



12 September 2018

CECA North West

NEWS DIGEST FROM CECA NORTH WEST

Welcome to this round up of news from CECA North West. If there are any items you wish to include, please let me know. If you would like to contact me, or wish to arrange a meeting, I can be reached via email: guy.lawson@cecanw.co.uk or mobile 07703 585027.

Civil Engineering Contractors' Association North West news

Contact details

The office address is: CECA North West, The White House, Wilderspool Business Park, Greenalls Avenue, Warrington WA4 6HL Email: guy.lawson@cecanw.co.uk; Tel: 07703 585027. Although the office is not manned full time, I can be contacted on the above email and mobile number. We are also on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CECANW>

Free and discounted services for members - what can we do for you?

CECA NW always wants to make sure it delivers the services that members want. So, please tell us what your priorities are. We are always looking for ways to enhance the services CECA NW offers to members, which currently include:

- Legal services (see below)
- Training
- Tendering support
- Market intelligence
- Lobbying

But, please contact Guy Lawson if there are any specific areas where we can be of assistance.

CECA NW Legal Advice Service

Willow Contracts has provided very high quality advice to CECA NW members over the last year - and their support and expertise for legal and contractual matters is highly recommended. The email address exclusively for members is CECAsupport@willowcontracts.co.uk and this will automatically contact Chris Hutchinson and his colleague. For the telephone service, the dedicated number is 01924 919392. In the event that the call cannot be taken any voicemail left is automatically routed to Chris's mobile phone. Call costs I am advised are at standard rates.

Tendering workshops

Members are invited to contact Guy Lawson for 1-2-1 tendering workshops, where he will advise on PQQs and ITTs, eg on how to present socio-economic and CSR data as effectively as possible. This is a free service to CECA NW members. Please contact him at the above number or email.

CECA NW - the NEW video!

Please find a link to the 2018 CECA NW video - aimed at promoting careers in the industry. It is now available on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/r6ieFJ2LAPQ>

CECA website is now live!

The new CECA website is now live. All members should re-register to access information on the members' area: <https://www.ceca.co.uk/members-area/>

Working Rule Agreement

Copies of the new edition of the Working Rule Agreement are available to CECA NW members free of charge. Please contact Guy Lawson to order your copy.

CECA NW Foundations

The autumn 2018 programme for people new or relatively new to the industry will include a social event, a seminar and a debate. We will also be taking a table at the CECA NW annual awards dinner (let me know if you would like a place). More details to follow.

CECA NW meeting with Inovyn, Tuesday 11 September 2018

Guy Lawson met Inovyn's procurement team to discuss supply chain opportunities for contractors. A members' meeting will be planned following this - details will be issued once a date is agreed.

CECA NW meeting with Sellafield, Tuesday 2 October 2018

Martin George, Head of Supply Chain Quality for Sellafield Ltd, has kindly agreed to meet CECA NW members at North Lakes Hotel, Penrith. The meeting starts at 10.00 and is due to last until 11/11.30. Interested parties should contact Guy Lawson to book places.

CECA NW Executive Committee, Wednesday 10 October 2018

The next meeting of the CECA NW Executive Committee takes place at 08.30 for 09.00, Daresbury Park Hotel, Warrington. All CECA NW members are welcome to attend, whether members of the committee or not, but should contact Guy Lawson to book places.

CECA NW Annual Awards Dinner, Friday 12 October 2018

Quentin Willson will be the guest speaker at the CECA NW Annual Awards Dinner, Midland Hotel, Manchester. Entries for the Awards must be submitted by **Friday 7 September** (please note the new category for projects up to £1 million). To book your tickets for the awards dinner: http://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event_id=125

CECA NW/Network Rail seminar, November 2018 (tbc)

A seminar is being arranged for smaller regional and SME members who are not currently working on rail projects. It will probably take place in Preston - interested parties should contact Guy Lawson.

CECA Annual Conference, Tuesday 4 December 2018

Book your tickets now: <https://www.ceca.co.uk/work-programme/national-conference/>

CECA NW flyer 2018

The CECA NW flyer 2018 is available via the CECA website, and hard copies can be ordered from Guy Lawson: <https://www.ceca.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/CECA-NW-flyer-2018.pdf>

Sponsoring the Civil Engineering Challenge

We are sponsoring resource packs to enable scouts and guides to achieve the Civil Engineering badge, developed by Pippa Higgins of Vinci. Please let me know if you would like more information. We are now funding over twenty groups to undertake the civil engineering challenge.

