



30 January 2019

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 - your contributions needed

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>

We will be producing a new video in 2019, so please send any video footage that you would be willing to let us include. Also, please send any case studies to appear in the annual flyer. Please see the attached which shows the format needed: <https://www.ceca.co.uk/ceca-north-west-flyer-2018/>

Three dates for your diary:

CECA North by NW Dinner, Penrith, Thursday 23 May 2019:

http://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event_id=138

CECA NW Annual Golf Day, Leigh Golf Club, Thursday 27 June 2019: events@falcongolf.co.uk

CECA NW annual awards dinner, Manchester, Friday 11 October 2019:

http://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event_id=136

What did CECA NW do over the last year?

- Arranged the Annual Awards dinner in October, attended by over 300 people. The awards went to: Project up to £1 million winner: CT Construction; Project between £1-5 million winner: PP O'Connor; Project over £5 million winner: A E Yates; Young Professional of the Year winner: Toby Hensman of Chartrange; Woman in Civil Engineering winner: Stephanie Curran of ACS; Collaborative Partnership winner: D Morgan; Social Value winner: Eric Wright; and Lifetime Achievement winner: Brian Goodacre of Harry Fairclough.
- Assisted the development of CECA North by NW to provide more activity for members north of Preston (including an inaugural dinner), and two half day seminars for CECA NW Foundations, the group for people new to the industry.
- Assisted six SME members with PQQs and tenders
- Arranged client liaison meetings with: West Cumbria Mining, Transport for Greater Manchester, Sellafield, Environment Agency, Homes England, Inovyn, Network Rail, Cumbria County Council and United Utilities.
- Arranged a Supply Chain Conference, focusing on rail.
- Arranged eight legal breakfast seminars, plus a half-day session on NEC4, and seminars on GDPR and HR & Taxation.
- Put on the Management Development Programme for engineers and supervisors in the NW.
- Produced the annual flyer, featuring the work of CECA NW members, plus a new careers video.
- Promoted a number of industry role models in the media to encourage young people to choose civil engineering.
- Lobbied for margins, fair payment, zero value frameworks, and all risk contracts to be treated as first priorities for CECA as a whole - with a Payment Summit due to take place later this year.

Working Rule Agreement

Hard copies or a pdf version 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.

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>

Training & Development

CECA NW 2019 legal and commercial seminars (free for CECA members)

Breakfast seminars: 8.30am - 10.30am

Payment update 5 March, Preston <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ceca-nw-seminar-payment-update-tickets-53681861894>

Collateral warranties 30 April, Warrington <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ceca-nw-breakfast-seminar-collateral-warranties-tickets-53682038422>

NEC compensation events 11 June, Penrith <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ceca-nw-breakfast-seminar-nec-compensation-events-tickets-53682207929>

Half day seminar: 9.00am - 12.30pm

NEC update - the changes between NEC3 and NEC4 26 February, Preston

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ceca-nw-half-day-seminar-nec-update-tickets-53682305220>

CECA Training & Development Survey 2018

Key messages from the CECA Training & Development Survey, carried out between May and October.

- The approach taken was both online and telephone survey. Now in its third year, the response rate is regrettably again lower in 2018 (56 responses compared to 70 in 2017).
- In total, 21% of CECA member companies responded to the survey, with over 15,000 employees represented (2017: 27,000). Year on year, members report static employment levels between 2016 and 2017.
- In part due to the Apprenticeship Levy, large firms are forecasting a significant increase in apprenticeship recruitment in 2018, with a corresponding decrease in the number of graduate roles.
- While CECA members continue to report that their ability to access affordable high-quality training locally is valued, feedback on CITB's grant reforms show high levels of frustration with the system, but more importantly, an actual or expected reduction in the level of grant members will be able to claim. This is very likely to lead to reduced levels of training activity, especially in hitherto high take up areas such as short duration seminars where reduced number of courses will be grant eligible. This year, 45% report not being able to find or claim for this type of course.

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/CECA-Training-Survey-Report-2018-1.pdf>

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. Please contact Gill to book your place at the next meeting: **31 January 2019**.

