

## SCOTS ANNUAL CONFERENCE ARE WE THERE YET? DEPENDS ON WHERE WE WANT TO BE



9 | MAY 2025

Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry, PH16 5LY



- 09:15 Tea & Coffee and Networking
- 09:30 Welcome and Opening Remarks Chair of SCOTS
- 09:45 **Keynote Address** Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Scottish Government
- 10:05 SCOTS State of the Nation Report (Local and Regional) Session 1 SCOTS Working Group
- 10:50 **Panel Q & A**
- 11:05 Sponsor Slot: Gaist
- 11:10 Tea & Coffee
- 11:25 EV Infrastructure Cross Pavement Charging Guidance and Implementation plan

Gary Neill, SCOTS Roads Working Group Chair/Stirling Council Matthew Eastwood, Head of EV Infrastructure, Consumer Incentives and Fleets, Transport Scotland

### 11:50 Live Labs 2 – Decarbonising Local Roads assets

Giles Perkins, ADEPT, Programme Director Scott Walker, Asset Services Manager, North Lanarkshire Council Lauren SeBlonca, Inovation Business Partner, Amey

- 12:15 Enabling Infrastructure for Development: Timber Transport in Scotland - Jason Hubert, Head of Forestry Sector Development, Scottish Forestry Renewables - Mairi Joyce, Senior Transport Planner, Transport Scotland
- 12:45 Panel Q&A
- 13:00 Sponsor Slot: Chemco International Ltd
- 13:05 Lunch



- 14:00 Sponsor Slot: WDM
- 14:05 Increasing Active Travel Participation Rates in Scotland: Infrastructure – Paul Finch, Interim Director NESTRANS
  Behaviour Change – Brian Butler, Director of SESTRAN
- 14:35 **Reducing Car Use a Long Road Ahead?** Ashleigh Madjitey, Audit Manager, Audit Scotland
- 15:00 Panel Q & A
- 15:15 Sponsor Slot: Arcadis
- 15:20 SCOTS State of the Nation Report (Local and Regional) Session 2
- 15:45 Closing Remarks Tea & Coffee

## **SPEAKERS**



## Fiona Hyslop MSP

## Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Scottish Government

Ms Hyslop was born in Ayrshire in 1964 and with her family spent her early years in England before returning to Ayrshire. She graduated from Glasgow University with an MA (Hons) in Economic History and Sociology.

She completed a post graduate Diploma in Industrial Administration at the Scottish College of Textiles, before moving to Edinburgh to join the financial services company Standard Life where she held various positions in sales and marketing, latterly as Brand Development Manager.

Elected in the first session of the Scottish Parliament in 1999 she has been returned as the Constituency MSP for Linlithgow since 2011.

When the SNP formed a minority administration in 2007 Ms Hyslop was appointed as Cabinet Secretary for Education & Lifelong Learning before serving in several ministerial roles, latterly Minister for Transport. She was appointed Cabinet Secretary for Transport in February 2024.



## Gary Neill

## SCOTS Roads Working Group Chair/Stirling Council

Gary Neill is is a Chartered Engineer and a Chartered Manager. He is the Service Manager for Roads at Stirling Council, covering Roads Maintenance; Roads Operations; Road Safety; Traffic Management; Roads Development Control; and New Roads and Street Works specialisms. He is also the Chair of the Scottish Collaboration of Transport Specialists (SCOTS) Roads Group.

The SCOTS Roads Group's purpose is to engage with industry and academia and share good practice across roads authorities in Scotland. It provides a consistent, knowledgeable and professional voice across all aspects of road maintenance and management. Its current focus is on cross-pavement charging and the production of guidance and best practise in this area.



## **Matthew Eastwood**

## Head of EV Infrastructure, Consumer Incentives and Fleets, Transport Scotland

Matthew Eastwood is Head of EV Infrastructure, Consumer Incentives and Fleets in Transport Scotland's Low Carbon Economy Directorate, where his focus is on public EV charging infrastructure and the decarbonation of cars and light commercial vehicles. He has worked in the transport sector for over 20 years, primarily focusing on transport technology and decarbonisation. Previous roles include Head of Innovation and Supply Chain in Transport Scotland, Head of Cities for Scotland and North East England at technology company Uber, and Head of Transport at the Energy Saving Trust. He has also held roles developing the car club sector in the UK and providing consultancy to support fleet electrification.



## **Giles Perkins**

### ADEPT, Programme Director

Giles 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, private and 3rd 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 and 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 lateral and 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. Giles is grounded in outcomes led, systems and customer thinking to deliver to contextual and specific needs of communities and places. Giles is Programme Director for the Live Labs 2 decarbonisation of Local Roads programme, a Board member for the National Centre for Accessible Transport and sits on the Race Equalities Taskforce for West Midlands Combined Authority.