Training & Development

HKA Legal Breakfast Seminars

We now have dates for the 2018 legal seminar programme run by Geraldine Fleming of HKA. The first is rather short notice, so please let Jemma Carmody know asap if any of your colleagues would like to attend. They are all breakfast seminars, with an 08.30 start, apart from the NEC4 half day.

All at HKA's offices, Daresbury Park, Warrington, apart from those marked; all free for CECA NW members apart from the NEC4 half day. To book, please email: jemma.carmody@ceca-yorks.co.uk

- Tuesday 18 September - Forms of Contract and Contract Formation
- Tuesday 9 October - Limitation of liability clauses
- Tuesday 6 November - Legal update PRESTON tbc

NW Contractors' Training Group - free for all CECA NW members

The Group provides access to CITB funding to support training, and its members receive free or substantially discounted training. If you are interested in joining the Group, please let Gill Steele know: mgtpsteele@hotmail.co.uk Please could CECA NW members advise their Training Managers of this opportunity. The next meeting is on Thursday 27 September 2018 at Golborne. Please contact Gill to book your place.

CECA Employment Law and Taxation seminar, 29 November 2018

A seminar with Liz Bridge and Gerry Lean is planned for the autumn.

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/wales/event/employment-law-and-taxation-issues-2/>

Merseyside and Cheshire Construction Safety Group 2017-18 programme

<https://mccsonline.wordpress.com/programme-2017-2018/>

These events are run by MCCSG, so you would need to book places with them, rather than via CECA NW.

A New Standard for Collaborative Business Relationships for Engineering & Construction Companies

Would members be interested in a workshop on ISO 44001? Please let me know if it would be something you would like CECA NW to arrange.

Looking to recruit ex-services personnel? <http://www.forward-assist.com/>

Fairness, Inclusion and Respect Programme (FIR) update

More introduction to FIR workshops are being run, plus Ambassador training session, and Ambassador coaching sessions. If any of this is of interest and you want your organisation to get involved or build on its existing activity then please do get in touch: Tolu Oke, T: 020 7697 1985; M: 07469 159 788

FIR Training and Project Manager, E: Tolu@supplychainschool.co.uk

FIR Toolkit: <https://www.supplychainschool.co.uk/default/fairness-inclusion-and-respect/fir-toolkit.aspx>

UK Nuclear Skills Awards 2019

Nominations for the UK Nuclear Skills Awards have launched!

Do you employ an individual who is starting out in their career in nuclear, who has made an impact on your department/organisation? Closing date for all applications 5pm on the 26th October 2018.

<http://www.nsan.co.uk/uk-nuclear-skills-awards-2019>

GoConstruct

A campaign by CITB to attract more entrants to the industry: <https://www.goconstruct.org/en/>

GoConstruct has also produced a new infrastructure video which can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=98rc8Ac-mF4>

Policy & Industry Affairs

Infrastructure skills passport for Heathrow?

The launch of an 'infrastructure skills passport' is just one of the many recommendations put forward by an independent taskforce in a bid to ensure the UK capitalises from Heathrow expansion.

The passport would work as a recognised infrastructure record of achievement developed alongside other major UK infrastructure projects, encouraging future employers to recognise workers' skills and past experiences. It is being proposed by the Heathrow Skills Taskforce to deliver a legacy of skills and shape a stronger workforce.

The report encourages the creation of ambitious programmes and targets, and contains a set of practical actions for Heathrow, its commercial partners and supply chain to implement. The airport will respond to the taskforce's recommendations in early 2019.

Digital railway

Network Rail have revealed plans for a digital transformation of UK railways as the organisation seeks a partner to support the UK's first inter-city digital railway on the East Coast Mainline (ECML).

The London North Eastern and East Midlands (LNE & EM) route is looking to team up early, and on a whole life basis, with a technology provider to work together on designs, plans, phasing, costs and realising benefits in a way never done before.

