

Pavement Condition Information Systems

(The Newsletter for the contract which includes UKPMS & SCANNER Support 2008-2011)

Newsletter No 3 – November 2008

Mapping the way ahead

The new support contract was awarded on 25th June 2008. Shortly afterwards the project inception meeting was held in Cambridge on 18th July with Chris Capps (right).



Chris asked us to arrange a strategic workshop for members of the UK Roads Board and other local authority representatives to consider the strategic direction and vision for UKPMS and SCANNER and recommend:

- What sort of group or groups are needed to guide the new UKPMS and SCANNER support contract (leadership);
- How they should report to the UK Roads Board and the DfT (governance); and
- How they should relate to or link with other groups (liaison).

The Roads Board’s strategic workshop was held in Leicestershire’s County Hall on 29th September and a detailed proposal was prepared.

This stated that the UK Roads Board’s overall strategic objective should be to support an integrated asset management approach that encompasses all highways assets including carriageways, footways, structures and lighting, and proposed a vision that:

"UKPMS and SCANNER become the pavement condition information tools that highway authorities throughout the UK use to support the delivery of their transport services on local roads, through an integrated asset management approach."

At a meeting on 21st October, the Roads Board accepted the proposals, and agreed to the setting up of a new technical group, the Pavement Condition Management Group (PCMG) which will act as the project steering group for the support contract, within a wider remit to develop pavement condition measurement and management. A new Roads Board Advisory Group will also be set up to support the UK Roads Board’s work across all the technical committees. The proposed new committee structure is illustrated overleaf.

Pavement Condition Management Group

The first meeting of the new PCMG took place in London on 3rd November.

It was chaired by Chris Capps and included Lester Willmington (on behalf of the Asset Management Group), Kevin Fuller (on behalf of the Footway and Cycle track Management Group), Les Hawker (Transport for London), Roddy Crilly (Northern Ireland), Alistair



Gow (Scotland), Ramesh Sinhal (Highways Agency), Edward Bunting and Andrew Oldland (DfT), and supported by Barry Cleave and Andrew Gallagher (TRL) and Lila Tachtsi (Atkins). Phil Cadenne (Cardiff), representing Welsh interests, sent his apologies.

The current make up of the PCMG consists of acting members to get the project started. Some members may be replaced by others representing local authorities, national governments and the Roads Board Groups.

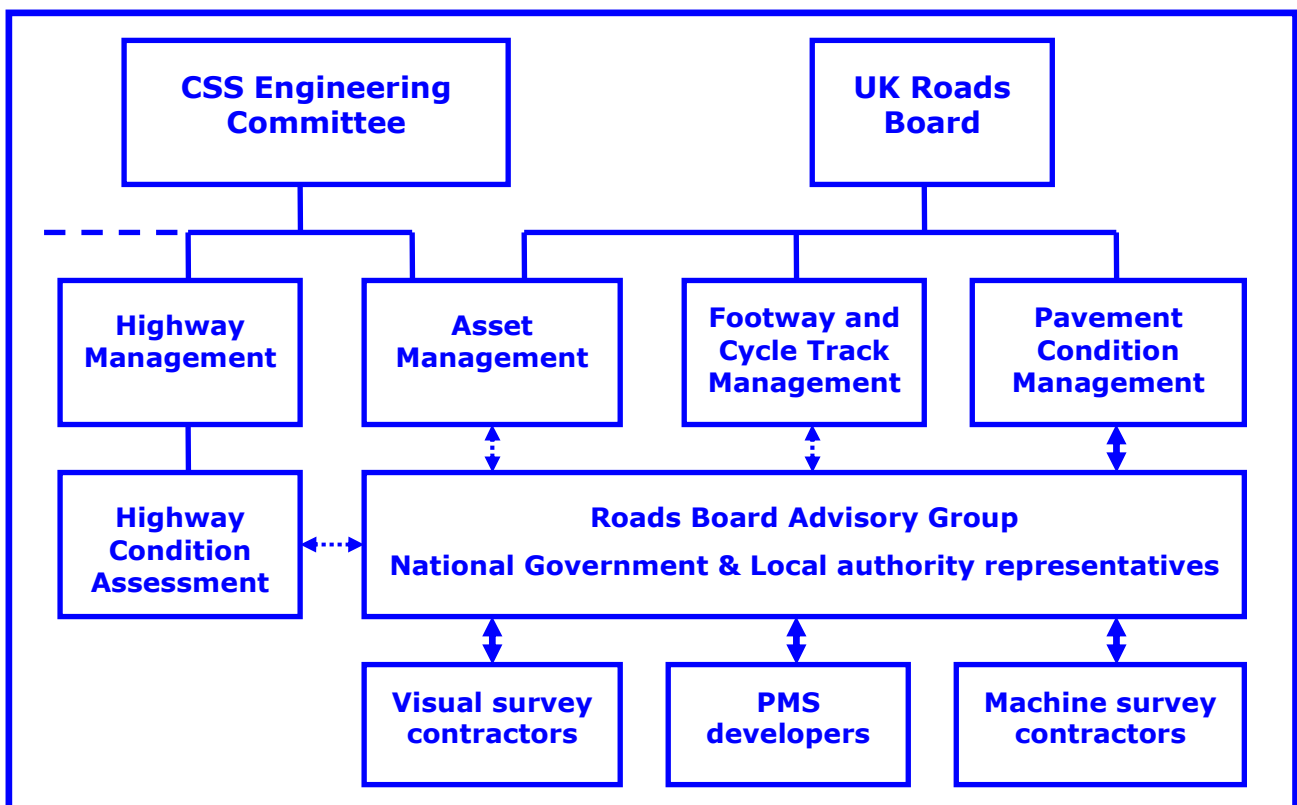
The next meeting of the PCMG will be on Thursday 12th February 2009.