## Scott Walker

## Asset Services Manager, North Lanarkshire Council

Scott is the Asset Services Manager within Roads & Lands Services at North Lanarkshire Council. Qualified in Civil and Transportation Engineering, Scott has almost 30 years' experience in local government, predominately focused on maintenance activities and has led both roads client and operational units. He currently manages digital and asset management change in support of NLC's Climate Plan – Action on Climate Together 2030. Scott has worked closely with Amey's Innovation BP's throughout the conception and development of the CEDR theme within ADEPT's Live Labs 2 programme.



## Lauren SeBlonca

## Innovation Business Partner, Amey

Lauren SeBlonka is Innovation Business Partner at Amey, leading the innovation portfolio for the Highways business across the UK. As part of her role, she is responsible for the delivery of the Live Labs 2 project alongside North Lanarkshire Council, the 'North Campus' of the Centre of Excellence for Decarbonising Roads. Lauren also is a UK delegate for one of the PIARC (World Road Association) Technical Committees, focusing on the models for road investment to cultivate economic, social and environmental impact.



## **Jason Hubert**

## Head of Forestry Sector Development, Scottish Forestry

Since 2015 Jason has led the Forestry Sector Development team which sits within the SF Policy and Practice team. We provide advice and expertise to the Scottish Government (SG) and Ministers on all aspects of commercial forestry in Scotland including skills and education. Jason works directly with Ministers/Cabinet Secretaries, providing official support and advice on a range of topics including timber transport. He works closely with senior officials within the SG, in particular Transport Scotland and Energy. He has responsibility for delivering the Scottish Timber Transport Fund as well as being the current Chair of the Timber Transport Forum.



## Mairi Joyce

## Senior Transport Planner, Transport Scotland

Mairi joined Transport Scotland's Strategic Transport Planning team in 2024, following over 20 years working as a transport planner in the private sector. Mairi has a broad range of transport planning experience from both the UK and New Zealand including appraisal, business case, strategy, policy and development planning. Mairi has worked on various transport decarbonisation projects for Scottish and UK Governments and is now exploring how transport can further enable decarbonisation through supporting the development of renewable energy in Scotland.



## Paul Finch

## Interim Director, NESTRANS

Paul is currently Interim Director at Nestrans, the North East of Scotland regional transport partnership, where he's previously been Strategy Manager since 2020. Prior to that, Paul has worked at Aberdeenshire Council, and consultancy, taking an interest in appraisal, rural and island transport, economic development and sustainable policy development. He chairs SCOTS Transport Working Group, and supports work bridging Economic Development, Land Use Planning and Strategic Transport. Paul is keen to see how we can develop viable and stronger pathways between our policy intent and delivery, including Active Travel and Bus. A current focus is in non-urban areas where there is heavy car dependence and resultant accessibility, access to health and related transport poverty issues.



## Brian Butler

## Director, SESTRANS

Brian has been Partnership Director of the South-East of Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran) for 2½ years, following a number of years leading major change programmes across both the private and public sectors. Prior to that he held senior roles with Glasgow City Council, City of Edinburgh Council, and National Car Parks.

During his time with SEStran, Brian has changed its focus towards the development of strategies and plans to support delivery of the Regional Transport Strategy, including the RTS Delivery Plan, Travel to Healthcare Strategy, Regional Bus Strategy and the collaborative procurement of electric vehicle charging infrastructure for local authorities in the southeast of Scotland. Looking ahead, Brian is excited about upcoming projects, especially Active Travel Behaviour Change for 2025/26, and new strategies for freight and rail. He's also putting renewed energy into Thistle Assistance, an initiative designed to help those who face challenges using public transport due to age, disability, or illness. Through these partnerships and innovative strategies, Brian is committed to ensuring that regional transport works for everyone, making our communities more connected and inclusive.



## **Ashleigh Madjitey**

### Audit Manager, Audit Scotland

Ashleigh is a performance Audit Manager at Audit Scotland. She has 12 years of public audit experience and is responsible for managing performance audits on transport, infrastructure, and public finances. Most recently she managed an audit of sustainable transport and the Scottish Government and councils progress towards reducing car use (Sustainable transport I Audit Scotland). Before joining Audit Scotland, Ashleigh worked as a Transport Consultant on projects like the Forth Replacement Crossing and the Aberdeen Western Peripheral Road.

## **SPONSORS**

# Amey

## Amey (Consulting) in Scotland

With local offices across the country, Amey (Consulting) in Scotland is one of the country's leading engineering consultancies, inspiring change and driving infrastructure improvements. We want to make a genuine difference to people's lives, whether we are delivering new social infrastructure projects, maintaining and adapting infrastructure to meet climate challenges or using data to manage transport across the road and rail networks.