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>

CITB events explaining how to access CITB grant and funding: Civil Engineering

Thursday 28 March 2019 - Venue Salford-TBC. To book a place:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/grants-and-funding-civil-engineering-tickets-54646325631>

CITB Employer Update

<http://elink-eu.azure.send.com/m/023a3170cc3440b2b5de2b317aba2411/610813C4/A6E289F7/102018n>

Tackling the Construction Skills Gap in Lancashire - Employer Event - 5 February - 8am to 10am

Lancashire Employment & Skills Hub and CITB are interested in hearing from all construction employers in Lancashire about the skills issues they're currently facing.

Are you finding it difficult to recruit people with the right skills? Is it hard to find the right training course locally? Do you want to do work with schools but find it difficult to know where to start?

On Tuesday 5th February between 8am and 10am, the Tackling the Construction Skills Gap in Lancashire event wants to find out the answer to these and other questions that are holding back employers and their workforce. This is your opportunity to come and tell us what issues your business is facing and find out potential solutions, meet other construction businesses from across the county, and hear about the positive work that's already been started to reduce the skills gap. Breakfast will be provided.

You can find out more information and book your free place by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tackling-the-construction-skills-gap-in-lancashire-employer-group-tickets-54848947679>

Two Construction Skills Fund projects announced in Greater Manchester

CITB and the Department for Education recently announced the award of £1.4 million of Construction Skills Fund spend was allocated to two projects in GM. The projects are set to train 1,075 people in construction, 875 participants will be job ready at the end of the training. 45% of total learners will be from non-traditional backgrounds and 15% will come from other industries (where automation puts low skilled jobs at risk). The two projects are: Procure Plus and Growth Company.

Liverpool Construction Skills Fund project announced

A new skills hub for the development of onsite skills in Liverpool has been announced. The Hub is funded through the £20 million Construction Skills Fund. The Liverpool Waters Construction Hub, based on-site within the Contractors' Village, will provide a branded single shop front doorway for all contractors and sub-contractors on site. To read more about the successful project click here:

<https://www.citb.co.uk/funding/types-of-funding/structured-fund/construction-skills-fund/on-site-training-hub/>

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.

Policy & Industry Affairs

CECA: Combined Action Needed to Tackle Severe Skills Shortages

Leading construction bodies have called for united action between industry and Government to address skills pinch-points.

Nine industry federations and representative bodies have jointly called for collaboration to boost availability of occupations in greatest shortages including site supervisors, operatives and quantity surveyors.

The organisations - Association for Consultancy & Engineering, Build UK, Civil Engineering Contractors Association, Construction Plant-hire Association, Construction Products Association, Federation of Master Builders, Highways Term Maintenance Association, National Federation of Builders and the Chartered Institute of Building - want to see the industry work together to accelerate recruitment for 18 severe shortage roles in industry.

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/combined-action-needed-to-tackle-severe-skills-shortages/>

CECA: Data Protection & Brexit - Are You Prepared?

If your organisation shares personal data with organisations in the European Economic Area (EEA), you will need to take steps to ensure you continue to comply with data protection laws if the UK leaves the EU without a deal. For UK businesses that only share data within the UK, there will be no change.

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/data-protection-brexit-are-you-prepared/>

Network Rail: Alliances announced for Scotland and South of England

Network Rail has named its preferred alliances to deliver track and rail system renewals and improvements in Scotland and the South of England, worth an estimated £5bn. Colas Rail and AECOM will work with Network Rail across the south of England, while a three-way joint venture of Babcock Rail, Arup and Arcadis will deliver upgrades in Scotland. Deals are still subject to contract terms being finalised and agreed, with procurement currently operating a standstill period.

HS2: Back it, build it, benefit from it

“Back it, build it, benefit from it” - that is the message being sent to party leaders in an open letter signed by more than 40 business and civic leaders who are seeking commitment to the northern arm of HS2. The open letter organised by Midlands Connect, Midlands Engine, Northern Powerhouse Partnership and Core Cities UK calls for cross-party support to deliver HS2 in full, from the west Midlands to the east Midlands, Manchester and Leeds.

IfG Whitehall Monitor: Brexit uncertainty damaging infrastructure delivery with HS2 at risk

An annual review of government performance has identified how much Brexit is disrupting infrastructure delivery with 36% of major projects being assessed now either “in doubt” or “unachievable”.

A think tank that holds government to account has found that Whitehall’s role in delivering essential infrastructure projects has been undermined and severely hindered by the lack of clarity on what a post-Brexit UK looks like.

