

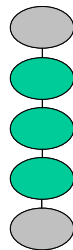
Adept Management defines project process for new HA form of contract

When the Highways Agency introduced an initiative known as Early Contractor Involvement (ECI), their contractors and designers were left with the challenge of establishing new working methods to deliver projects under the initiative. Contractor Edmund Nuttall and their design framework partners of Capita Symonds, Gifford, Halcrow, Hyder Consulting, and Parsons Brinkerhoff approached Adept Management for help.



As the name suggests, the ECI initiative is designed to get the contractor engaged at an earlier point in the project process than they traditionally would be. This leaves project teams to establish the role of the contractor during the early design period. Adept Management undertook a project to 'map' the early ECI design process to bring some clarity to the early stages and improve the understanding of the project process for Nuttall and their design partners.

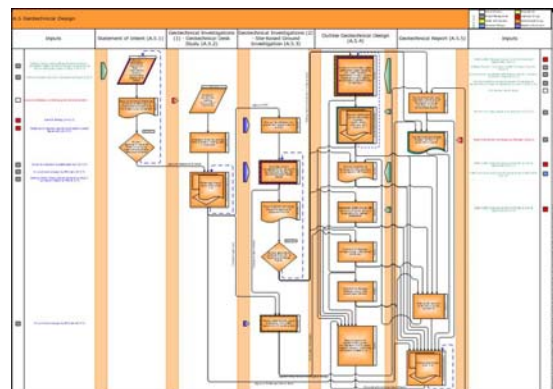
- o Objective identification
- o Data gathering
- o Model generation
- o Model verification
- o Implementation



Adept Management implemented our long-established process modelling approach which entails five steps. Since Nuttall had well-defined objectives and forthcoming ECI projects, we concentrated on the steps of gathering data about the ECI project process, generating, and verifying process models.

We believe the key to development of meaningful process maps is in gathering relevant data about the process which will allow clear objectives to be achieved - too often others undertake process modelling without those objectives being clearly conveyed. Relevant data can only be collected through a structured approach, something we have put in place through many years of experience.

We produced an overall 'high-level' map of the early ECI design process and seven detailed maps for the specialisms of: highway design, environmental analysis, traffic engineering and economic analysis, structural design, geotechnical engineering, statutory procedures and project management. These detailed maps showed all of the dependencies between activities within, and across, the specialisms.



The maps we produced defined the early ECI design process at a generic level. They provided Nuttall and their design consultants with opportunities to improve their understanding of the ECI process, established points in the design process at which Nuttall should have an input in design, defined the Project Management role in the context of the ECI process, and defined the scope of other roles within a project.