



26th Annual Winter Maintenance Conference and Exhibition

# Cold Comfort

17-18th May 2017 | The Ricoh Arena, Coventry

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Register  
Today



## Programme highlights include:

- The challenges and opportunities of delivering a new winter maintenance programme in Buffalo Grove, Illinois
- Keeping London moving in extreme weather
- Using the Internet of Things to transform UK winter service
- Implementing the new Highways Code of Practice-risk based approach in the winter service sector
- Local Authority case studies - Halton Borough Council and Hounslow Highways

## Speaker organisations include representatives from:

- East Sussex Highways • Department for Transport (DfT) • Transport for London (TfL) • Derby CC • Devon CC • Norwegian Public Roads Administration
- Northumberland CC • IHE • Doncaster MBC • Vaisala and NWSRG

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COMFORT

# Cold Comfort 2017

## 26th Annual Winter Maintenance Conference and Exhibition

Cold Comfort 2017 will once again aim to deliver the very best case studies, technical session and discussion and debate with the aim of empowering local authorities and their private sector partners with the latest understanding and knowledge of all the latest issues affecting the winter service sector in the UK.

The 2017 conference programme will reflect the demand for a greater understanding of how to manage extreme weather events, including unique insights into the strategic planning, implementation and delivery of projects that have taken place in the UK, delivered by those with first-hand experience of the challenges and opportunities they bring.

### Who should attend:

The annual conference and exhibition will be of benefit to:

- Senior local authority representatives
- Private sector contractors
- Winter maintenance managers
- Highway engineers
- Resilience/civil contingency managers
- Highway managers
- Contract managers
- Fleet managers
- Operations managers
- Network managers

### What you will learn:

- Hear from industry experts delivering up-to-date best practice from the sector
- Share insight and opinion on the latest developments and shape the way the industry operates in the future
- Learn from other authorities from around the UK on their approaches to winter service delivery
- Participate in the most up-to-date technical sessions featuring the latest research and developments



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

## Day One: Wednesday 17th May 2017

9:30 – 11:00 Registration, Refreshments and Exhibition Viewing

**11:00 – 11:10 Chair's Introduction and Welcome**

**Roger Williams**, Head of Network Assurance, **East Sussex Highways**

**11:10 – 11:45 Keynote Address: The challenges and opportunities of delivering a new winter maintenance programme in Buffalo Grove, Illinois**

- Why Buffalo Grove was awarded the APWA National Excellence in Snow & Ice Control Award in 2016 and the story behind its success

- The re-writing & implementation of its new winter service maintenance programme

**Bryan Beitzel**, Maintenance Superintendent, **Village of Buffalo Grove, Illinois, USA**

**11:45 – 12:10 Making the UK network more resilient during winter**

- Considering what is needed in the winter service sector and adapting to change

- Working with local authorities and other key organisations

**Steve Berry OBE**, Head of Local Roads, Innovation, Resilience, Light Rail and Cableways, **Department for Transport (DfT)**

**12:10 – 12:35 A reasonable response: Managing risk in relation to personal injury claims and winter service delivery**

- Highway authorities responsibilities and duty under Section 41

- What is 'reasonable' in the eyes of the law?

**Richard Hayes**, Chief Executive, **IHE**

**12:35 – 13:10 Transforming winter service: A front line perspective**

- An overview of changes made to Derby CC's winter management strategy

- A driver's perspective: What went well and what didn't

**David Kinsey**, Area Manager-Highways, **Michala Medcalf**, Senior Asset Management Technician and Winter Duty Officer and **Scott McDonald**, Senior Highways Officer and Gritter Driver, **Derby City Council**

13:15 – 14:15 Lunch and Exhibition Viewing

**14:15 – 14:40 Using the Internet of things to transform UK Winter Service**

- Understanding the use of the internet to help deliver low-cost road temperature sensing

