



NRA National Roads Conference 2012
PIARC activities in the UK
UK'S FIRST DELEGATE TO THE
WORLD ROAD ASSOCIATION
JIM BARTON



What we will cover



1. WRA UK background – PIARC
2. WRA UK activities

WRA UK background



- **1909**
- **Government association**
 - Council – 118 Member governments
 - First Delegates
 - Strategic Plan - UK FD lead
- **UK National Committee**
 - Chairman
 - Secretariat – CIHT
 - Collective Members
 - ✦ UKRLG (DfT, HA, TS, RSNI, WAG, TfL, ADEPT)
 - ✦ Private Sector (18 No.)
 - Individual Members (21 No.)

WRA UK – key benefits of membership



- access to world best practice
- anticipate market change.
- stimulation for your experts and brings kudos to your organisation.
- engage with senior clients in a non-commercial environment.

The 2011-2015 Strategic Plan

Strategic Theme 1: Management and Performance

- TC 1.1 Performance of Transport Administrations
- TC 1.2 Financing
- TC 1.3 Climate Change and Sustainability
- TC 1.4 Road Transport System Economics and Social Development
- TC 1.5 Risk Management

Strategic Theme 2: Access and Mobility

- TC 2.1 Road Network Operations
- TC 2.2 Improved Mobility in Urban Areas
- TC 2.3 Freight Transport
- TC 2.4 Winter Service
- TC 2.5 Rural Road Systems and Accessibility to Rural Areas

Strategic Theme 3: Safety

- TC 3.1 National Road Safety Policies and Programs
- TC 3.2 Design and Operations of Safer Road Infrastructure
- TC 3.3 Road Tunnels Operations
- TF 1 Road Safety Manual Task Force
- TF 2 Security Task Force

Strategic Theme 4: Infrastructure

- TC 4.1 Management of Road Assets
- TC 4.2 Road Pavements
- TC 4.3 Road Bridges
- TC 4.4 Earthworks and Unpaved Roads

UK Commitment



- Coverage on 14 out of 17 Technical Committees
- 29 UK representatives on TCs (including Chairs and Secretaries)
- Communities of Interest

What we are doing...

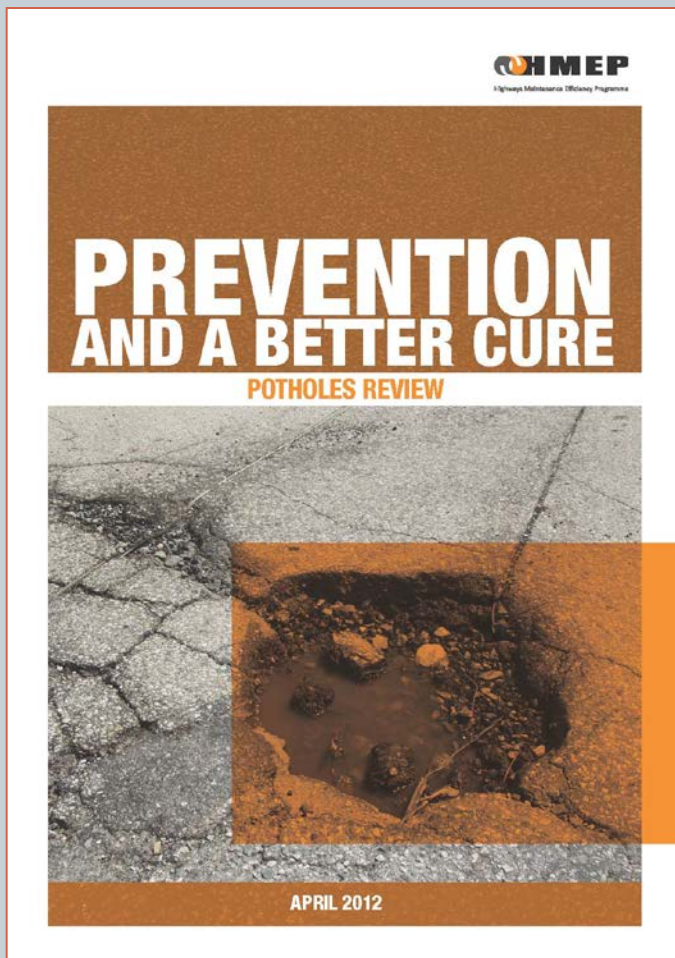


1. WRA UK background

2. WRA UK activities

- Road maintenance review international comparison
- Communities of interest
- Webinar on road safety (and others)
- UK Congress 31 October 2012 alongside associated events: hosting TC 1.4, workshops with Cardiff University and dinner debate
- Strong presence on international work