Roads Board Advisory Group

The first meeting of the new Roads Board Advisory Group will be early next year, probably on Friday 6th February 2009. The UK Roads Board will be writing to the local authority professional associations inviting them to nominate individuals to become attending members of the Advisory Group, representing the full range of local highway authorities across the UK.

The UK Roads Board will also be writing to national governments, PMS developers and machine and visual survey contractors to invite them to be represented on the Advisory Group.

As well as the attending members, the Roads Board has agreed that individuals may become corresponding members of the Advisory Group, who will receive copies of papers considered at meetings, and who may comment through regional representatives, or directly to the secretariat. If you would like to become a "corresponding" member, please send your details to ukpms@trl.co.uk.



UK Roads Board proposed new committee structure

UKPMS Review of Core Functionality

The DfT has just announced the award of a further contract to the TRL and Atkins consortium, to carry out a review of UK pavement management systems core functionality. The objective of the commission is to produce a core specification for highways engineering software systems which will replace the current UKPMS core specification as the minimum functionality that all PMS should embody. There are three elements to the commission:

- Determining the priorities in terms of local authorities' business needs;
- Developing the core functional specification; and
- Mapping the agreed core specification to an indicative timetable and budget.

The project started on 14th November and will be completed within six months. The project inception meeting will be held on 2nd December. Future Newsletters will give more information about this project.

Future role of the UKPMS Owners' Forum

The UKPMS Owner's Forum is described on the UKPMS website. It was originally set up as a way of involving all those with an interest in UKPMS. There was a small fee for membership, and this provided access to the members' area of the website, and the opportunity to attend a free annual event.

Following the award of the previous UKPMS support contract, there were some questions about the role of the Owners' Forum. Following the award of the new PCIS support contract, which will include running regional seminars at intervals through the project, and the decision (announced above) to set up a new Roads Board Advisory Group, there have been further questions about the future role of the Owners' Forum.

Nothing has been decided yet, and we would like to hear your views (and especially those of former members of the Owners' Forum) about what role the Owners' Forum should have in the future.

What would you like the Owners' Forum to do, and how should it be funded?

We are offering free membership for this year (2008/09) to anyone who was a member last year (2007/08). To have access to the members' area on the website restored, please send an e-mail with your contact details to Stuart McRobbie at ukpms@trl.co.uk.

Contact details

You are welcome to pass a copy of this newsletter on to anyone else who may be interested in the subject.

If you wish to be added to the circulation list please email your details to us at newsletter@ukpms.com.

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