



20 March 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Foundations & CIHT Spring Social, Manchester, Thursday 21 March - free for members**  
6:30 pm - 9:30 pm, Flight Club, 98 King Street Manchester M2 4WU  
<https://www.ceca.co.uk/north-west/event/ciht-ceca-nw-foundations-spring-social/>

**Meeting with Sir Richard Leese, Leader of Manchester City Council, Tuesday 26 March**  
Guy Lawson, together with members of the NW Construction & Infrastructure Alliance, will meet Leader of Manchester City Council, Sir Richard Leese

**CECA NW AGM & Executive Committee meeting, Wednesday 3 April 2019**  
Daresbury Park Hotel, Warrington 08.30 for 09.00. All welcome, but please contact Guy Lawson to book your place.

**CECA NW Foundations 2019 programme**  
A meeting of the group for people new to the industry took place to plan the next events for the 2019 programme. Further details will be issued shortly. Anyone interested in getting involved should contact Guy Lawson.

**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 - all welcome (after dinner speaker is policeman turned stand-up comedian Alfie Moore, star of BBC Radio 4's 'A Fair Cop'):  
[http://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event\\_id=138](http://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event_id=138)  
CECA NW Annual Golf Day, Leigh Golf Club, Thursday 4 July 2019 (please note the change of date):  
E: [cecagolf@btinternet.com](mailto:cecagolf@btinternet.com) ; M: 07740 731445  
CECA NW annual awards dinner, Manchester, Friday 11 October 2019:  
[http://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event\\_id=136](http://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event_id=136)

**In planning....**  
CECA NW will be holding a meeting this spring for members on highways infrastructure opportunities in the region. Also, following the CECA Payment Summit, a northern summit is being planned for later in the year. Interested parties in either or both should contact Guy Lawson.

**Meetings with Greater Manchester Highways and STAR Procurement**  
Briefing notes are available from the meetings that took place with Greater Manchester Highways and STAR (Stockport, Tameside, Trafford & Rochdale) Procurement. Please contact Guy Lawson for details.

**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

Collateral warranties **23 April** (please note the change of date), 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>

### 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](mailto: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: **Thursday 28 March 2019**.

### 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>

### Mind the Gap employer event Manchester, 8 May, Central Library, Manchester

The Mind the Gap half-day employer event is planned to take place on 8th May Central Library approximately 9am - 12pm/1pm. DWP will also hold a job fair in the afternoon. For details, please contact Dominic Headley: [dominic@dominicheadleyassociates.co.uk](mailto:dominic@dominicheadleyassociates.co.uk)

### CECA NW - opportunity for Training Managers

David Parkes of Warrington-based Competence Matters is keen to meet CECA NW training managers to discuss the following:

- NVQ/SVQs Craft, supervisory & managerial level
- Funded Level 2 NVQs they offer across England
- The Competence Matters management portal for tracking candidates progress and how training managers/employers can benefit from this
- Training Courses and Competence Matters locations

If a meeting is of interest, please contact Guy Lawson.

### Quicker CSCS skills cards as applications move

The Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) is launching an online service to speed-up the card application process. The cards are used by most contractors and clients to provide proof that individuals working on construction sites have the required training and qualifications for the work they carry out.

[https://www.cscs.uk.com/about/faqs/?faq\\_category=977](https://www.cscs.uk.com/about/faqs/?faq_category=977)

### Constructing Greater Manchester Together

CITB & The Manchester Construction Skills Group will be holding a joint event (Constructing Greater Manchester Together) on Wednesday 3 April, from 8.30am to 11.30am. The event will be providing the local construction supply chain/SME's with information on business support, grants, funding, careers and insights into leading construction companies supply chain and what is expected of them.

This will be delivered by a five minute presentations from industry experts at each table and rotating around the tables until all tables have seen all presentations.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/constructing-greater-manchester-together-supporting-the-supply-chain-tickets-57491607947?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

### CITB Employer Update

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

## 2019 Inspiring Change Awards

Becoming a finalist or winner in the Inspiring Change Awards is a great way to raise your company profile as they highlight organisations that understand the broad scope of diversity, nurture a culture of fairness, inclusion, and respect, and have taken active steps to ensure equality of opportunity in the workplace and wider community. In 2019, Awards will be presented in the following categories:

- Inspiring Change in The Workplace
- Inspiring Change in The Community
- Inspiring Change in Education
- Inspiring Change: Project Award
- Inspiring Change: SME Award
- Inspiring Change: FIR Inspiration

The project award is in recognition that many of the entries come from projects rather than businesses and the FIR Inspiration Award is to recognise individuals who have initiated positive change.

The Awards are FREE to enter. Entries need to show how initiatives are aligned to company goals, made a sustainable and positive impact on the workforce or community in which it operates and have delivered positive results. The closing date for entry is **Friday 12 April 2019**.