Our ambition is to leave a legacy of sustainable infrastructure for future generations. Our industry-leading team of designers, engineers and consultants are transforming the way we design, adapt and renew strategic assets.

We already provide consultancy and design services to local authority and public sector clients in Scotland, bringing together a unique offer of operational and design expertise with local knowledge and understanding. We take time to listen to our clients, asking the right questions to understand their problems and immerse ourselves in their world. By doing this, we create innovative solutions that genuinely meet client needs and expectations.

Through our Advisory and Analytics service, we take a fresh approach to sustainability in infrastructure. We test our solutions against the social, environmental and personal value they bring. We create people-focused transport and place solutions that enhance life and living. We deliver infrastructure solutions using our insight into systems, people and technology. We improve infrastructure using analytics and asset management, and we focus on a philosophy of **Infrastructure Solutions for Life**.

Key areas of expertise include:

- Road Infrastructure (including active travel, bridges, lighting, geotechnical, road safety, etc) design, asset management and consultancy
- Environmental consultancy
- Transport Advisory, Planning and Place
- Carbon reduction, sustainability and adaptation
- Project management office (PMO)
- Data science and analytics
- Business transformation, operational performance and excellence

For further information please email Angus Bodie at angus.bodie@ amey.co.uk or call on 07794762863.



**Arcadis** is the world's leading company providing data-driven sustainable design, engineering, and consultancy solutions for natural and built assets. We are more than 36,000 architects, data analysts, designers, engineers, project planners, water management and sustainability experts, all driven by our passion for improving quality of life.

As part of our commitment to **accelerating a planet positive future**, we work with clients to make sustainable project choices, combining digital and human innovation, and embracing future-focused skills across the environment, energy and water, buildings, transport, and infrastructure sectors.

Our purpose is **improving quality of life**, creating liveable places where people and communities thrive. We enhance mobility, so that we can move sustainably in and between our cities.

Rapidly evolving technology, digitalisation and shifts in the way people access transportation is changing the mobility ecosystem.

Arcadis **Bridge Health** bridge inspection and AI-enhanced predictive maintenance tool revolutionises the inspection process, assessing below the surface delamination and defects in bridges using acoustic technology, creating a digital history of the asset, surpassing the limitations of manual inspections.

Our **Road Safety** collaboration with Michelin provides a new approach, using near-miss data, machine learning and engineering expertise to identify and mitigate risk before crashes occur.

**Curb-IQ** technology helps local authorities digitise permanent and temporary TRO records into a centralised map dataset that adheres to the DfT's evolving D-TRO standards.

Expertise in **new mobility** includes autonomous vehicles, advanced air mobility (AAM), mobility hubs, alternative fuels such as hydrogen, electric vehicles (EVs) and EV charging infrastructure (EVCI). These solutions are vital to creating sustainable, equitable and connected mobility systems.

We are leading the **sustainability** agenda, ranked number one in our sector by Sustainalytics for ESG performance, and in the top 1% of firms who have successfully integrated sustainable practices into their business and management systems according to EcoVadis.

### www.arcadis.com



### **Chemco International**

Chemco International are a specialist Protective Coatings manufacturer headquartered in Coatbridge, Scotland. We provide innovative coating solutions for the marine, offshore and industrial sectors. For our customers operating within the transport industry, our solvent free and VOC free coatings enable them to carry out fabric maintenance scopes safely and efficiently.

Chemco have over 40 years' experience extending asset lifespans and reducing maintenance costs for our customers . Our coating technologies provide long term corrosion protection for the most demanding applications, in the most adverse environments – making it suitable for a wide range of road and transport projects (or assets).

Chemco take pride in being a fully employee-owned company and now collectively create a culture of commitment and advancing innovation. Employee-ownership fosters business continuity and steady growth, making Chemco a dependable and trusted supplier.

As part of our ongoing expansion, we are investing in new facilities, machinery and technology to enhance our manufacturing capabilities and to support future growth. Our ongoing expansion reflects our dedication to innovation, sustainability, and quality protective coating technology.

Chemco's vision is to provide excellence in all that we do; providing continuous improvement and innovation in all areas of the business, to sustain and grow, with our customer's needs at the forefront.

## **G**aist

## Gaist

Gaist are a leading roads surveying and data analysis company with more than 18 years experience partnering with local and national governments to transform data provision for road maintenance.

Providing best-in-class road condition surveying, detailed asset inventory, fully managed safety inspections and bespoke scheme identification and lifecycle modelling, Gaist give roads maintenance professionals the vital tools they need to make their budgets go further and the confidence to make the best decisions possible.