- Road Weather Information Systems and the future

**Lee Chapman**, Professor of Climate Resilience, **University of Birmingham**

**14:40 – 15:05 Implementing the new Highways Code of Practice risk-based approach in the winter service sector**

- Understanding what the code means for the winter service sector

- Adapting plans and developing a risk-based strategy

**Chris Cranston**, Operations & Communications Manager, **Devon County Council**

15:05 – 15:25 Afternoon Coffee Break

**15:25 – 15:55 Local authority case study - Halton Borough Council's winter plan**

- A regional approach to winter

- Closer to home-Halton's winter plan

**Mick Noone**, Operational Director – Policy, Planning and Transportation, **Halton Borough Council**

**16:20 – 16:30 Local authority case study: Hounslow Highways**

**How engagement with the local community has helped deliver more effective and efficient winter service**

- Getting the most from community engagement and planning

- Emergency and continuity planning

**Ian Lennox**, Operations Manager, **Hounslow Highways**

**Satbir Gill**, Network Manager, **Ringway Hounslow Highways Ltd**

16:30 – 18:00 Mercedes-Benz Unimog Drinks Reception in Exhibition Hall



# CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

## Day Two: Thursday 18th May 2017

9:00 – 10:30 Registration, Refreshments and Exhibition Viewing

10:30 – 10:35 **Chair's Introduction and Welcome**

**Adrian Tatum**, Events Producer, **Transport Network**

10:35 – 11:00 **Keynote Address: ITS as a means towards safer winter roads**

- ITS technologies and instrumentation, road side and in vehicles
- Road state monitoring systems and decision support

**Torgeir Vaa**, Senior Principal Engineer, **Norwegian Public Roads Administration**

11:00 – 11:25 **Local authority case study**

11:25 – 11:45 Tea and Coffee Break

11:45 – 12:05 **Effective use of statistical weather data to more effectively and accurately predict freezing conditions**

- Managing data in relation to the new Highways Code of Practice
- Creating a risk-based framework for winter maintenance

**Peter Turland**, Senior Engineer - Highway Asset Maintenance, **Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Nick Johnson**, Lead Consultant – Training and Education, **Vaisala Ltd**

12:05 – 12:25 **Local authority case study: Northumberland CC**

**Winter service investment plans and the challenges of managing winter**

- A new fleet of gritters: what that means for our strategy
- Developing a sustainable strategy for the future

**Kris Westerby**, Area Manager Technical Services, **Northumberland County Council**

12:25 – 13:15 **What next for the UK winter service sector: New strategies, new approaches, new technology**

**Various NWSRG members**

13:15 – 14:45 Lunch and Exhibition Viewing

14:45 Conference closes



## SPEAKER PROFILES



### Bryan Beitzel

**Maintenance Superintendent**  
Village of Buffalo Grove Public Works Department

Bryan Beitzel is the Maintenance Superintendent for the Village of Buffalo Grove Public Works Department. Buffalo Grove is a residential community located North of Chicago in both Lake and Cook Counties of Illinois. Buffalo Grove is a residential community of approximately 44,000 residents, and was founded a little more than 50 years ago. Bryan joined Buffalo Grove in February of 1993 as a Maintenance Worker and has worked his way up through the organization serving as a Crew Leader, Supervisor, and Operations Manager until being promoted to the position of Superintendent in 2015, where he oversees the Street Section, Forestry Section, Building Maintenance Section & Fleet Services. For the duration of his career Bryan has served as a winter maintenance operator before moving into a managerial position, at which point he assumed responsibility for winter maintenance operations and the overall winter maintenance program.

Prior to the winter maintenance season of 2014 – 2015 Bryan led a small team of management and staff to completely rewrite the winter maintenance plan from the ground up. As a team, Buffalo Grove abandoned an old yet reliable winter maintenance plan in lieu of a new plan that adopted best management practices for winter maintenance and embraced new technologies to improve efficiency and overall plan performance.

Following the second season of the new winter maintenance plan, Bryan and the Village of Buffalo Grove were recognized by the APWA and presented as winners of the APWA Excellence in Snow & Ice Control Award for 2016 at the APWA Show for Snow in Hartford Connecticut.