This year the Awards ceremony will be incorporated into a one-day Inspiring Change Conference 2019. This will be held on **Tuesday 21 May 2019** at No 11 Cavendish Square, London W1G 0AN. The conference will bring together a range of inspirational speakers from diverse backgrounds, including politicians, industry stakeholders, and representatives from a range of sectors. The Award Ceremony is sponsored by CITB and the Awards will be sponsored by major clients and other stakeholders.

## 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](mailto:Tolu@supplychainschool.co.uk)

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

## CITB: Building After Brexit

The Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) has warned that the sector must act to avoid “widening the skills gap” in the face of Brexit in a report produced in collaboration with CECA and other industry bodies. The document, ‘Building After Brexit: An Action Plan’, calls for businesses to grow investment in domestic workers and drive up productivity.

<https://www.citb.co.uk/news-events/uk/2019/construction-sector-devises-plan-to-brace-for-brexit/>

## 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 Payment Summit, 5 June 2019

An early date for your diary - further details shortly.

#### Cabinet Office: Interserve subcontractors will get paid

The Parliamentary Secretary at the Cabinet Office has assured Interserve suppliers that they will get paid despite the contractor's pre-pack administration.

Oliver Dowden was speaking during a House of Commons debate on the Interserve situation.

Fellow MP Alex Chalk asked: "Can the Minister confirm that no subcontractors, whether in my constituency or elsewhere, have been adversely affected in this case?"

Dowden replied: "First, straight off the bat, I can give suppliers in his constituency that assurance.

"There is absolutely no change in the status of the credit rights of those suppliers who are providing services, as the operating companies remain unaffected; it is the ownership that has changed."

The pre-pack deal only saw the plc business collapse with the rest of the limited companies within the group - including construction - remaining solvent.

#### Balfour Beatty JV wins £1.5bn central railway alliance

A Balfour Beatty-led joint venture has been named preferred bidder for Network Rail's £1.5bn Central Track Alliance contract. Balfour Beatty has an 80% share in the ten-year alliance which will be responsible for the development, design and delivery of track renewals and crossings, as well as associated infrastructure works across the London North West, London North East and East Midland routes. Atkins has a 10% share and French railway specialist TSO hold a 10% share in the team.

#### Severn Trent reveals £2bn AMP7 award

Severn Trent has announced details of the first contractors it intends to use to deliver £2bn of construction projects in AMP7. The framework has been structured into four defined Lots.

- Capital Delivery Design and Build Frameworks (Lot 1)
- Three separate Capital Delivery Build Only Frameworks (Lot 2, 3 and 4)

The successful contractors for the first two lots are:

##### Lot 1

- Amey Utility Services Limited
- Costain Limited
- J. Murphy & Sons Limited
- Mott MacDonald Bentley Limited
- MWH Treatment Limited
- nmcn PLC
- VolkerStevin Limited & Atkins JV

##### Lot 2

- Barhale Limited & Doosan Enpure
- Coffey Construction Limited
- CPC Civils Limited
- Forkers Limited
- GEDA Construction Limited
- J.N. Bentley Limited
- Kier Integrated Services limited
- MWH Treatment Limited
- nmcn PLC
- VolkerStevin Limited

#### NIA: New consultation 'examines the future of infrastructure resilience'

The National Infrastructure Commission has published a new consultation that will inform the Commission's study into the "resilience of the UK's infrastructure network". See previous coverage in the DCO Bulletin. The consultation will close on **1 April 2019** and "help inform the development of a new framework to consider resilience across economic infrastructure, which will then be used during development of the next National Infrastructure Assessment". The Commission has said that it will also run workshops and meetings with relevant groups and organisations alongside the consultation.

The consultation will assist the Commission in gathering evidence on resilience priorities for the next National Infrastructure Assessment and on "issues emerging from sectoral interdependencies".

<https://www.nic.org.uk/news/new-consultation-examines-the-future-of-infrastructure-resilience/>

### **Ofgem sets out no-deal Brexit contingency plans**

Ofgem, has published an update on its contingency plans for how the EU's regulation on wholesale energy market integrity and transparency (REMIT) will apply if there is a no-deal Brexit.

[https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/system/files/docs/2019/03/ofgem\\_remit\\_communications\\_notice\\_update.pdf](https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/system/files/docs/2019/03/ofgem_remit_communications_notice_update.pdf)

### **Social value model developed for UK government procurements**

Potential social benefits that can be derived from UK government contracts will need to be considered by departments when they set criteria for the award of those contracts, under new proposals outlined by the government. The government's draft new social value delivery model sets out policy outcomes based on broad 'social value' themes that departments can strive for when developing award criteria for their contracts.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/social-value-in-government-procurement>

### **New £1.7bn London metro line in the offing?**

Deputy mayor of London for transport Heidi Alexander has revealed that Transport for London is considering introducing a £1.7bn metro line to serve south and south-east London. At the Transport Times Rail Summit, Ms Alexander said the metro line will operate out of London Bridge and London Victoria to ease congestion and journey times.