The Institute for Government (IfG) findings claim an “all-consuming” Brexit has distracted ministers from the delivery of public services and management of major projects with “no obvious improvement in the delivery confidence for 56 projects that have been in the portfolio since at least 2015”.

Alarmingly for the industry, the research shows that the percentage of infrastructure projects at risk has increased from 14% to 40% since 2016 with military and infrastructure projects accounting for all eight red-rated (most at risk) schemes in development.

https://www.instituteforgovernment.org.uk/sites/default/files/publications/Whitehall%20Monitor%202019%20WEB_0.pdf

RICS: Commercial and industrial activity stagnates

Growth in workloads within the commercial and industrial segments has come to a standstill for the first time in six years.

The latest RICS Construction and Infrastructure Market Survey points to a broad-based slowdown in the pace of output growth as political uncertainty takes its toll.

Results from the final quarter survey last year indicate workloads moderated across all sectors and geographic regions.

£20m fund available for future road ideas

Highways England is launching a £20m fund to develop new ideas on how future roads will be designed and maintained. Firms are invited to look at the impact of technological advances like low carbon, connected and autonomous vehicles on how the UK's transport network operates.

The competition opens on **11 February**. For more information and to apply:

<https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/303/overview>

UK Major Ports Group: Freight firms leaking £539m through congestion

Traffic jams and rail bottlenecks are costing the country's freight firms and ports upwards of £500m every year, while there is an urgent need for a "freight-first approach" to ensure a post-Brexit UK can continue to trade and transport goods easily, according to a new report.

Research commissioned by the UK Major Ports Group congestion has estimated traffic on key routes in the country obstructs the UK economy - amounting to 50,000 HGV hours wasted every day and three million tonnes of rail freight restricted annually.

The study claims that congestion could be eased by prioritising improvements on just 2.4% of England, Wales and Scotland's road network and seven major railways junctions.

Debbie Abrahams MP: late payment bill includes calls for project bank accounts

Debbie Abrahams MP has put forward a bill calling for payments on government and public authority contracts to be made through project bank account. The Public Sector Supply Chains (Project Bank Accounts) Bill will get its second reading in March.

<https://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/publicsectorsupplychainsprojectbankaccounts.html>

CP6 awards for Scotland and North East

Scotland and North East are operating two frameworks in CP6:

FRAMEWORK 1: RENEWALS AND ENHANCEMENTS

Lot 1: SNE - value £320m BAM Nuttall Limited

Lot 2: SCO - value £135m - awarded to Story Contracting

Lot 3: LNE - value £190m - awarded to AmcoGiffen (Amalgamated Construction Ltd)

FRAMEWORK 2: GEOTECH

Lot 1: LNE - value £47m Story Contracting

Lot 2: SCO - value £100m QTS

More than half a million potholes reported to councils in 2017

More than half a million potholes were reported by members of the public to local authorities in Britain for repair in 2017, an increase of 44% on two years earlier, according to data obtained by the RAC.

A freedom of information request made to the 212 councils in England, Scotland and Wales responsible for roads revealed that 512,270 potholes were reported last year to 161 authorities compared to 356,432 from 152 councils in 2015.

But when extrapolating the numbers to take account of the likely reports from the authorities who were unable to provide the RAC with data, the total is probably nearer 674,229 in 2017. The 2015 equivalent is 508,651 which represents a smaller increase of 33%.

English authorities, not including London, saw the worst rise in the number of pothole reports between 2015 and 2017 with a 55% jump from 269,486 to 417,881.

Construction fails to make LGBT ranking for 11th successive year

Not a single construction company has made the Stonewall top 100 LGBT+ inclusive employers for the 11th year in a row. The index measures workplace inclusivity for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people from across the public, private and charity sector and has been released on an annual basis since 2005.

Pagabo picks 46 firms for £1bn medium projects deal

Procurement specialist Pagabo has selected 46 firms for its new countrywide framework for projects ranging from £250,000 to £10m.

Running for three years with an expected spend of anywhere between £50m and £1bn, the medium works framework has been set up to be used by any public sector body including schools, NHS organisations, housing associations, leisure providers, libraries and museums.

The three-year framework has been split into value bands of £250,000-£1m, £1m-£5m and £5m-£10m.