The selected supplier will play a key part in the development and deployment of the European Train Control System (in-cab signalling) on ECML, starting on the southern end. The first inter-city introduction of modern signalling is expected to increase capacity, improve resilience, enhance safety and reduce long-term operating costs.

Starting with the southern 160km route between London King's Cross and Grantham, the framework contract is worth up to £1.8bn and is expected to be awarded in spring 2019.

Women's Engineering Society appoint new chief executive ahead of centenary year

The Women's Engineering Society (WES) has announced a new leading figure to drive the body forward as it approaches a milestone centenary celebration next year.

Elizabeth Donnelly has become the new chief executive officer and succeeds Kirsten Bodley who left the society last month.

Founded in 1919, WES is a professional, not-for-profit network of women engineers, scientists and technologists offering inspiration, support and professional development.

Water firms submit PR19 business plans to Ofwat

All water companies across England and Wales have submitted to Ofwat their business plans for 2020-2025. As part of Ofwat's 2019 price review, all water companies must set out a detailed business plan outlining multi-billion pound investment plans for the AMP 7 spending period. As well as what companies propose to invest, the plan includes what the public water companies propose to charge customers, and how they will ensure the long-term resilience of their infrastructure and operations.

In the North West, United Utilities said it expects capital expenditure to run at around £450m a year, with a strong focus on improving water leakage.

Plans include delivering a major water resilience scheme with estimated construction costs of over £750m in AMP7 and AMP8 to be directly procured for customers in Manchester and the Pennines.

Ofwat will scrutinise all of the business plans with a focus on customer affordability before publishing an initial assessment of each company's plan on 31 January 2019, where it will categorise companies' plans according to the level of quality, ambition and innovation they have demonstrated.

<https://www.ofwat.gov.uk/water-companies-set-plans-2020-2025/>

Gender pay gap (GPG): construction industry reports highest pay gap

Construction firms caught by the GPG reporting requirements recorded the highest median gender pay gap amongst reporting sectors: 24%; just above the 22.5% gap reported by the finance and insurance sector, and the 21% gap reported in the education sector. Unsurprisingly, those companies that chose to include an explanatory narrative alongside their figures revealed that they were male-dominated at all levels, with a particular lack of female representation in the top, upper and middle pay quartiles. The proportion of women, including women in administrative roles, in the lower-paid quartiles was higher.

HS2 legislation for northern phase of £56bn project to be delayed by a year

Key legislation needed to ensure spades go into ground for construction of the northern link in the HS2 project is to be pushed back by a year, it has been reported.

Transport secretary Chris Grayling said last summer that the tabling of a bill in parliament for phase 2b running from Crewe to Manchester, and Birmingham to Leeds would take place next year.

But according to the Times, the government is set to halt this until at least 2020. While the Department for Transport (DfT) has not attempted to deny it, a spokesperson has said it is important to make sure a full account of the Northern Powerhouse Rail scheme which aims to improve east-west rail connections across the region.

<https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/hs2-pushed-back-a-year-as-doubts-grow-gfcm0wb2d>

Councils forced into £240m highways underspend to fund other services

New government statistics have exposed the extent to which local highway departments are being forced to rob their transport budgets by hundreds of millions in order to fund social care.

The Local Authority Expenditure and Financing 2018-19 Budget: England, published by Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, shows that local authorities were forecast to spend £4.24 billion on highways and transport over 2017-2018. Yet, new outturn figures from the Ministry show that they actually spent £3.994 billion. This represents an underspend of over £240 million as councils raid their highway budgets to fund other services.

As the Government continues to reduce core funding, councils are facing significant funding pressures. The Local Government Association report that English councils will have an overall funding gap of almost £8 billion by 2025. Faced with increased social care demands that figure will certainly rise. As will the number of councils reporting severe budget deficits. Northampton Council has a shortfall of £70 million, Lewisham Council has a deficit of £13 million, Surrey, England's richest county, has a shortfall of £100 million.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-revenue-expenditure-and-financing-england-2018-to-2019-budget>

<https://www.rsta-uk.org/news/>

Transport Scotland's £930m road maintenance contracts

Transport Scotland is inviting tenders for two new maintenance contracts worth over £930 million and covering 3,500km of road. The first tranche of regional deals cover southern Scotland and are split into south east and south west regional deals. The second will comprise of two north regions and is expected to be issued to the market in 2020. Works include integrated network management, routine works, winter and emergency maintenance as well as renewal and improvement works. Each contract will also have a renewed focus on achievement of climate change and sustainability targets.