If implemented, the metro line will primarily target commuters working in south and south-east London who currently need to travel into central London to reach outer London locations.

### **The Silvertown Tunnel (Correction) Order 2019**

The Order was made on 21 February 2019. It amends the Silvertown Tunnel Order 2018 which authorises the construction of a "twin bore road tunnel" and a new connection between the A102 Blackwall Tunnel Approach on the Greenwich Peninsula and the Tidal Basin roundabout junction on the A1020 Lower Lea Crossing/Silvertown Way.

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/TR010021/TR010021-002295-180510%20Silvertown%20Tunnel%20Order%20-%20Final%20-%20Validated.pdf>

### **Chancellor's spring statement 2019 - what's in there for infrastructure?**

Borderlands Growth Deal - Up to £260 million for this innovative deal to strengthen the deep ties that bind these communities within the United Kingdom. On top of the £102 million announced recently for the **Carlisle Southern Link Road** from the Housing Infrastructure Fund, this means up to £362 million of UK government investment into the Borderlands area.

Transforming Cities Fund - £60 million of investment in 10 cities across England, from the fund announced at Budget 2017. This will fund 30 new schemes such as bus station upgrades, new cycle lanes and road improvements, supporting the wider programmes being delivered by city regions as part of the Industrial Strategy. None are in the North West.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/spring-statement-2019-written-ministerial-statement>

### **Plan to extend road repair guarantees to 5 years**

The Government has set out new plans to force utility reinstatement and pothole repair contractors to raise the guarantee on road repairs from two to five years. Under new plans to update the code of practice for reinstating a road after street works the Government will also introduce new asphalt standards to keep roads pothole-free for longer. Transport Secretary Chris Grayling has launched a consultation on increasing the guarantee on utility firms' roadworks, so that if a pothole forms as a result within five years, firms must return to bring the road surface back to normal.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/reinstating-a-road-after-street-works-new-edition-of-the-code-of-practice>

### **CITB Apprenticeship grants increase**

From 1 April 2019, CITB Attendance Grants will increase to £2,500 per year, to help employers with the costs of providing high-quality apprenticeships. CITB Achievement Grants will rise to £3,500 for employers whose apprentice successfully completes their training. This means construction employers can receive up to £14,500 for each apprentice they take on - an increase of over 30%.

<https://www.citb.co.uk/news-events/uk/2019/03/increase-in-grant-funding-for-apprenticeships/>

### **Experienced site workers to lose Grandfather Rights to CSCS cards**

The Construction Skills Certification Scheme (CSCS) has confirmed it will be phasing out the Grandfather Rights scheme from 2020 and abolishing it completely from 2024.

<https://www.cscs.uk.com/applying-for-cards/industry-accreditation-withdrawal/>

### **Highways England awards £2.8m charging point contracts**

Highways England has awarded a £2.8m contract to help people take longer journeys in electric vehicles. The roads body is committed to helping improve the nation's air quality and aims to ensure 95% of its motorways and major A roads are within 20 miles of a charge point.

As part of this commitment the company has awarded contracts to BP Chargemaster and Swarco UK, which will see more than 50 electric vehicle charging points being installed across the country within the next nine months.

### **Scottish Infrastructure Commission seeks industry input for 30-year plan**

As the Infrastructure Commission for Scotland (ICS) aims to develop a 30-year strategy for improvements across the country, the group is now calling for industry stakeholders to come forward and advise them on priorities for the future. Established by the Scottish Government to provide independent, informed advice on the vision and ambition needed to meet its future economic growth and societal needs, commissioners are now keen to hear views.

The infrastructure sectors about which the ICS is interested in gaining responses include - transport, energy, water, telecoms, digital and the internet as well as housing, education, health, justice, culture and tourism, waste management, flood prevention and public services such as emergency services and resilience. Under the new National Infrastructure Commission, Scottish ministers have committed to steadily increasing annual investment to £1.56 billion more in 2025-26 than in 2019-20, meaning more than £25bn in infrastructure investment through the next parliament.

<https://infrastructurecommission.scot/page/call-for-evidence%20>

### **CECA: Industry Letter to Theresa May: Avoid No-Deal Brexit**

CECA is a co-signatory of a letter to the Prime Minister, alongside the Association for Consultancy and Engineering, Build UK, The Construction Products Association, and the Federation of Master Builders, in which we call on the Prime Minister to ensure the Government and Parliamentarians "do their duty" and agree future trading arrangements with the European Union.

