

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.

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**

MAIN EVENT SPONSOR



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



MATT EGLINTON

Head of Local Highways Policy in the Local Highways and Active Travel Team
Department for Transport



Matt is Head of Local Highways Policy in the Local Highways and Active Travel Team at the Department for Transport. Having joined the DfT in 2015, he is the policy lead on the local highway network, ultimately focusing on and promoting effective highways asset management, decarbonisation, and resilience. Previous to this, he worked as a Private Secretary for a succession of Transport Ministers, and led on domestic regulation for automated vehicle policy within the DfT's Centre for Connected and Autonomous Vehicles (CCAV).



STEPHEN COOKE

Managing Director, Asphalt Group



Stephen Cooke joined the road surface treatment industry in 2015, having previously worked as an accountant for a decade. Initially joining Asphalt Reinforcement Services, Stephen has witnessed the business evolve into Asphalt Group, which now offers three distinct processes: Asphalt Reinforcement, Asphalt Preservation, and Surface Dressing. In 2021, Stephen became Managing Director of Asphalt Group, with asset management, sustainability and the climate agenda taking precedence in shaping the business's direction. At the start of 2025, Asphalt Group achieved the PAS2080 verification, becoming one of the first companies in the highways sector to meet the environmental standard



MIKE HANSFORD

CEO
RSTA



Mike Hansford was appointed to the position of Chief Executive and Director of the Road Surface Treatments Association (RSTA) on 1st September 2024. Mike previously worked for Dorset Council for 29 years which were predominantly in Highways, where he held a senior Highways Asset Management position. He managed a team that consisted of highways asset management, data/systems, performance and benchmarking, and structural maintenance design. In Mike's career he has covered areas of highways in systems and data, streetworks / enforcement, routine maintenance, structural maintenance, and asset management. Mike was previously Chair of the South West Regional Asset Management Group, and continues to sit on the UKRLG Asset Management Board. He's also a Fellow member of the Institute of Highway Engineers (IHE). Mike laid the foundations for a data led / risk based, and preventative maintenance strategy at Dorset Council. Mike oversaw trials of surface treatments which are now embedded in their highway maintenance programmes, recognising how they support key Service Plan objectives, and address financial and carbon reduction challenges.



ANDY JONES

Head of Commercial and Technical
Stabilised Pavements Limited



Andy has been involved in construction materials since starting work for Tarmac as a Management Trainee 30 years ago. He is currently Head of Commercial and Technical at Stabilised Pavements Ltd and this year he takes Chair of the RSTA after 10 years as a member of the Association's Executive Committee. He is Chair of the Association's Recycling Committee, a Member of BSI Committee B/510/4 responsible for cementitious bound materials in the UK and a member of the working group for British Standard Specification BS:9228 for the Recycling of Roads and other Paved Areas.



CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



JOE KIMBERLY
Project Manager
Centre of Excellence for Decarbonising Roads



Centre of Excellence
for Decarbonising Roads

Joe is the Project Manager at the South Campus of the Centre of Excellence for Decarbonising Roads (CEDR), co-leading their involvement in the ADEPT Live Labs 2 programme. Live Labs is dedicated to decarbonising local roads, funded by a £30 million grant from the Department for Transport. Joe has over 13 years of experience in Highways, Innovation and project management, and the last six of those years, Joe has been working directly on Live Labs projects, initially with Amey and Kent County Council, and now at Colas, with Transport for West Midlands.



GILES PERKINS
Programme Director
Live Labs 2



Giles is the Programme Director for the Live Labs 2 initiative and leads WSP's Future Mobility team in the UK and has over 34 years' experience in the futures, transportation planning, digital and intelligent transport sectors. He has worked in the public and private sectors as a senior client and director level consultant and has led major projects across all modes. He has a detailed understanding of the strategic needs and opportunities surrounding the transport challenges that face our networks, regions, towns and cities. He is a recognised expert in the field of Future Mobility/Transport and Zero Emission Mobility Decarbonisation having undertaken numerous cutting-edge commissions where his insight is helping to build 'future ready' thinking into strategies, policies and asset specifications. He is a strategic thinker with an in-depth appreciation of the challenges facing all modes of transport resulting from disruptors, both within the transportation realm and wider socio-economic changes which influence it.



EMMA PYE
Director
Pye Management Ltd



Emma Pye is the Founder and Director of PYE-Management Ltd a Sustainability Consultancy specialising in the highway industry. She is a chartered environmentalist, a Fellow of the IEMA, and is a Committee Member for ISO 14001 Environmental management systems for the UK. Emma has over 25 years' experience working within the construction, highways and quarrying sectors. She is highly experienced in PAS 2080, carbon footprinting, ISO 14001 and sustainability strategies. Her knowledge, experience and vision provide support in a constantly changing environment, whose insight into current and future global concerns are addressing the needs of forward-looking clients and has a successful track record of implementing and managing environmental change and improvement.



EMILY SEE
Highway Market Director
Amey



Emily is Amey's Highway Market Director focusing on working with Local Authorities and National Highways to achieve their strategic objectives. With 12 years of experience in the sector, Emily is passionate about supporting the sector with key priorities such as decarbonisation, asset management and innovation. She is also actively engaged in the sector and is set to take over as LGTAG President in June 2025 focusing on rebuilding the foundations of asset management across our sector.



SIMON SHEARWOOD
Pavement & Structures Engineer
Norfolk Partnership



Simon Shearwood, Pavement & Structures engineer at Norfolk Partnership laboratory. Over 30 years working in Norfolk's laboratory. A member of the RSTA, ADEPT, chair of B510-4 and ADEPT representative at UKPLG. Working with both local authority's across east Anglia & the south east and contractors with the region, I'm lucky enough to be able to trial many things on the roads of Norfolk, as in Norfolk we have a strong reliance on my of the treatments the RSTA has to offer to keep our network in a maintainable condition.