The world's first infrastructure trading platform

Estates and Infrastructure Exchange (EIX) is the world's first infrastructure trading platform to create a bridge between the billions of underinvested capital and the thousands of globally unfunded projects. EIX works with national governments, local government, landowners, universities, energy and transport companies to package and fund major development, regeneration and construction projects as bonds. The exchange matches these with professional investors, offering them the ability to buy and sell infrastructure bonds on a risk-adjusted basis.

<https://www.eix.global/>

Engineering UK: volunteering guide for employers and universities

Our volunteers support Engineering UK's work in many ways, from judging student projects and offering careers support, to delivering hands-on activities that help develop young people's interest in STEM subjects. Find out more about our volunteering programme and how employers and universities can get involved through our new volunteering guide and online information session (**20 September**).

<https://mailchi.mp/engineeringuk/volunteering-guide-for-employers-and-universities?e=30a06d80d7>

Environment Agency: £220 million coastal defence framework unveiled

The Environment Agency has put out a call for contractors to bid for a £220m marine and coastal flood (MCF) defence framework. Its Next Generation Supplier Arrangements are being set up to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of capital project delivery and asset management.

The new framework will develop an incentivisation mechanism, based on newly released NEC4 forms of contract, to encourage an integrated approach to delivering the capital programme outcomes.

Work will be split into two lots on the MCF, one covering major project work valued from £5m-£50m and the other smaller jobs worth less than £5m.

The lot for larger projects will account for a £185m pipeline of work over the four years, with the Environment Agency looking to appoint around five firms.

It aims to appoint around eight firms for the smaller project lot worth £35m over the four-year term, running from April 2019 to March 2023.

For details: <https://defra.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html>

Green light for bidding for Greenlink's £350m Ireland-Wales subsea interconnector

Firms are being invited to express an interest in bidding for construction of a 200km undersea electricity interconnector between the UK and Ireland. The £350m privately-financed infrastructure project is being developed by Greenlink Interconnector Limited, a subsidiary of Cork-based Element Power, and is due to commence construction in 2020.

Work packages include the design, construction and maintenance of the undersea and underground HVDC cable system as well as the design, construction and maintenance of converter stations in Wexford in Ireland, and Pembrokeshire in Wales.

The procurement process is being run by WSP on behalf of Greenlink Interconnector Limited. Interested firms should contact WSP by email before **12 October**: greenlink.procurement@wsp.com

For more details:

<https://ted.europa.eu/TED/notice/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:371269-2018:TEXT:EN:HTML>

Grosvenor to triple size of land business

Grosvenor has unveiled plans to triple the size of its strategic land business, with the company aiming to build 30,000 new homes in the next five years. The developer said it plans to identify "complex" parcels of brownfield and greenfield land able to facilitate 2,000 to 5,000-home developments, taking a master-developer role as it supports these schemes through the planning and design-and-build process.

UK rail industry puts forward post-Brexit customs proposal

The UK rail industry is calling for a network of new customs checkpoints across the country after the country leaves the EU, rather than relying on a single border checkpoint at the entrance to the Channel Tunnel. Rail currently accounts for a "significantly lower than envisaged" share of freight imports to the UK, and there is spare capacity through the Channel Tunnel for businesses that import goods from Europe, according to a new report commissioned by the Rail Delivery Group, which represents the UK's passenger and freight rail companies as well as Network Rail. The report recommends that the government legislate for the creation of a network of new railway customs areas across the UK, which would offer similar customs facilities as ports and airports.

https://www.raildeliverygroup.com/files/Publications/2018-08_international_rail_freight_brexit.pdf

ONS: UK government spent £18.9bn on infrastructure projects

The latest data shows the government spent £18.9bn on infrastructure projects in 2016 - accounting for 36% of total government investment in the year.

Figures published by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) identify that over 85% of the £18.9bn was on transport infrastructure with almost 40% of the investment funded by local government and the remainder coming from central government.

