

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN A CURE

The RSTA 2025 conference is timed with a significant step change which will impact positively on the approach to highway maintenance and for the surface treatments sector.

The theme for the conference is 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

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

10.20 **Coffee break and exhibition**
Caernarfon Foyer

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

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

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

11.35 **Civils Super Sector**
Mike Hansford/Faye Burnett, Mace Group

12.00 **Buffet lunch and exhibition**
Caernarfon Foyer

13.00 **2025 Annual RSTA Golf Tournament**
Sponsored by Spray Tanker Services Limited

18.30 **Afternoon activities close**