<https://www.pagabo.co.uk/frameworks/national-framework-for-medium-construction-works>

Government misses own prompt payment target

The Cabinet Office has slowed its payment of invoices since June 2017 and has not hit its own prompt payment target for over a year. In 2015, the government pledged to pay 80 per cent of its invoices in five days and the remaining 20 per cent within 30 days. New data shows the Cabinet Office has not come close to meeting this target since June 2017 and the proportion being paid on time has been on a downward trend since then.

Gove launches landmark government blueprint for resources and waste

Businesses and manufacturers will pay the full cost of recycling or disposing of their packaging waste, under a major new government strategy unveiled by environment secretary Michael Gove.

The move will overhaul England's waste system, putting a legal onus on those responsible for producing damaging waste to take greater responsibility and foot the bill. The announcement forms part of the government's new Resources and Waste Strategy, the first comprehensive update in more than a decade. It will eliminate avoidable plastic waste and aims to leave the environment in a better state for future generations.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/resources-and-waste-strategy-for-england>

Safe use of forward tipping dumpers

Please find details of the current Construction Plant-hire Association consultation on forward tipping dumper guidance. A link for the guidance can be found at: www.cpa.uk.net/sfpgdumpers/

Doing business with Sellafield (LINC and CTM update)

LINC with Sellafield Ltd has now transitioned over to the CTM system. In order to qualify for LINC in CTM please either login with your existing details or if you are new to CTM register as a 'new supplier' and navigate to RFQ 10536 - LINC Qualification.

<https://sharedsystems.eu-supply.com/login.asp?B=SELLAFIELD>

New consultation on the draft NPS for Water Resources Infrastructure begins

Defra has published its consultation on the draft National Policy Statement (NPS) for Water Resources Infrastructure. The deadline for responses is **31 January 2019**. Defra has said that it is looking for views and responses on "whether the draft NPS provides an appropriate and effective framework for the examining authority (the Planning Inspectorate) and the Secretary of State to examine and make decisions on development consent order applications for nationally significant water resources infrastructure projects in England".

<https://consult.defra.gov.uk/water/draft-national-policy-statement/>

Homes England launches Strategic Plan 2018/19 - 2022/23

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/752686/Homes_England_Strategic_Plan_AW_REV_150dpi_REV.pdf

Skills and Training Fund - up to £10k grant for members with less than 100 employees

CITB established an annual fund of £3m to support small businesses with their training and development needs. Few CECA members have applied for this funding which is worth £10k a year to a business with 99 employees - there's a sliding scale. According to the records, more than half CECA members would be entitled to apply. The closing date is: **March 2019**. To be eligible for funding companies must:

- Have fewer than 100 PAYE staff
- Be up to date with CITB Levy payments and Levy Returns
- Be CITB registered

<https://www.citb.co.uk/funding/types-of-funding/skills-and-training/>

...and launches new £5m fund

CITB will welcome applications from organisations that work with one or more of these groups, to help them find work in construction:

- Young people not in education, training or work, particularly where existing networks are already in place
- Long-term unemployed
- Service Leavers who left the military at least 12 months ago
- Women wishing to join construction
- Full-time learners (focussed on CBE diploma students)

<http://elinkeu.clickdimensions.com/m/1/84168655/p1-b18302-5dc525a607fc4285a3030f4aecca751/1/99/e9e62d1f-0534-4dc5-83cc-83b9be75c79b>

News from CICES

<http://mailshot.cices.org/Chartered%20ICES%20Newsletter%20decjan19.html>

News from ACAS

<https://acasnational.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/r/52E1F735F9A46A722540EF23F30FEDED/57DA8B0B41948B5AB4B1B1F623478121>

and events:

<https://northwest.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/r/402745D28FC3E3512540EF23F30FEDED/E00B16ABEC30DA62942A2DF08F503B7C>

Lockton January H&S bulletin

<http://emailcc.com/rv/ff00465962baa6d1f9e9bc20c44eae76fa34ff0e>

North West - and the North

Specialist contractors chosen for £205m Area 10 works

Highways England has teamed up with 20 contractors to help improve journeys for road users in Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire and South Lancashire. The area 10 asset delivery framework covers 10 different specialisms of work and will run for four years. During this period the £205m work programme will cover a range of activities that include renewal work to roads and bridges, and improvement schemes. The new framework contractors will work alongside Amey which secured both the maintenance and response, and design services deals for the area.

Highways England will be working with successful contractors to ensure that they are mobilised and ready to begin delivering key services from April 2019.

