



Centre of Excellence

for Decarbonising Roads

An ADEPT Live Labs 2 programme



EVALUATE LOCAL Roads The Live Labs 2 Mission

Department for Transport

"Through deployments at demonstrable scale, we will achieve a step change in the normalisation and uptake of zero-carbon techniques, solutions and materials in the local roads realm - to meet the needs of today and prepare us for an uncertain tomorrow"





Key statistics

Department for Transport



4 soft market sessions



3-year deployment



30 bids received



+ 5-year M&E



10 to Dragons' Den



7 labs, 4 themes, >20 partners



7 to business case



£30m programme







Why a Centre of Excellence for material decarbonisation?

The transition to low carbon materials is critical for the sector to reach net-zero, but we are currently uncoordinated, siloed and slow to make change across LAs and the wider highways and local roads sector.

Challenges



Inherently high Co2 materials



Un-coordinated materials market and siloed working across LAs



Impending net-zero targets



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75% of LAs have declared a climate emergency

Opportunities



Materials are the highest emitting area of our carbon footprint that is directly within our control





Live Labs can be a sector-wide springboard for low carbon materials adoption







Department for Transport

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for Decarbonising Roads

The key objectives of the programme



Mission

Reduce the carbon emissions from road materials.





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LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL

Two Campuses, One Programme



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Our Partner Network

- Convening leaders from

 across the public, private and
 academic sectors to support
 the technical, carbon and
 strategic elements of the
 programme.
- Expert Research Group and Expert Advisory Panel





The Innovation Funnel

for Transport



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Innovation Process Centre of Excellence for Decarbonising Roads



COLAS

WE OPEN THE WAY



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Maintenance Materials



Our First Step: Carbon Baseline of NLC

Calculated for financial year 2022-2023 for all NLC local road services to baseline future carbon savings of the programme and identify carbon hotspots

Accounting for carbon emissions across Scopes 1, 2 and 3 for sites & premises, staff & contractors, vehicles & plant, and purchased products & services

Key insights:

Although material carbon is significant, energy transition will be necessary to significantly decarbonise



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Key Results





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LANARKSHIRE

NLC Pothole Trials

Initial Results

Carbon: est. 37.5% saving for GreenPatch

Technical: expected increased longevity from 3 out of 4 materials



Next Steps

- Monitoring and evaluation of repair performance over the next 7 years
- Full carbon profiles in Carbon Analyser
- Transition to best performing materials as BAU in NLC

Approach









Materials Trialled

- Degafloor Degafill (MMA-based cold-mix)
- Roadmender Elastomac (mastic asphalt)
- FM Conway GreenPatch (cold-mix with RAP)
- Meon Permafyx (MMA-based cold-mix)

Trial Methods

- A, B, and C road sites in NLC
- 27-28th February and 11th 12th April 2024
- Creation of 18 simulated potholes and 18 patches 2m apart on 'Amber' roads

Control and Benchmark

- Benchmark solutions: HRA and standard coldmix material
- Applied on the same road, same size potholes, same operatives, and same weather

Operative Feedback

- Health & safety implications of hot-mix mastic asphalt
- Openness and interest in MMA solutions
- GreenPatch is a simple switch from BAU





Approach



Materials Trialled

• 13 materials and methods demonstrated, including the same materials as the North Campus, as well as Colpatch, Roadpatch, and Velocity Patching

Trial Methods

- A, B, C and old/new residential road sites across 6 combined authorities in West Midlands
- March 2024
- Tested on `normal' potholes

Control and Benchmark

Applied on similar road types, in similar weather, and with oversight from core team

Case Study TfWM Pothole Trials

Operative Feedback

Difficulty with operational ease with some materials due to narrower conditions of use

Next Steps

- Monitoring and evaluation of repair performance over the next 7 years
- Full carbon profiles in Carbon Analyser
- Transition to best performing materials as BAU in TfWM LAs

Initial Results

Carbon: est. 37.5% saving for GreenPatch







Behavioural Change

How we are leveraging behavioural science to design a fit-for-purpose knowledge bank

10 qualitative, end-user interviews held with LAs across Scotland and England

Identification of individual, social and material influences on LA behaviour

when identifying and adopting material innovations

Operational, informational, organisational, and functional requirements identified for the knowledge bank development based on LA feedback

Full behavioural research report available on our website



www.decarbonisingroads.co.uk











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End-User Requirements

Next Steps

Key milestones in 2024

Market Scanning & Trials

Material Evaluations

• Signage – signposts and signfaces

- Resurfacing & Surface
 treatments
 - Concrete solutions

Full carbon and technical evaluations of materials, with support from University of Nottingham, Aston University and FHRG Creation of best practice and guidance for LAs to identify, trial and evaluate low-carbon materials, with support from Connected Places

Industry Playbook

Launch of the knowledge bank at the end of 2024, ready for LAs to use

Catapult

The Knowledge Bank

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How Can You Get Involved?

Join the UK-wide movement to decarbonise road materials

Get in touch to partner with us, share your innovation experiences and get first access to the knowledge bank Share innovations for the materialstesting programme, gaining access tosector leaders and live trial sites

Complete our survey for local authorities

so we can provide the most value for the sector through our live trials

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