At the 2016 APWA National Congress (PWX) in Minnesota Bryan became a member of the APWA National Winter Maintenance Committee.

Bryan is a graduate of the NIU Center for Governmental Studies (2008), has completed the three year study program at the Illinois Public Service Institute (2010), and has attended the Midwest Advanced Public Service Institute in 2015, 2016 & 2017. Bryan received his Winter Maintenance Supervisory Certification at the APWA Show for Snow in 2014.

### Steve Berry OBE

Steve is currently Head of Local Roads, Innovation, Resilience, Light Rail and Cableways Branch within the Department for Transport's Local Transport Directorate. Steve has been Head of the Branch since 2010. Steve has spent his career in the Civil Service and recently was awarded the OBE in the 2014 New Year Honours for his services to local highways resilience.



### Lee Chapman

**Professor of Climate Resilience**  
University of Birmingham

Lee Chapman is a Professor of Climate Resilience at the University of Birmingham and is particularly interested in the influence of weather and climate on the built environment. He has published in excess of 70 international journal articles in areas covering infrastructure meteorology, urban climatology and climate change. Lee has nearly 20 years experience in winter road maintenance research, beginning with his PhD in which he developed the concept of route based forecasting which he later commercialised via a university spin-out company. He is also the outgoing President of the Standing International Road Weather Commission (SIRWEC).



### Chris Cranston

**Operations and Communications Manager**  
Devon County Council

Chris was recently elected as Chair of the National Winter Service Research Group (NWSRG) and represents the NWSRG on the UK Roads Board. He has been involved with winter service for over 20 years. He currently chairs the Vaisala User Group and the Southwest Winter Service Group.

Chris leads on the development and delivery of Devon County Council's winter service and led the operational response to the severe winters, and has been active in applying the principles of Appendix H. He is also responsible for delivery of the Highways Inspections and Reactive Service, Highway Coordination, Street Lighting and Intelligent Traffic Systems.



### Satbir Gill

**Network Manager**  
Ringway Hounslow Highways Ltd

Satbir Gill, Past TAG (The Local Government Technical Advisers Group) President is a Chartered Engineer, Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, The Association of Project Safety and Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation.

Satbir has a wide range of experience in network management, highways maintenance, structures, highways asset management, freight management, the role of Principal Designer and highways management systems.

Satbir has played an active role in TAG for many years and has been a member of TAG Council since 2007. He has been on the UK Bridges Board since 2008, UK Network Management Board since 2012 and Chairman of The London Technical Advisers Group since March 2017. He is also a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers Health and Safety expert panel. During his 34 year varied career in civil engineering, Satbir has led many complex projects ranging between £10k to £3m, both abroad and in the UK including some funded by the World Bank and Transport for London.

Satbir is currently the Network Manager and Principal Designer with Hounslow Highways, working on a 25 year, £800 million Highways PFI.



### Nick Johnson

**Lead Consultant – Training and Education**  
Vaisala Ltd

Nick Johnson, Assoc CIPD, Lead Consultant, Transportation Weather Consulting, Vaisala Ltd

I have worked for Vaisala for over 20 years now, mostly in various training roles. I've trained extensively throughout the UK and Ireland and also overseas in North America and Europe. My main focus has been the Roads market but I also am involved in training and consultancy for our Airports customers. Recently I developed and also now deliver the Monitoring and Decision Making modules for the IHE qualification for winter service decision makers.



### David Kinsey

**Area Manager – Highways**  
Derby City Council

David has worked in Highway Maintenance for the last 15 years, prior to this he worked for a number of civil engineering contractors. He is responsible for managing all aspects of Highway Maintenance, the service is delivered by an in-house team and has been since 2013 when the operational side of Highway Maintenance was brought back in house, and this process was suggested and then subsequently managed by David.

David is the current chair of the Midland Service Improvement Group (MSIG) Winter Service Group as well as sitting on the NWSRG Steering Group and Technical Advisory Group.