Road Lighting and Electrical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ainsty Timber Marketing	Temporary Traffic Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carnell Support Services• Crown Highways• J McCann & Co (Nott'm)	Road Markings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Colas• Chevron Traffic Management• HW Martin (Traffic Management)
General Civil Engineering	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wilson & Scott (Highways)• L&R	Structures and Structural Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carnell Support Services• AE Yates• Interserve Construction	Roadlines	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Concrete Repairs• Taziker Industrial• Balvac
Technology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Road Restraint Systems & Fencing• Colas• Joe Rookcroft & Sons	Expansion Joints
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crown Highways• J McCann & Co (Nott'm)	Drainage	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Volkerlaser• Route One Infrastructure
Landscape & Ecology	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Carnell Support Services• AE Yates• Forkers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ground Control		

£24.5m Heywood link road out to bid

Rochdale Council has started prequalifying firms to build a 2.5km direct link between the M62 and South Heywood. The new link road will open the way for Russell Homes to build up to 1,000 houses and 1.5m sq ft of commercial space on green belt land in Greater Manchester.

The South Heywood Link Road will be built between junction 19 of the M62 and Pilsworth Road in Heywood, the site of an industrial estate. Please see tenders section for more details.

Expressions of interest need to be back by **20 February**. Contact Jamie Cooper by email at Rochdale Council: jamie.cooper@star-procurement.gov.uk

Metrolink tram-train expansion wins Government backing

The Government has signalled its support for the potential introduction of tram-trains to expand the Metrolink network, which could see services extending to Wilmslow, Marple, and Wigan, with more detailed proposals expected to come forward before the summer.

The expansion of the Metrolink to include tram-trains was mooted alongside the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework, released earlier this month.

The tram-train system, which is currently being tested for feasibility, would enable adapted Metrolink vehicles to run on the same rail lines as trains.

Manchester rebuffed over HS2 platform plan for Piccadilly station

Manchester is braced for a snub with the publication of a £41bn blueprint for spending on transport infrastructure in the north of England. While the city favours an underground HS2 platform at Piccadilly train station, Transport for the North (TfN), which brings together councils and central government agencies, privately opposes the plan.

Plan for £300m Lincolnshire power station

Plans have been submitted to build a £300m energy from waste power station in North East Lincolnshire. The proposed plant would be located next to the existing South Humber Bank power station near Stallingborough and produce electricity for around 500,000 homes. Developer EP UK Investments hopes to receive a planning decision by the end of March from North East Lincolnshire Council.

Strategy & Programme Director joins Transport for the North

Transport for the North has appointed an industry expert as its strategy and programme director. Jeremy Bloom is set to join the statutory body from Highways England, where for the last 13 years he has led network strategies, programme delivery and investment planning, most recently as network planning director.

Jake Berry: North could set own taxes as part of new government department for region

Plans for the North of England to set its own tax rates are being considered by the Government, according to reports. A proposed new department for the North would drive forward the region's transport, education and devolution agendas using funds generated by northern taxpayers, the Northern Powerhouse minister Jake Berry said, according to The Sunday Times.

£150m M6 smart motorway contract delayed

The start of a £150m smart motorway contract along the M6 has been delayed again. The smart motorway upgrade along a 16km stretch of motorway between Wigan and Warrington was originally due to get underway in October. Costain was awarded the deal for work between junctions 21a and 26 last June.

Chris Jackson of CECA NW to speak at Cumbria Event, 28 February 2019

For more details: <https://mailchi.mp/placenorthwest/lancashire-update-327721?e=8a4807ebf1>

Metrolink heads to Stalybridge and Middleton in 2040 expansion

Metrolink extensions to Stalybridge, Port Salford, and Middleton along with tram-train services to Wigan, Wilmslow, Hazel Grove, and Marple will all be considered within the next five years as part of Greater Manchester's wider transport strategy through to 2040.

Green light for £42m flood defence scheme

A £42m scheme designed to protect thousands of homes and businesses in Hull from flooding has been given the go-ahead. Led by the Environment Agency, the Humber Hull Frontage Improvement Scheme will upgrade tidal flood defences at eight locations along the estuary foreshore, including at St Andrew's Quay and Victoria Dock Village.