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/industry-letter-to-theresa-may-avoid-no-deal-brexit/>

### **£1.6 billion Stronger Towns Fund launched**

The Stronger Towns Fund will be targeted at places that have not shared in the proceeds of growth in the same way as more prosperous parts of the country. It will be used to create new jobs, help train local people and boost economic activity - with communities having a say on how the money is spent.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/16-billion-stronger-towns-fund-launched>

### **Reinstating a road after street works: new edition of the code of practice**

Consultation has begun on a new edition of the 'Specification for the reinstatement of openings in highways', a statutory code of practice for street works. It closes at 11:45pm on 6 May 2019.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/reinstating-a-road-after-street-works-new-edition-of-the-code-of-practice>

### **Network Rail to keep retentions ban after restructure**

Network Rail will retain its ban on retentions and enforcement of 28-day payments among suppliers after its restructure, the rail body has said. Chief executive Andrew Haines said that most contractors won't have to duplicate their work five times under the new structure. Last month the company announced that it was dividing up its operations into five regions with separate directors each having their own responsibility for aspects including infrastructure projects.

### **CITB forecast: 168,500 new jobs to be created over next 5 years (15,250 in the North West)**

A five-year forecast into the industry's skills needs published by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) has shortened expectations for growth with infrastructure predicted to grow by 1.9%, down from 3.1% in last year's forecast.

<https://www.citb.co.uk/research-insight/construction-skills-network/industry-insights/>

And for details of the North West forecast:

[https://www.citb.co.uk/documents/research/csn\\_reports\\_2019-2023/csk-csn-info-nwest\\_lo\\_crop.pdf](https://www.citb.co.uk/documents/research/csn_reports_2019-2023/csk-csn-info-nwest_lo_crop.pdf)

### **Government seeking views on English light rail potential**

New tramways and other light rail systems could improve journey times in English towns and cities, while also offering a boost to UK manufacturing, the government has suggested.

It has opened a new call for evidence on how light rail transit (LRT) and other rapid transport systems could be incorporated into the urban transport networks of the future. It is also seeking views on what support would be needed to construct these systems in the UK.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/light-rail-and-other-rapid-transit-solutions-in-cities-and-towns-call-for-evidence>

### **International Women in Engineering Day (#INWED19), 23 June 2019**

The global awareness campaign, coordinated by the Women's Engineering Society (WES), aims to increase the profile of women in engineering worldwide and focus attention on the career opportunities available to girls in engineering and related industries. In 2019, WES's own centenary year, INWED will aim to inspire even greater participation across the globe, both online and through physical activities, by individuals, schools, colleges, groups and organisations. The theme will be supported by the hashtags #INWED19 and #TransformTheFuture. For more information: <http://www.inwed.org.uk/>

### **NIC issues call for evidence on utilities regulation**

The National Infrastructure Commission (NIC) is seeking views on how the current utilities regulation system is working and what future changes may be required to ensure regulation supports investment and innovation while at the same time keeping costs down for consumers. The regulation study is expected to examine the future changes that may affect the regulated sectors; whether the current regulatory model encourages sufficient competition and innovation; whether there is regulatory consistency between the sectors, and the relationship between regulators and the government.

The deadline for responses is **Friday 12 April**.

<https://www.nic.org.uk/publications/future-of-regulation-study-call-for-evidence/>

### **Scotland halves project bank account threshold**

The Scottish Government has paved the way for a dramatic increase in the use of project bank accounts by slashing the project value threshold in half. From **19 March**, public bodies must include a PBA in tender documents for public works building contracts worth £2m and over and civil engineering projects worth £5m upwards.



### **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/>

### **£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 is now open. Registration closes: **Wednesday 1 May 2019**

For more information and to apply:

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

### **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/sfpsgdumpers/](http://www.cpa.uk.net/sfpsgdumpers/)

### **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>

### **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>

### **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](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/752686/Homes_England_Strategic_Plan_AW_REV_150dpi_REV.pdf)

### **Chartered ICES newsletter**

<http://mailshot.cices.org/Chartered%20ICES%20newsletter%20feb19.html>

### **Lockton Health & Safety bulletin, February 2019**

<http://emailcc.com/rv/ff00473eb6971783bb5a88f9c245b45eba97f044>

### **News from ACAS**

<https://northwest.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/r/76E71C711BE0293D2540EF23F30FEDED/E749B28C19AE70012C69F821C9DCC086>

## North West - and the North

### Notice of preliminary meeting on A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool Improvement Scheme

A 'Rule 6' letter published by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) indicates that a preliminary meeting will take place on **9 April 2019**, marking the start of the examination into Highways England's A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool Improvement Scheme for "up to 5km of new two lane dual carriageway road connecting Windy Harbour Junction to Skippool Junction". Gareth Symons has been appointed as a single lead examiner. The Rule 6 letter sets out Gareth Symons initial assessment of the principal issues to consider, his procedural decisions and the draft examination timetable which is scheduled to close on 9 October 2019. HE's £100m proposal, to bypass the existing A585, has been put forward as part of the Government's £15bn Road Investment Strategy.