### Ian Lennox

**Operations Manager**  
Hounslow Highways

Following 30 years' service as a police officer with strategic responsibility including the M 25 motorway and strategic road network of the south east of England I joined the Connect Plus team mobilising the 30 year PFI contract on the M25.

In 2014 I left to take up my current role as Operations Manager for Ringway on the 25 year PFI contract for Hounslow Highways. Hounslow is a hugely diverse borough extending from Feltham on the boundaries of Heathrow Airport to Chiswick on the banks of the River Thames.

# SPEAKER PROFILES



## Scott McDonald

Senior Highways Officer and Gritter Driver  
Derby City Council

Scott has worked in Highway Maintenance for 14 years, he started as an apprentice paver within a contracting environment, moving into local authority around 6 years ago, Scott has progressively worked his way up through different role and gained several vocational qualifications along the way.

Scott is very ambitious and is looking to work his way up the career ladder, he holds a vast amount of practical knowledge and recently passed a diploma in Road Maintenance and Mineral Products at Derby University, he is a member of the Institute of Highway Engineers and included on the inspectors register.



## Michala Medcalf

Senior Asset Management Technician and Winter Duty Officer  
Derby City Council

Michala has worked in Street Lighting and Highway Maintenance for the last 20 years, and has 23 years public sector experience working with DLO and contractors delivering front line services. She is responsible for monitoring all aspects of performance for the street lighting PFI contract being delivered by Balfour Beatty, as well as contributing to the overall Highway Maintenance Asset Management Plan.

Michala is the current Highways Representative for the ILP (Institute of Lighting Professionals) Midlands Region



## Mick Noone

Operational Director - Policy, Planning and Transportation  
Halton Borough Council

Mick is currently the Operational Director - Policy, Planning and Transportation at Halton Borough Council and his responsibilities cover all planning, highways and transportation functions. He has over 37 years' experience in working for local authorities. He is a Chartered Civil Engineer and has worked on a range of major schemes, including the Mersey Gateway Project where he is currently overseeing the Council's statutory Planning and Highway Authority roles during the bridge's design and construction phases. He was Transport for the North's (TfN) Interim Lead for Roads and is also Chair of the Liverpool City Region Key Route Network Group.



## Peter Turland

Senior Engineer, Highway Asset Maintenance  
Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council

Starting my career at Nottinghamshire County Council from school as a trainee technician, gaining experience in many aspects of highway engineering from design and maintenance to new construction sites. After a short spell at Barnsley Council in highway maintenance and some aspects of winter, I joined Doncaster MBC in 1991.

As an engineer working in highway maintenance, winter service was part of the job and I became involved with thermal maps, weather stations, forecasts and subsequently winter service planning and decision making.

Moving into highway asset maintenance as senior engineer, dealing with asset management and programmed maintenance works, I also deal with the winter service policy, planning and overseeing the provision of winter services.

Currently secretary to the Vaisala User Group, a member of the NWSRG and have completed the IHE Professional Certificate in "Winter Services - Decision Makers and Managers"



## Torgier Vaa

Senior Principal Engineer  
Norwegian Public Roads Administration

Torgier Vaa is a Senior Principal Engineer at Directorate of Public Roads, ITS Section where he has been employed since 2009. Before that he was Senior Researcher at SINTEF Technology and Society, Transport Engineering with winter maintenance as a special field of competence. Vaa has 25 years of experience as a researcher at SINTEF and has also 10 years' experience as traffic engineer in Municipal Authority of Trondheim.

He is graduate civil engineer in 1973 from Norwegian Institute of Technology (NTH) – now the Norwegian University of Technology and Science (NTNU) – Faculty of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Department of Transport Engineering.



## Kris Westerby

Area Manager Technical Services  
Northumberland County Council

Kris has worked for Northumberland County Council for over 10 years. He initially started working as a construction manager delivering structural and civil engineering projects across Northumberland. He then took the position of area manager delivering highways maintenance and construction projects in the Western area of the county.

