treatments**  
Simon Shearwood, Norfolk County Council / Norse Group

**10.10 Coffee break and exhibition**  
Caernarfon Foyer

**10.40 Refocus on Highways Asset Management**  
Emily See, Incoming President LGTAG

**11.00 Edition 2 Carbon Guidance launch**  
Emma Pye, PYE Management

**11.20 PAS 2080 Specification for Whole Carbon in Infrastructure**  
Emma Pye, PYE Management and Stephen Cooke, Asphalt Group Limited

**11.40 Dept for Transport Live Labs 2 Centre of Excellence**  
Joe Kimberley, Colas and local authority client, DfT CEDR Live Labs Team

**12.00 Buffet lunch and exhibition**  
Caernarfon Foyer

**13.00 2025 Annual RSTA Golf Tournament**  
Sponsored by Spray Tanker Services Limited  
**Outdoor Pursuits**  
Sponsored by Asphalt Group Limited

**18.30 Afternoon activities close**

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