The 36% of total government investment spent on infrastructure calculated by researchers was up from 25% in 2010, while it has been estimated the market sector of the economy spent £10.3bn on infrastructure in 2016 - with £7bn invested via the energy industry.

Death of the Phoenix?

Directors who fold their firms to avoid paying workers and suppliers could face hefty fines or be banned from running a business for the first time. The government is to press ahead with new plans to tackle phoenixing of firms in an attempt to safeguard workers, pensions and small suppliers.

Under the shake-up, bosses will face investigation if they try to escape paying a dissolved company's debts to their own staff and creditors.

Network Rail seeks £4bn framework contractors in Wales and the West

Network Rail has started the hunt for contractors to deliver up to £4bn of infrastructure work across the west of England and Wales. The regional Control Period 6 (CP6) framework covers building and civil engineering work with provision for signalling, power and communications schemes.

Network Rail will be holding a supplier engagement event on **September 17** to outline opportunities and interested firms should email Christopher.james@networkrail.co.uk

The deal will be split into six lots - two in the Western region and four in Wales.

Highways England appoint WSP to design two smart motorways worth £2.6m

WSP has been appointed as the designer for two new smart motorway projects worth £2.6m which aim to improve capacity and connectivity in key corridor areas across the UK.

Highways England has awarded the two contracts to the engineering consultancy for work on the M62, junction 20 to 25, linking Yorkshire and Lancashire, and the A1 (M) junction 6 to 8 near Stevenage.

Both projects will include the design and delivery of new infrastructure to transform these sections of road into an All Lane Running Smart Motorways - permanently converting the hard shoulder into a running lane to add much needed additional capacity and supporting economic growth.

Stretching 31km through the Pennines, the four lane M62 smart motorway link will support the Northern Powerhouse agenda by providing improved east-west connectivity between major cities.

New 'employer toolkit' to support EU staff

The Home Office have launched an official 'employer toolkit' aimed at helping HR teams support their EU staff. Its purpose is to arm employers with practical information on how EU citizens will be able to apply for 'settled status'. This is so HR teams are better equipped to answer potential questions and directly help their EU employees over the next few years.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/eu-settlement-scheme-employer-toolkit>

Shale gas production projects in Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP) regime?

This early stage consultation is to determine which criteria would be appropriate to trigger inclusion of major shale gas production projects in the NSIP regime.

This consultation closes at 11:45pm on 25 October 2018

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/inclusion-of-shale-gas-production-projects-in-the-nationally-significant-infrastructure-project-nsip-regime>

Price rise for industry skills cards

The cost of skills card issued by the Construction Skills Certification Scheme rose to £36 from September. The 20% rise from the current rate of £30 is the first increase for eight years and applies to all cards administered directly by CSCS.

<https://www.cscs.uk.com/news/cscs-announce-price-rise/>

NEC4 Alliance Contract opens door to increased collaboration

The much-anticipated NEC4 Alliance Contract has now been published, allowing parties to construction projects to collaborate more closely and equally share in that project's risks and rewards. The Alliance Contract is the last outstanding piece from the fourth edition of standard form New Engineering Contracts produced by the Institution of Civil Engineers, following the publication of the rest of the NEC4 suite in June 2017.

<https://www.neccontract.com/NEC4-Products/NEC4-Contracts/NEC4-Alliance-Contract>

HS2 Economic Growth Conference 2018, 7 November 2018, Birmingham

<https://www.built-environment-networking.com/event/hs2-economic-growth-conference-2018/>

ORR PR18 period review in advance of CP6

The 2018 periodic review (PR18) is the process through which we determine what Network Rail should deliver in respect of its role in operating, maintaining and renewing its network in control period 6 and how the funding available should be best used to support this.

http://orr.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/27757/pr18-draft-determination-overview-june-2018.pdf

Construction Skills Network forecasts 2017-21 - Growing to meet the infrastructure challenge

<http://www.citb.co.uk/research/construction-skills-network/construction-growing-to-meet-the-infrastructure-challenge/>

B&CE seeks firms to join occupational health panel

B&CE are creating a simple digital occupational health scheme that helps to keep construction employers compliant, save time and money by giving fast-track access to comprehensive health surveillance and cost-effective management tools. We believe everyone has the right to a healthy future and we are working hard to bring this goal to life and our new occupational health scheme to market. As part of this development we are looking for companies both large and small who would be willing to become part of a feedback panel. Panel companies will work with us by sharing industry experience, sharing and informing the scheme by asking/answering questions around current ways of working relating to specific aspects of our proposition e.g. occupational health costs, user experience, etc. This is an opportunity for companies, particularly SMEs to become involved in the development of our occupational health solution. The time commitment for panel companies will be limited and will normally involve a number of telephone conversations as well as interaction via e mail.