During this period Kris has worked in winter services for Northumberland. First as an operational supervisor running the day to day gritting operations. Now kris is a Winter service manager looking at the strategic delivery of winter services in Northumberland, evaluating daily forecasts during the winter period and assisting in developing winter services operations across Northumberland.



## Roger Williams

Head of Network Assurance Company  
East Sussex Highways

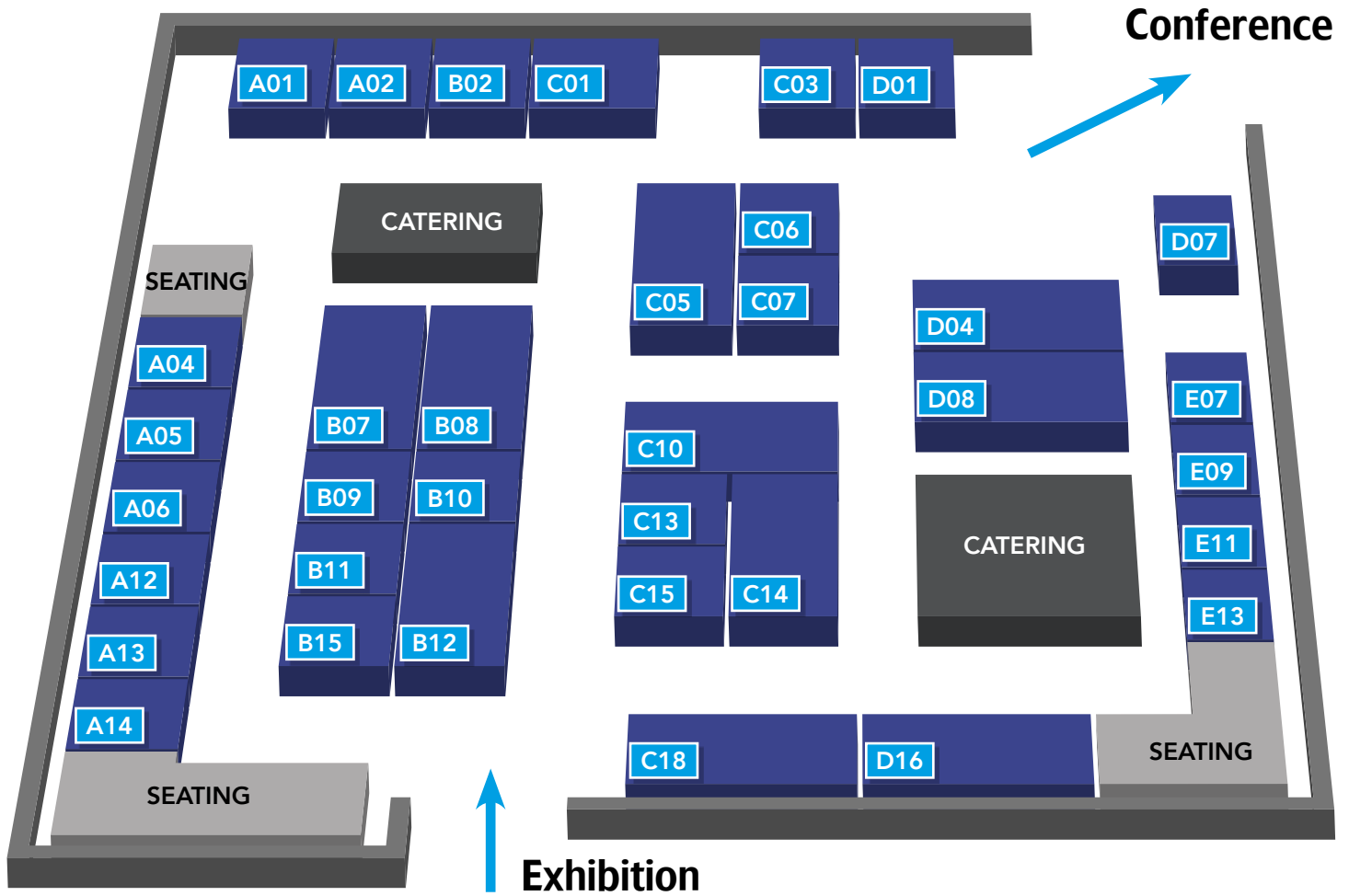
Roger has over 30 years' experience in Local Government and is employed by Costain / CH2M JV following a recent TUPE transfer from East Sussex County Council where he was Head of Highways for 7 years.