Road Maintenance Review International Comparison



Road Maintenance Review International Comparison

May 2012

Project directed by:

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CIHT provide the Secretariat support to WRA UK



Road Maintenance Review International Comparison



- Further research on how Australia has implemented the mandatory use of 10-year financial plans is recommended as longer term financial planning would help LHA implement asset management (AM)
- Review how Quebec manage their programmes of works to operate a focus on summer highway maintenance
- Research on Sweden's BaTMan system (for bridges/tunnels stock) and review their network hierarchy defined for various service levels
- Review how Singapore work with utility companies
- Review how New Zealand prevent water getting into the road surfaces
- Review Netherlands approach to Asset Management
- WRA should develop guidance for determining economic benefits of highway maintenance
- UK could consider a scan tour

Focus in Surveyor



Surveyor news article 18 May 2012 with headline: **Long term focus deemed essential for highways** WRA UK calls for lessons to be learnt from international maintenance operations

www.LocalGov.co.uk

surveyor 18 May 2012

HIGHWAYS

Long term focus deemed essential for highways

WRA UK calls for lessons to be learned from international maintenance operations

By Dominic Browne
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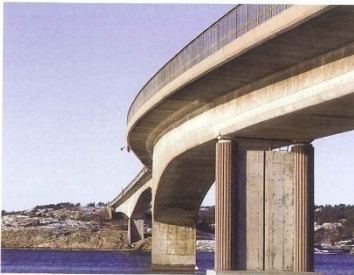
Local highway authorities would benefit from 10-year business plans for maintenance works – common practice in Australia and Sweden – according to the World Road Association's UK (WRA UK) national committee.

The recommendation features in a new report released by the committee this week, which reviews highways maintenance operations from around the world to feed into the Highways Maintenance Efficiency Programme (HMEP) and Scotland's roads review.

The report paid tribute to Transport for London's 10-year approach to asset management, alongside the use of asset data to inform decisions, as examples of best UK practice. However, local authorities are currently able to plan much further than four years ahead due to Whitehall funding arrangements.

The report particularly commended Swedish methods including a BaTMan system for managing bridge and tunnel stock which uses data to inform both annual and decade long planning.

Also praised was the Swedish creation of a road hierarchy, with different road classes requiring different levels of service, and



10-year plans are common in places such as Sweden, where BaTMan system is employed

a policy which effectively rents road space to private contractors in order to encourage roadworks to be 'right first time'.

New Zealand's strategic focus on preventing water getting into road surfaces is also highlighted with the report stating 'lessons for the UK could be learnt on what approaches they are taking towards resealing'.

Among other areas of international best practice the report suggested councils could benefit from examining Singapore's work with utility companies, which includes monthly committee meetings with utilities representatives and combining

of resurfacing and utility work. Responding, transport minister Norman Baker said: 'We recognise the value of good asset management in allowing local highway authorities to deliver effective and efficient highway maintenance which meets local needs. That is why we work with the UK Roads Liaison Group, CIPFA, ADEPT and others to help spread best practice in asset management, including through our own highways maintenance efficiency programme.'

• www.chlt.org.uk/en/wra/activities/road-maintenance-review-international-comparison.cfm

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TRANSPORT

Midlands CCTV partnership given green light

Bus lanes in Leicester and Nottingham will be managed in a partnership scheme to reduce traffic congestion and speed up public transport.

A camera enforcement system, similar to one that has been operating in Nottingham since 2008, will be implemented in Leicester now Nottingham City Council has agreed to the joint initiative.

The cameras record traffic flow in bus lanes, passing CCTV images to officers who judge whether

drivers are acting illegally on a case-by-case basis. Digital recording has been designed to save money for both authorities, avoiding the need for costly video management and storage.

The councils will unite to work on the information-processing model that operates behind this system, Leicester City councillor, Rory Palmer, said Leicester sought technical advice on the initiative and suggested the partnership would benefit both councils.

'We suggested collaborating with Nottingham City Council on matters such as the processing of paperwork, which would be cheaper than doing it separately,' he explained. Many councils already collaborate on services in this way.'

• Cllr Palmer added: 'The exact details of the scheme will be advertised widely before any enforcement begins.'

The move was approved by Nottingham City Council at a full council meeting on 14th May.