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-west/a585-windy-harbour-to-skipool-improvement-scheme/>

### Morgan Sindall wins 20-year Sellafield civils deal

Morgan Sindall is among four teams selected as preferred bidders for a 20-year partnership set to revolutionise project delivery at Sellafield. The new Programme and Project Partners model will establish long-term relationships to deliver the site's decommissioning programme more safely, efficiently and cost effectively. This will consist of a complex portfolio of construction projects, stretching over many decades with an estimated spend of £4.5bn. Instead of procuring supply chains for each major project, Sellafield's in-house team will now work collaboratively with its four partners.

#### *Preferred bidders for Sellafield decommissioning*

- Integration - Kellogg Brown and Root (est value £750m)
- Design and Engineering - Wood Nuclear (est value £750m)
- Civils Construction Management - Morgan Sindall Construction and Infrastructure (est value £1.5bn)
- Process Construction Management - Doosan Babcock (est value £1.5bn)

The selected firms will work together to deliver three initial major projects. The SPRS Retreatment Plant, SIXEP Contingency Plant and Replacement Analytical Project, together estimated at £1bn - £1.7bn). Further major projects in the pipeline still need more detailed project definition and are valued at £1.9bn-2.8bn.

### IPPR report: Quick wins for the North's transport network

£400m funding boost can deliver six "quick win" northern transport projects:

The six projects identified by the think tank which could start as early as 2020:

- Reopen the Ashington Blyth and Tyne railway for passenger services, which could boost the economy by £70 million a year.
- Build the Leeds Bradford Airport Parkway rail station, expanding Yorkshire's internal and international connectivity.
- Support the development of hydrogen trains which could regenerate Tees Valley and Merseyside.
- Intervene in the Tees Valley's rail network to unblock the passenger and freight networks.
- Implement new traffic management technology to improve air quality in the North.
- Build a new bridge across the River Tees to allow the economy to reach its potential, having a wider impact on the north.

<https://www.ippr.org/research/publications/quick-wins-for-the-north-s-transport-network>

### Construction Awards North West

Please find details of the Construction Awards NW - let's have the winning entry from a civil engineering contractor this year! The deadline for submissions is 5.00pm on **Friday 29 March 2019**.

<http://www.constructionawardsnw.co.uk/apply.php>

### **Woodhouse Colliery Planning Application approved**

Cumbria County Council (CCC) has formally granted planning approval to West Cumbria Mining (WCM) to develop its Metallurgical Coal Project, which will be known as Woodhouse Colliery - a new underground mine, located on a brownfield site, to the south west of Whitehaven in West Cumbria.

The plans cover mineral extraction over 50 years over a 689-acre site running to and beyond the St Bees coast. The £165m project includes associated development such as the refurbishment of two existing drifts leading to two new underground drifts; coal storage and processing buildings; office and change building, an access road, ventilation, power and water infrastructure and landscaping.

There is also provision for a coal loading facility and railway sidings linked to the Cumbrian Coast railway line with adjoining office and welfare facilities, along with the extension of railway underpass and permanent access on land off Mirehouse Road, Pow Beck Valley. The intention is for coal to be moved entirely by rail to UK steel making and port destinations.

<https://www.westcumbriamining.com/local-news/woodhouse-coliery-planning-application-press-statement/>

### **Trafford set to approve £2.6m cycling spend**

A £2.6m cycling and walking improvement package for a route between Urmston and Sale Water Park will go before Trafford Council's executive with a recommendation for approval.

The plans, which are being managed by One Trafford - the council's partnership with Amey - will build on existing infrastructure, upgrading cycling facilities near the M60 and linking Urmston and Sale Water Park to the Mersey Valley Visitors Centre and Jackson's Boat Bridge.

The proposed route will run between Trafford and Manchester and incorporates Jackson's Boat Bridge, which connects the two boroughs over the river Mersey.

### **.... and approval for Sale town centre overhaul**

Maloneview's proposals for the £67m redevelopment of Sale's The Square shopping centre, including a cinema, leisure space, a multi-storey car park, and 202 homes have been given the go-ahead in line with officer recommendation.

### **Sisk on board for Isle of Man ferry terminal**

Sisk has been picked for a £20m contract for Liverpool's Isle of Man ferry terminal at Princes Half Tide Dock with construction due to get under way in July.