GMSF: consultation underway

The consultation into the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework is now open, after the 10 council leaders and Mayor Andy Burnham approved the rewritten statutory document at a Combined Authority meeting. The consultation will be open until **Monday 18 March**. You can give your views here: www.gmconsult.org

Plans lodged for high speed rail facility

The University of Leeds' plans for a new engineering and technology campus, including facilities specialising in high speed rail, have taken a step forward with plans lodged for the development. The campus would house the new £39m Institute for High Speed Rail and System Integration.

GMSF: Greater Manchester to complete 65 new transport projects in next five years

Andy Burnham, alongside deputy mayors Sir Richard Leese and Bev Hughes, and the leaders of Greater Manchester councils, set out a series of bold and far-reaching new housing and transport proposals. The host of leaders were in attendance to reveal Greater Manchester's Plan for Jobs, Homes and the Environment - the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF).

A central aim of the radically rewritten document is the bold vision of building a minimum of 201,000 new homes by 2037, mainly focused in Manchester, Salford, Trafford and Oldham, alongside 6.5m sq ft of employment space.

The plan focuses on making the most of Greater Manchester's brownfield sites, prioritising redevelopment of town centres and other sustainable locations. It will also help to address the housing crisis with a minimum target of 50,000 additional affordable homes - 30,000 of which will be social housing.

Elsewhere, the announcement also included more details on Greater Manchester's 2040 Transport Strategy Delivery Plan which sets out all the transport improvements to be implemented by 2025, as well as longer-term plans.

The transport plan identifies more than 65 projects that will be completed within the next five years, including: Metrolink's Trafford Park Line; the purchase of 27 new trams; an upgrade of Salford Central railway station; a £160m new walking and cycling infrastructure across all 10 districts; expanding the city-region's electric vehicle charging network; and new interchanges in Tameside and Stockport.

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/news/greater-manchester-leaders-reveal-bold-plans-for-city-region-s-future/>

Winners of £1.5bn North West Construction Hub high value framework announced

Projects: £35m+

- Balfour Beatty Construction
- BAM Construction
- Bouygues UK
- John Graham Construction
- Kier Construction
- VINCI Construction UK
- Wates Construction

Projects: £15m - £35m

- Balfour Beatty Construction
- Bouygues UK
- Bowmer and Kirkland
- Eric Wright Construction
- ISG Construction
- John Graham Construction
- Kier Construction
- Seddon Construction
- VINCI Construction UK

Projects: £8m - £15m

- Bowmer and Kirkland
- Conlon Construction
- Eric Wright Construction
- ISG Construction
- John Graham Construction
- Kier Construction
- Laing O'Rourke
- Seddon Construction
- Wates Construction

Tender date for A66 northern trans-Pennine dualling

Highways England is aiming to invite tenders for the A66 northern trans-Pennine dualling in October 2019. The agency set out its provisional timetable as it invited contractors to take part in market testing for the 50-mile strategic transport corridor between the M6 and A1(M) motorways. Single carriageways sections total 21 miles with plans to also enhance capacity at the junctions at Scotch Corner on the A1 and M6 J40 at Penrith. Consultant Arcadis is presently working up designs and economic and environmental assessments for the route. Costings have still not been finalised but the project is expected to come in at over £800m.

Summer start for £25m Carlisle flood defence plan

The Environment Agency has committed to start work next summer on improving flood defences in Carlisle. Detail of a flood risk management scheme for the town will be revealed in January with the Government having set aside £25m for the project. Since flooding in early December 2015 caused by storm Desmond, the Environment Agency has been exploring ways to protect the area in the future.

Northern Powerhouse Rail Survey

Please find a link to a survey, seeking the views of business on Northern Powerhouse Rail and the impact an improved rail infrastructure will have on your business now. The survey will inform a report that will be presented to the Secretary of State for Transport highlighting the urgent need for investment in our transport infrastructure in the North of England, with a view to launching a bespoke campaign 'We Back Northern Powerhouse Rail': <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/nprail>

Lancashire bypass clears planning hurdle

The building of a dual carriageway between Windy Harbour and Skippool near Poulton-le-Fylde has edged closer, after the Planning Inspectorate agreed to examine Highways England's plans. HE's £100m proposal, to bypass the existing A585, has been put forward as part of the Government's £15bn Road Investment Strategy. The Planning Inspectorate will now scrutinise the idea and invite formal public responses before letting the Secretary of State decide if the new road can be built. planning application to Manchester council for the building.