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Focus in TransportXtra

TransportXtra 25
May with headline
**Bring in ten-year
repair plans,
shelve upgrades**

The screenshot shows the TransportXtra website interface. At the top, the logo "TransportXtra" is displayed in red and black. To the right, there is a banner for "MODELLING WORLD 2012" in London, 11-12 July, with the tagline "Empowering decision-making for transport, space & place". Below the logo, a navigation bar includes links for Home, Magazines, Reports, Events, Consultants, Subscription, Shop, and a search box. The main content area features a "Latest news: pothole prevention" link and a "Regular news: Issue 597 25 May 2012" section. The headline of the featured article is "'Bring in ten-year repair plans, shelve upgrades'". The article text discusses the highways sector's research on ten-year investment plans and international best practices. A sidebar on the left lists various categories like "Local Transport Today", "News", "Features", "Opinion", "Business Briefing", "Project Monitor", "Supplements", and "Jobs". At the bottom of the page, there is a banner for "AECMAGAZINE" with the text "BUILDING INFORMATION MODELLING (BIM) FREE subscription".

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Focus in Transportation Professional



Transportation Professional July 2012 With the headline: **Asset management advocates look to Australia**

6 News & Analysis

Transportation Professional July 2012

Forward visibility maintained on fiscal stimulus scheme



Formal opening of the 28km upgrading of the A46 between Newark and Widmerpool in the East Midlands took place on 15 June. The E375M route was pulled off the shelf for a quick start as part of the fiscal stimulus programme of 2008 and has been constructed a year faster than normal programmes would assume. Journey times on the old single carriageway – part of a busy route connecting the A1 and M1 – were slow and the safety record was poor with 13 fatalities on the stretch between 2001 and 2008. The new scheme has a central reserve that has been widened on bends to up to 12m to maintain forward visibility. Contractor is Balfour Beatty, designer URS and client is the Highways Agency. The scheme is the first HA project to send zero waste to landfill.

Asset management advocates look to Australia

Local highway authorities in Britain are encouraged to follow Australia's lead and introduce mandatory 10 year financial plans. The World Road Association UK recommends that further research is carried out into how Australian states stipulate the need for long term planning. The Association says that a similar approach in Britain would help local highway authorities implement asset management as a way of prioritising future works.

It also recommends a closer look at the experiences of Quebec which promotes highway maintenance activities in summer months and

how authorities in Singapore work alongside utility companies to control utility works on the highway. New Zealand's experience of preventing water from getting into road surfaces should also be looked at closely, the group says.

The World Road Association UK wrote to 19 countries asking about their road maintenance strategies to find out if Britain could benefit from international policy and practice.

To read the report, titled 'Road Maintenance Review International Comparison' visit www.piarc.co.uk and click on 'Activities'.



CRASH, BANG, WALLUP: Latest developments in 'passive safety' systems such as traffic columns which collapse when hit by a vehicle were tested at a crash demonstration day at the Motor Industry Research Association in Warwickshire. The event in May featured five vehicle crashes and was organised alongside Mott MacDonald and highway design specialist UK Roads. Pictured above is a new composite traffic signal post manufactured by FSP being hit by a Citroen Saxo at 100km/h.

CIHT 100

Do you think the Olympic Games has been good for transport investment in the UK?

YES 50% The Games have provided a focus for projects to be developed during a bad economic period.

NO 50% It has certainly been good for London, but not for the rest of the country. Other schemes have been sidelined.

New participants are sought to join the CIHT100 panel. If you would like to take part email mike@transportation-mag.com. Also, see page 12.

London launches lane rental

Contractors now face charges of up to £2500 a day for digging up the capital's busiest roads.

Transport for London's new 'Lane Rental Scheme' is designed to discourage utility firms and its own contracting teams from working in the highway at peak hours and encourage them to work without penalty outside of congested times.

The scheme applies to 57% of the city's core highway network.

"The aim is for roadworkers to be on site at times when it does not cause traffic to snarl up," said TfL's traffic director Alan Bristow.

The lane rental scheme is expected to generate £6M in a normal year. Surplus income will be used to develop technology to help reduce roadwork disruption.

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Communities of interest



- **Our Technical Representatives role in communicating with the profession**
- **Using technology that professionals use e.g. LinkedIn**

Webinar on road safety (and others)



- Web conference call between South Africa and the United Kingdom
- *'The webinar was most informative and we will continue to use this medium to 'tap' the knowledge kindly offered to us by the participants. Our thanks to all'. Nazir Alli, former CEO of the South African Roads Authority*



UK Congress



- Range of events
- UK Congress 31 October
- Hosting an international technical committee meeting TC 1.4
- Workshop event with Cardiff University and UK TC reps
- Dinner debate 30 October

Influencing the international agenda



- International evaluation on the benefits of proper road maintenance and dis-benefits of poor road maintenance
- Projects Fund be set up within the Association's budget to obtain the services of consultants and professionals external to the Association to address these emerging issues of high relevance normally under the oversight of the relevant Strategic Theme Coordinator.

Questions and contacts



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- **Website** - www.piarc.co.uk [Click on ‘activities’]