### **Manchester Airports Group £700m framework announced**

MAG Group Major Capital Works Framework	Lot 2b: South £3m-£10m
<i>Civil Construction Works (region and project value)</i>	Lot 2c: North over £10m
Lot 1a: North £3m-£10m	Lot 2d: South over £10m
Lot 1b: South £3m-£10m	<i>Refurbishment Works</i>
Lot 1c: North over £10m	Lot 3a: North £3m-£10m
Lot 1d: South over £10m	Lot 3b: South £3m-£10m
<i>New Build and Fit Out Construction Works</i>	Lot 3c: North over £10m
Lot 2a: North £3m-£10m	Lot 3d: South over £10m

The deadline is 5 April to register an interest in bidding:

<https://esourcing.waxdigital.co.uk/MAG/DisplayModules/TradeModules/Negotiations/Opportunities/ViewOpportunityEvent.aspx?EventID=1363&Culture=en-GB>

### **£6bn plan for Liverpool Lime Street station**

Liverpool is setting up a Station Commission to oversee delivery of a planned new £6bn station in the city centre connecting to HS2 and the Northern Powerhouse Rail network.

<https://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/steve-rotheram-announces-commission-to-deliver-new-station-for-liverpool-city-centre/>

### **Consultation on major A1 highways scheme**

Highways England is consulting on the proposed 'A1 Northumberland, Alnwick to Ellingham' scheme following previous consultations in 2016 and the announcement of a "preferred route" in 2017. The current consultation will close on **8 April 2019**.

The scheme, as it meets the thresholds for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 regime, will require development consent. According to the Planning Inspectorate's (PINS) website, a formal application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) is expected in Q4 2019. The highways improvement scheme would see, if granted development consent by the Secretary of State for Transport, approximately "8km of online widening between the single carriageway north of Denwick and the dual carriageway south of North Charlton". The road would be upgraded to a dual carriageway and there would be improvements to Charlton Mires Junction.

[https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/a2e/consult\\_view/](https://highwaysengland.citizenspace.com/he/a2e/consult_view/)

### **United Utilities opens starting blocks for £750m Manchester and Pennines Resilience scheme**

United Utilities has kicked off the procurement process for its major £750 million-plus Manchester and Pennines Resilience scheme with the announcement of an Early Contractor Involvement requirement to support project development. The water company is proposing to use the direct procurement model to deliver replacement tunnels in AMP7 and 8 for the Haweswater Aqueduct to ensure the resilience of potable water supplies to populations in Manchester and the Pennines.

United Utilities is expecting to publish a formal contract notice next month.

<https://www.waterbriefing.org/home/contracts/item/15915-united-utilities-opens-starting-blocks-for-%C2%A3750m-manchester-and-pennines-resilience-scheme>

### **Bradford launches strategy to capitalise on high speed rail**

A new strategy has been launched setting out the economic and social benefits of bringing Northern Powerhouse Rail to Bradford city centre. Bradford Council has released its Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) Growth Strategy at the MIPIM property conference.

<https://www.bradford.gov.uk/browse-all-news/press-releases/bradford-launches-bold-northern-powerhouse-rail-growth-strategy-to-grasp-opportunities-of-high-speed-rail/>

### **A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project**

The presentation from the Supplier Day in February is available upon request as it is a huge file.

### **Trafford Tories add to GMSF pressure**

A motion has been submitted by the local authority's Conservative group ahead of Trafford Council's meeting next week asking leader Andrew Western to pressure the Greater Manchester leadership over its proposed spatial framework. The motion features prominently the release of green belt sites in the borough, ultimately concluding that Trafford should be prepared to pursue its own Local Plan outside of the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework.

### **Rail partnership with Drax Power Station**

A project which built specially-designed freight wagons to carry millions of tonnes of biomass a year to the UK's biggest power station and breathed new life into a disused rail yard has won another prestigious industry award and is exploring opportunities for growth.

The partnership between Drax Power Station, near Selby, in North Yorkshire and Davis Wagon Services saw a new fleet of freight wagons designed and built by WH Davis Ltd to deliver the biomass needed to produce renewable electricity for millions of homes.

<https://www.drycargomag.com/new-opportunities-created-by-multi-award-winning-power-station-rail-project>

### **Cuadrilla mobilises at Preston New Road**

The shale gas exploration company has remobilised a range of equipment at its flagship Lancashire fracking site. The specialist kit is designed to get two existing wells ready for further hydraulic fracturing later this year. At this stage the equipment being mobilised does not include hydraulic fracturing pumps. Cuadrilla said that forecasts using flow test results from Preston New Road, near Blackpool, in January 2019 have clearly identified the size of the opportunity for the UK. The company announced the start of a three-month programme of fracking to assess the site's viability in October.