For more details, please contact Andrew Percy: andrewpercy@bandce.co.uk

B&CE's new occupational health website: <https://bandce.co.uk/occupational-health/>

Chartered ICES newsletter

<http://mailshot.cices.org/Chartered%20ICES%20Newsletter%20JulAug18.html>

News from ACAS

New reference guidance:

<https://acasnational.cmail20.com/t/ViewEmail/r/9AD755A51AB845692540EF23F30FEDED/A6A70515E785D87F3FEC1D8A50AFD3BD>

North West - and the North

WSP engaged on next stage of Pennine tunnel project

The engineering consultancy has been appointed by Highways England to undertake a technical study to strengthen the strategic and economic argument for a package of transport schemes including a part-tunnel, part-surface route across the Pennines.

The Trans-Pennine Tunnel Study report will also assess the case for capacity improvements to adjacent sections of the strategic road network - as well as new strategic links to the east and west of the route. The tunnel was one of the projects included in Transport for the North's draft Strategic Transport Plan, which was published in late 2017 and went out to public consultation this year.

Regional cities top congestion table

Manchester suffers the worst traffic congestion of any English location outside London, according to the National Infrastructure Commission, with Liverpool close behind in second.

While cities dominate the upper end of the congestion league table, the highest location otherwise is Accrington & Rossendale, at 26th.

Chairman Sir John Armitt said that the fact cities hold the first 25 places of the whole league table demonstrates the clear need for major new investment in the UK's urban transport networks.

Corbyn pledges £10bn for Northern Powerhouse Rail

Jeremy Corbyn has reiterated Labour's pledge to commit at least £10bn to the proposed Northern Powerhouse Rail project. The Labour leader said building the route would go some way to rebalancing years of under investment in northern rail infrastructure.

Bradford to join West Yorkshire wide transport scheme

Next Tuesday Bradford Council's Executive will discuss plans to create a new long term strategy to combine the work of transport planners in the five authority areas that make up West Yorkshire. Under the plans, Leeds Council would run the West Yorkshire Urban Traffic Management Control Service from a base in Morley.

Plans for new multi-million-pound bridge to connect city centre revealed

Plans for a new bridge which would link Hull's Princes Dock to the marina have been revealed ahead of work commencing in October. It is one of two key projects being outlined as part of a multi-million-pound investment in Hull highways. The new bridge - Princes Quay Bridge - will link the marina with the southern end of Princes Dock to improve access and make it easier for pedestrians, cyclists and disabled users to cross the A63.

Merseytravel starts race for £250m consultants' framework

Merseytravel has started the search for a consultant team to deliver a wide range of services in a £250m framework covering disciplines such as engineering consultancy, public affairs, quantity surveying, architectural services, and planning. The framework is currently at the prior information notice stage and a suppliers' day will be held at Merseytravel's office at 1 Mann Island on **19 September** to gain feedback from potential bidders.

Cheshire East picks Ringway Jacobs for £600m highways deal

Ringway Jacobs has renewed a contract with Cheshire East to manage £5bn-worth of highways assets across the borough for the next 15 years, beating two other companies to the £600m deal.

The company has been responsible for managing Cheshire East's highways since 2011, and will continue to asset-manage the borough's roads for the next 15 years under the renewed contract.

Under the deal, the company will be responsible for 1,677 miles of roads; 1,100 miles of footways; 372 miles of cycleways; and other assets including street lighting, bridges, signage, and drainage.

Amazon's Haydock base set for planning consent

Two warehouses in Haydock totalling 900,000 sq ft, one of which is set to be for Amazon, could get under way this year after the project was recommended for approval by St Helens Council.

TfN Strategic Development Corridor briefings

Transport for the North have identified seven strategic development corridors across our region where we will identify multi-modal investment priorities in the short, medium and long term.