Department of Transport to invest £53m in North West roads

The Department of Transport have revealed that some £53m is set to be invested in the North West's roads, with Lancashire to receive the fourth-highest amount of funding per 1,000 people in the region. Following the announcement of the Budget, drivers and cyclists will be encouraged to see that the extra £53m from the DfT will be committed to road repairs across the North West counties of Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, Cheshire, and Lancashire, with the Roads Minister keen to "keep drivers and cyclists safe."

Jobs

Manchester contractor seeks Quantity Surveyor

Roles & responsibilities:

- Managing multiple projects at once including pre-tender involvement
- Assist with client accounts including applications for payment, invoices, variations and final accounts
- Implement weekly CVR and monthly management project reviews
- Administer sub-contract accounts including assessing liabilities, making payments, issuing notices and agreeing final accounts
- Ensuring that the financial aspects and impact of a contract are clear to management
- Providing detailed financial reports i.e. budget monitoring, cost & value
- Ensure the maintenance of auditable records relating to all relevant aspects of the company's operations, including those pertinent to specific projects
- Have clear responsibility for the management of all physical works
- Provide accurate progress reporting for site works
- Ensure the effective management of all projects under your control is carried out in accordance with client requirements, current legislation and industry standards.
- Performing risk and value management
- Identifying, analysing and developing responses including commercial risks
- Devise accurate, efficient commercial systems in a bid to support and improve current structure.
- Meet all deadlines in a proactive and forthcoming manner to include all internal weekly/monthly commercial reporting meetings.
- Weekly report meetings with senior management on current tenders, projects won to ensure an accurate project forecast is in place

Qualifications & experience required

Academic Qualifications Required:

- Relevant degree level qualification
- CSCS Competency
- Full UK Driving Licence

System Element Responsibility:

- Update relevant sections of management systems
- Ensure accurate and live commercial information/files/reports/software associated with the tasks outlined in this job description are in the management system

Experience Level(s) Required:

- Five years' experience in the performance of duties outlined within this job description
- Proficient in all Microsoft office excel, word, project
- Experience working in contracting commercial department

Interested parties should contact Guy Lawson in the first instance.

Work Experience

A 17 year old student, currently studying Architectural Engineering at Cronton College, is seeking work experience. His course includes an Industry Placement module on which requires him to complete 45-60 days of work experience, working Thursdays and Fridays every week. In his GCSEs, he achieved an A in Level 2 Design Engineer Construct and he is continuing with Level 3 as part of the course. He also achieved an A* in ICT. If you are able to offer a placement in the Halton, Warrington and Frodsham areas, please let me know.

Tenders

South Heywood - Junction 19 Improvements

Expressions of interest close on 20/02/2019.

Contact: Jamie Cooper, Rochdale MBC, Email: jamie.cooper@star-procurement.gov.uk

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

Wigan: Carriageway Resurfacing Works 2019/20

Expressions of interest close on 22/02/2019.

Contact: Dave Hibbert, Wigan Council, Email: d.hibbert@wigan.gov.uk

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

Oldham: Construction and Highways Works & Services Framework

Expressions of interest close on 27/02/2019.

Contact: Dan Cheetham, Oldham Council, Email: dan.cheetham@oldham.gov.uk

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

A562 Upper Parliament Street Improvement Works

Expressions of interest close on 04/02/2019.

Contact: Craig Garsed, Liverpool City Council, Email: craig.garsed@liverpool.gov.uk

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

Non-Strategic Road Repair Works Package

Expressions of interest close on 14/02/2019.

Contact: Craig Garsed, Liverpool City Council, Email: craig.garsed@liverpool.gov.uk

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

Leicester: Highway Maintenance and Construction Framework Contract

Expressions of interest close on 18/02/2019.

Contact: Jigna Dhorajia, Leicester City Council, Email: jigna.dhorajia@leicester.gov.uk

Register via EastMids Tenders: <https://www.eastmidstenders.org/>

....and finally

Diamond cutting machine can speed-up cable laying

A new diamond trenching method claims to boost the speed of cable laying by up to five times.

Specialist Nextec has developed the system in its domestic Swedish market and is now looking to launch in the UK. Its machine replaces a traditional microtrenching carbide cutting wheel with a diamond blade.

<http://www.nextecsystem.com/en/>