### **Peel plans in for £150m renewable energy plant**

Peel Environmental has signed a deal with Progressive Energy to deliver a £150m bio-substitute natural gas plant at the 134-acre Protos energy park near Ellesmere Port.

The plant will generate renewable gas from up to 175,000 tonnes of bio-resources, including unrecyclable wood and refuse derived fuel. This gas will be used in the transport sector, generating enough gas to power up to 1,000 low carbon HGVs and buses every year.

A planning application has been submitted by Peel and Progressive Energy. The plant will also be configured in the future to produce renewable hydrogen, potentially linking into Cadent's plans to build a hydrogen network in the region as part of its HyNet project.

Subject to planning approval and funding, Progressive Energy's plant is due to start production in 2022. It is expected that a further eight similar facilities could be built across the UK during the 2020s.

### **A19 Downhill Lane Junction Improvement scheme accepted for examination**

Highways England's A19 Downhill Lane Junction Improvement scheme has been accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). The improvement scheme is to "significantly enhance the capacity of the junction between the A19 and A1290 in Sunderland/South Tyneside". The proposals include the construction of a new bridge to the south of the existing A1290 bridge which together with the existing bridge would result in a more traditional roundabout layout and new slip roads to connect the A19 to the south. To the north, link roads would link into the proposed Testos junction Improvement.

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/programmes/a19-testos-and-downhill-lane-junction-improvements/>

### **Heathrow Business Summit: North West, Blackburn - 23 May**

The Heathrow Business Summits provide a great platform for SMEs to get a foot in the door and capitalise on the business opportunities available at Heathrow. Promote your business to Heathrow's supply chain through face-to-face appointments on the day. Meet and network with other businesses visiting the event. Meet and network with exhibitor partners including chambers of commerce, business organisations and the Department for International Trade.

To register: [heathrowbusinesssummits.admin@prospects.co.uk](mailto:heathrowbusinesssummits.admin@prospects.co.uk)

Tel: 01823 362800

### **Plans in for £150m Church Wharf, Bolton**

Muse Developments and architect AEW have submitted a hybrid application for the £150m Church Wharf in Bolton, asking for full consent to start demolition and delivering infrastructure, as well as outline permission for later phases including 350 homes and 130,000 sq ft of offices and leisure.

### **Plan for £250m new Tees Crossing**

Plans for a £250m new Tees Crossing to ease congestion of the A19 Tees Viaduct have gone out to public consultation. Two options are being considered with the most likely involving building a new two-lane bridge parallel to the existing A19 viaduct. This would carry traffic travelling northbound while the existing viaduct would be widened to allow for an extra lane of southbound traffic.

Known as the Tees Viaduct Capacity Enhancement Option this has been budgeted to cost £200m-£250m.

The Tees Valley Combined Authority is also looking at alternative plans to construct a larger four-lane bridge parallel to the existing A19 viaduct for north and southbound traffic. This new Tees Viaduct Option would cost more than £300m.

### **£200m biomass plant with enough energy to power Preston**

Major plans could see a £200m green energy plant with the potential to power the whole of Preston. Developers say it will burn largely biomass waste generating low carbon electricity which could be sold cheaply to local businesses.

<https://www.lep.co.uk/news/business/the-200m-biomass-plant-with-enough-energy-to-power-preston-1-9605016>

### **Proposed roads and rail link for Leeds Bradford Airport**

Transport improvements for Leeds Bradford Airport have been unveiled as Leeds City Council launch a public consultation for the people of Yorkshire to have their say on. As part of the plans, three options to better road links to the airport have been published along with a parkway railway station on the Leeds to Harrogate line.

Located on the Bradford and Leeds boundary, the airport is the primary airport for Yorkshire and is one of the UK's fastest growing airports with staff having to cater for over four million passengers last year - an increase of nearly 13% in just 12 months.

With the Department for Transport (DfT) estimating this may increase to 7.1 million by 2030 and to approximately nine million passengers a year by 2050, the council is keen to reduce congestion for people travelling there.

The parkway element of the proposals would see a new station built on the existing Leeds to Harrogate line, with a short connecting spur road to give access the airport. The station would be connected to a 350-space car park and a bus interchange.

Options for road improvements include two proposed routes for a bypass created from the A65. The release of the latest details form part of a phase of public consultation which runs until **Friday 12 April**.

### **WYG to prepare Chorley transport strategy**

Chorley Council has appointed WYG to draw up a rethink of the borough's highways and transport strategy. WYG's brief is to address challenges around the region's congestion, travel choice, and sustainability. The impact of the upcoming Central Lancashire Local Plan, set to create a large number of new homes and employment land opportunities across the region, will also be considered.

Among the options to be explored are future schemes which could provide additional capacity and connectivity in the borough's transport network.