A series of briefings have been arranged, with one in Manchester on Wednesday 10 October, linked to a Highways England briefing on the Manchester North West Quadrant Strategic Road Study.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/transport-for-the-north-strategic-development-corridor-briefing-manchester-tickets-49279168319>

These corridors link important economic centres that are currently in need of improved connectivity, to enable transformational economic growth in the North between now and 2050. You can find out more about the corridors and the feasibility studies for them at:

<http://transportforthenorth.com/strategic-development-corridors/>

Cruise liner terminal secures £20m grant

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority has approved a grant of £20m from the Single Investment Fund to go towards the construction of the city's new cruise liner terminal. McLaughlin & Harvey was confirmed in March as main contractor to deliver the cruise liner terminal project, which is expected to take three years to complete.

Work starts on Blackpool highway plan

BWB Consulting has been appointed to carry out preliminary transport highway assessments as Blackpool Council begins the planning process for its proposed eastern access road and the remodelling of the adjacent Common Edge Road Playing Fields. The firm is tasked with traffic assessments including traffic counts at key junctions, providing initial concept designs for the road layout, and addressing any transport issues, including those around parking, walking and cycling, that might arise from future development. The eastern road is to provide a second access point to the Blackpool Airport Enterprise Zone and help to ease congestion during peak commuter hours in the immediate area and surrounding feeder routes to junction 4 of the M55.

OJEU notices for Yorkshire Water AMP 7 framework

Yorkshire Water is seeking firms to join a multi-supplier framework for a £1bn programme of civils and building work. The programme will cover work not delivered by its two Tier 1 partners in the Yorkshire Alliance integrated delivery team, which is presently out to tender for award in April 2019. The programme is being split into a complex civils framework, worth around £750m over the 2020-2025 AMP7 period, and a minor civil and building works framework expected to account for a pipeline of £290m. Yorkshire Water procurement bosses are aiming to shortlist around six firms to bid for the complex works framework and eight for the minor works race in September.

<https://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:354130-2018:TEXT:EN:HTML>

<https://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:354129-2018:TEXT:EN:HTML>

Contact Carla Gilley for more information: carly.gilley@yorkshirewater.co.uk

BCEGI to lead £1bn Bolton regeneration

Chinese contractor Beijing Construction and Engineering Group International is joining private investors backing plans for Bolton's ambitious £1bn town centre plan. The development is being led by a private consortium called Bolton Regeneration Limited, which is made up of the Department for International Trade, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority and is being led by Midia, an investment and development specialist. BCEGI is expected to confirm it is joining the consortium this autumn.

Balfour Beatty agrees North West highways umbrella company ban

Balfour Beatty has struck a deal with union Unite to ban the use of umbrella companies on a major highways contract in the North West of England. Balfour Beatty manages the Area 10 highways contract, which covers motorways and major roads in Merseyside, Cheshire, Lancashire and Greater Manchester. As part of the deal Balfour will also permanently employ any agency worker who has been on the project for at least three months.

TfGM opens survey on future plans

The online 'conversation' launched by Transport for Greater Manchester aims to generate feedback which will shape the draft City Centre Transport Strategy to be implemented from 2020. The survey, conducted by TfGM on behalf of Manchester City Council and Salford City Council, provides those who know the city best with an opportunity to tell transport planners what they think should be done to improve travel in the city for the coming decade. Future plans could include major infrastructure changes such as a transformed Piccadilly station ready for the arrival of HS2, as well as a possible Metrolink tunnel under the city and pedestrian areas.

<https://www.tfgm.com/your-city-centre>

Sellafield Trade Missions

Sellafield Ltd are organising a number of Trade Missions across the county to highlight the diverse capability of SMEs to Tier 2 buyers. If you are prepared to welcome potential clients to your premises, then they want to hear from you. They are looking for a wide variety of business sectors including construction and engineering companies.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/719876/SME_TRADE_MISSION_June_18.pdf

Manchester City Council launches £140m small works programme

Manchester City Council has started the search for contractors to deliver a four-year, £140m small works framework, covering projects across both Greater Manchester and the North West of up to £500,000 in value. Set to be procured across two lots - one covering projects up to £100,000, and the other for projects ranging between £100,000 and £500,000 - the framework will be for an initial three years, starting next year, with the option to extend for another year.