Already trusted by a number of Scottish Local Authorities, last year Gaist launched a transformational national survey of Scotland which will make their full capabilities rapidly accessible to those responsible for roads maintenance across the whole country. This presents a unique opportunity to engage with Gaist and discuss how the national survey can benefit your road maintenance activity over the next 12 months and beyond.

## SCAPE SCOTLAND SCAPE Scotland

SCAPE Scotland is a public sector owned, not for profit organisation. Part of SCAPE Group, we have been offering compliant frameworks to the public sector in Scotland since 2006. We continually develop our frameworks to meet agendas set by UK and Scottish Governments, address challenges faced by public sector and meet targets set around Community Wealth Building.

Through our suite of competitively tendered, fully compliant frameworks, we offer immediate access to our Delivery Partners, creating an accelerated route to market. As we have done all the upfront procurement, our clients can commence projects quickly and efficiently as well as saving on the time and cost associated with running their own procurement exercise.

Our tried and tested approach allows for collaborative early engagement with our Delivery Partners at pre-contract stage, helping you to shape the project brief and define service requirements, providing greater quality and cost certainty at the outset.

Clients have delivered exciting infrastructure projects using SCAPE Scotland's **Consultancy Infrastructure** and **Civil Engineering frameworks**.

Working in partnership and supported by an extensive local supply chain, Triskelion (**Arcadis, SWECO & Fairhurst**) provides a full spectrum of collaborative and efficient infrastructure consultancy services, including:

- Project Management
- Civil Engineering
- Geotechnical Engineering
- Structural Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Electrical Engineering

**Balfour Beatty** use pioneering new technologies to drive innovation and low carbon solutions, they transform the built environment, investing locally and building sustainably to connect communities and create the infrastructure that underpins our daily lives. They'll work collaboratively, sustainably, and safely with you, local supply chains and your local communities.

To find out more about how SCAPE Scotland can support you, please visit our stand or contact Angela Gray on 07973 622478 or angelag@scape-scotland.co.uk



## W.D.M. Limited

W.D.M. Limited is a leading global provider of highway asset management and surveying solutions. The company offers a comprehensive range of products and services, delivered by a specialist team with extensive knowledge across four key offerings:

- HIAMS Asset Management Software: Modular software system offering a comprehensive approach to management of assets across highways.
- SURVEYS: Road and footway condition surveys, providing data collection and analysis that can inform maintenance requirements, cost and prioritisation across the road network, to support road safety initiatives, resource reduction and decarbonisation strategies.
- CONSULTANCY: Customised consultancy services delivered by a highly skilled team that will identify data trends, interpret insights, and recommend individualised solutions and requirements
- MANUFACTURE: Research, design and manufacture of machines offering precise and robust surveying capabilities

With over 50 years experience in the roads sector, WDM is committed to approaching customers' routine asset management and project work individually, ensuring solutions are delivered to bespoke requirements.

We offer an end-to-end solution across our product range so that data is fully integrated with relevant systems and all requirements can be addressed within one system.

The company has developed a dedicated framework to support carbon reduction initiatives and ensure resources are managed as efficiently as possible, with the advantage of cutting costs in the long-term. Carbon Lifecycle Planning and Predictive Maintenance are two of these offering.

The company operates in over 30 countries, is headquartered in Bristol, UK and has offices in the United States and New Zealand. Our dedicated team based in Scotland works with organisations across the country to improve highway infrastructure and safety.

## WSP

WSP are one of the world's leading professional services firms, with over 66,000 staff globally, 9400 of which are based within the UK, and over 500 staff in Scotland, located across our Glasgow, Edinburgh and Perth offices.

We believe that for societies to thrive, we must hold ourselves accountable for tomorrow. As such we maintain a strong focus on being future ready and developing sustainable solutions, striving to obtain net zero, through digital applications, innovative design solutions and prolonging the life of existing assets.

Prolonging the life of existing assets in particular is becoming increasingly more important to respond to the challenges being faced, in relation to restricted budgets and aging infrastructure to ensure that best use is made of these limited budgets with appropriate maintenance interventions made at the most appropriate time

In Scotland we currently deliver a range of projects for SCOTS members, including; active travel schemes, bridge inspection, assessment, and maintenance works, road improvements and asset management. Our projects are delivered through a combination of procurement routes, including direct awards, the Scotland Excel, CCS and Pagabo Frameworks and/or discrete tenders.

In addition to delivering transportation projects for SCOTS members, we also regularly undertake projects for Transport Scotland, including the development bridge asset management tools, the M8 corridor study, the A9 dualling, the A83 RaBT, and a number of research commissions.

Our local team prioritise building good working relationships with local clients. These strong relationships help us to understand our Clients needs and respond more rapidly to their requirements drawing on local, national and international resources and experience to benefit the communities where we live and work.