He has a wealth of knowledge and experience in all aspects of highway maintenance, Roger was a founding member and Chairman of the National Salt Spreading Research Group working with TRL and has worked with DfT on a number of legislation working parties. Roger also created the first partnership between a local authority and a utility company and published a book on partnership, which was endorsed by DfT.

- Led a highways transformational change programme that modernised the service and saved 20% of the revenue budget with increased public satisfaction.
- Worked with Members using asset management modelling to gain four years capital funding.
- Procured and managed contracts in Highways, Parking, Bus Services and Home to School transport.
- Introduced a transport hub working with other authorities and patient transport to make efficient use of vehicles
- Led a zero based passenger services review with members and delivered 10% savings whilst maintaining services
- Developed sustainable community transport services with grants to reduce the overhead for the authority
- Developed the first partnership between a utility company and a highway authority and co-wrote a book sponsored by the Department for Transport.

Roger believes in "growing your own talent" and has invested in apprentice schemes for many years, as well as seeing staff rise up through the ranks to senior roles.

# FLOORPLAN



Pelican Engineering RASCO	A01
Westa GmbH	A02
MetDesk	A04
Transport Network	A05
HCTA	A06
IHE	A12
Romaquip Ltd	A13
Archway Roadmaster	A14
Johnston Sweepers – Bucher Municipal	B02
Compass Minerals UK	B07
Safecote Ltd	B08

Commercial Vehicle Group	B11
ECON	B12
Findlay Irvine Ltd	B15
Met Office	C01
Dome Barns / Winter Service Solutions	C03
Vaisala	C05
Biral	C06
RUD Chains Ltd	C07
Multihog UK	C10
ICL UK Sales Ltd	C13
Peacock Salt	C14

Exactrak	C15
Aebi Schmidt UK	C18
Bunce/Boschung UK	D01
Epoke Group	D04
WinterTech Systems	D07
MeteoGroup	D08
Mercedes-Benz Unimog	D16
WESTERN	E07
University of Birmingham	E09
PIARC Winter Road Congress 2018	E11
Modatso Limited	E13





COLD COMFORT

# Cold Comfort 2017

## 26th Annual Winter Maintenance Conference and Exhibition

### Organisations already signed up to attend include:

AECOM | Amey | Atkins | Poole BC | Bridgend BC | Caerphilly County BC | Calderdale MBC | Campbell Scientific Ltd  
Cardiff CC | Conwy County BC | CORMAC Solutions | Cornwall Council | Department of Infrastructure | Derbyshire CC | Devon CC |  
Doncaster CC | Durham CC | E.ON UK Plc | East Sussex Highways | Gloucestershire CC | Halton BC | Hampshire County Council |  
Heathrow Airport limited | Hertfordshire CC | Highways England | Kent County Council | Kier Highways Limited | Lincolnshire CC | LNT  
Solutions Ltd | Luton BC | M50 Concession Ltd | Medway Council | Met Office | Milton Keynes Council | Monmouthshire CC | Norfolk CC  
| North Yorkshire CC | Northumberland CC | NPC Training Ltd | Oldham CC | Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC | Ringway Jacobs | Road Link (A69)  
Limited | Rochdale MBC | Rotherham BC | Skanska | Somerset CC | South Gloucestershire Council | Stockton-on-Tees BC | Swindon BC |  
Tarmac | The Vale of Glamorgan Council | Transport Infrastructure Ireland | TransportNI | TRL | TVS Supply Chain | Walsall Council |  
Warwickshire CC | Webaspx | Westminster CC | Wilson Salt Ltd WSP | WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff and more

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