Projects under the framework cover a wide range of sectors and disciplines, including new-build construction, refurbishments, modular buildings, mechanical & electrical, and refurbishments.

https://ted.europa.eu/TED/notice/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:330843-2018:TEXT:EN:HTML&WT.mc_id=RSS-Feed&WT.rss_f=Construction+and+Real+Estate&WT.rss_a=330843-2018&WT.rss_ev=a

CITB takes to the road

CITB is taking a roadshow round the country, and is holding a full day conference in **Manchester on Thursday 11 October 2018**. Details of the conference and its content are here:

<http://elink-eu.azuread.com/m/a2a34093564b421a950da0307a510060/59678AF0/835743A9/082018n>

East Lancs railway extension back on the table

Network Rail is to draw up a feasibility study to extend the East Lancashire Heritage Railway from Heywood to Castleton, nearly 10 years after the proposals were first put forward. The proposals to extend the railway between Heywood and Castleton were first mooted by the East Lancashire Railway Trust in 2009, as part of a plan for the railway's future to 2020.

8th NDA Estate Supply Chain Event, 1 November 2018, Manchester

The biggest networking event in Europe for nuclear decommissioning

<https://decommsupplyevent.co.uk/>

Recruiting

Graduate opportunity

A CECA NW member and SME is seeking to recruit a civil engineering graduate (or possibly a QS graduate with civils experience). Most works will take place within the North West.

Interested parties should send CVs to Guy Lawson: guy.lawson@cecanw.co.uk

Tenders

North West Construction Hub Medium Value Framework

Expressions of interest close on 15/10/2018.

Contact: Neil Davies, Manchester City Council, Email: n.davies@manchester.gov.uk

Register via The Chest: <https://www.the-chest.org.uk/>

Permanent Way Track Renewals between Gateshead Tunnel Portals and Felling Station

Expressions of interest close on 19/09/2018.

Contact: Michael Fulcher, Nexus, Email: michael.fulcher@nexus.org.uk

Register via NEPO: <https://www.nepo.org/>

Chester-le-Street Flood Alleviation Scheme

Expressions of interest close on 24/09/2018.

Contact: Kelly Stewart, Durham County Council, Email: kstew@durham.gov.uk

Register via NEPO: <https://www.nepo.org/>

YORbuild2 and YORcivil2 frameworks - Meet the Buyer event, 26 October 2018, Rotherham

Expressions of interest close on 25/10/2018.

Contact: Derek Prest, Leeds City Council, Email: derek.prest@leeds.gov.uk

Register via YOR tender: <https://www.yortender.co.uk/>

North Lincolnshire Council - Construction & Highways Framework (Highways Civils works)

Expressions of interest close on 19/10/2018.

Contact: Nadine Byrne, North Lincolnshire Council, Email: nadine.byrne@northlincs.gov.uk

Register via YOR tender: <https://www.yortender.co.uk/>

Robin Hood's Bay Seawall Capital Maintenance Project

Expressions of interest close on 17/09/2018.

Contact: Robin Siddle, Scarborough Borough Council, Email: robin.siddle@scarborough.gov.uk

Register via YOR tender: <https://www.yortender.co.uk/>

Road Marking and Surfacing

Expressions of interest close on 09/10/2018.

Contact: Kath Johnson, YPO, Email: kath.johnson@ypo.co.uk

Register via YOR tender: <https://www.yortender.co.uk/>

Borehole Construction at Croft and Mountsorrel

Expressions of interest close on 28/09/2018.

Contact: Barbara Hunter, Leicestershire County Council, Email: simon.ip@leics.gov.uk

Register via East Mids tenders: <https://www.eastmidstenders.org/>

....and finally

Network Rail sells railway arches for £1.5bn

Network Rail is selling its commercial property portfolio in a deal that will raise £1.46bn and shore up the railway operator's finances. It said the proceeds of the sale to Blackstone Group and Telereal Trillium would help fund railway upgrades. But tenants of the 5,200 properties being sold, predominantly converted railway arches, have expressed concern. Campaign group, Guardians of the Arches, said they feared the sale would lead to higher rents for tenants.

<https://www.guardiansofthearches.org.uk/>