These include investigating the links between the M6, M61, and M65, along with local road networks, and the five train stations in the borough at Chorley, Euxton Balshaw Lane, Buckshaw Parkway, Adlington, and Croston.

### **Cumbria stations set for series of upgrades**

Railway stations on the Cumbrian coast, Lakes and Furness lines will be improved this year as part of a £15m benefits package for passengers in the North. Between now and the spring, £1.2m of upgrades will be carried out at Workington, Whitehaven, Sellafield, Barrow-in-Furness, Burneside, Staveley and Windermere stations. These will include better seating and waiting areas, revamped toilet facilities and new customer information screens.

### **Consultation launched on Crewe HS2 hub**

Cheshire East Council has opened its six-week consultation on the development around Crewe station that could be brought about by the arrival of HS2. The draft plans for C-SHAAP, the Crewe Station Hub Area Action Plan, set out an emerging development strategy and key policies that will allow the council to set a framework to manage development. The consultation is open for six-weeks, ending at midnight on **26 March 2019**.

<https://cheshireeast-consult.objective.co.uk/portal/planning/cs/crewe/chsds?tab=info>

### **Water Industry Event - Twenty65 Conference 2019, Manchester 26 - 27 March**

The Twenty65 2019 Conference takes place at the Hilton Deansgate Hotel, Manchester on 26th & 27th March. Register for attendance, or specialist one-on-one meetings to talk about stage early innovation projects: <https://twenty65.ac.uk/annual-conference>

### **Rivington Chase link road to unlock £262m development site**

Proposals for a £12m link road to serve the wider £262m Rivington Chase development, featuring 1,700 homes, have moved forward with a planning application due to go to Bolton Council in the coming weeks. The road is due to link the 187-acre site, formerly home to the Horwich Loco Works, to the Middlebrook Retail Park, Horwich Parkway railway station, and Junction 6 of the M61.

Funded by a national Government grant, the plans for the road will be submitted this month to help enable further development at Rivington Chase, which has outline consent for 1,700 houses along with retail and leisure development. This was given the go-ahead in September 2015.

### **Plans in for Workington rugby and football stadium**

Plans to build a new stadium in Workington for the rugby league and football club have advanced with the submission of plans to Allerdale Borough Council. The 8,000-seat stadium plan has been drawn up by architect Holmes Miller and Icen Projects on behalf of the council. Work has also been provided by specialist firms Aecom and Gleeds. While a project value has not been released the stadium is expected to cost £15m-£20m to build.

### **Transport for Greater Manchester's Transport Strategy 2040 (delivery 2020-2025)**

Key priorities are: tackling climate change, creating a thriving economy, and supporting 'world-class connectivity that keeps Greater Manchester moving'. The Greater Manchester Strategy is supported by this 2040 Transport Strategy Delivery Plan (2020-2025) which contains a strong commitment to providing a transport system which: supports sustainable economic growth and tackles congestion; improves the quality of life for all by being integrated, affordable and reliable; protects our environment and improves air quality, and capitalises on new technology and innovation.

[https://assets.ctfassets.net/nv7y93idf4jq/5M1Wlyfjj2giEsaUy00yaG/c9c1665385b04d9490e5908ad01e860d/190104\\_Draft\\_Delivery\\_Plan\\_2020-2025\\_.pdf](https://assets.ctfassets.net/nv7y93idf4jq/5M1Wlyfjj2giEsaUy00yaG/c9c1665385b04d9490e5908ad01e860d/190104_Draft_Delivery_Plan_2020-2025_.pdf)

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

## Tenders

Stoke: Capital Highways Works Multiple Lots Framework

Expressions of interest close on 18/04/2019.

Contact: Debbie Cramphorn, Stoke on Trent City Council, Email: [debbie.cramphorn@stoke.gov.uk](mailto:debbie.cramphorn@stoke.gov.uk)

Leicestershire: Highways Minor Works Top Up 2019

Expressions of interest close on 26/04/2019.

Contact: Devun Mason, Leicestershire County Council, Email: [devun.mason@leics.gov.uk](mailto:devun.mason@leics.gov.uk)

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

South Heywood - Junction 19 Improvements

Expressions of interest close on 20/03/2019.

Contact: Jamie Cooper, Rochdale MBC, Email: [jamie.cooper@star-procurement.gov.uk](mailto:jamie.cooper@star-procurement.gov.uk)

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

Artificial Turf Pitch Extension and Resurface

Expressions of interest close on 22/03/2019.

Contact: Chloe Baker, Wigan Council, Email: [Chloe.Baker@wigan.gov.uk](mailto:Chloe.Baker@wigan.gov.uk)

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

Durham: Framework Agreement for Civil Engineering Work from £50-500k

Expressions of interest close on 01/04/2019.

Contact: Richard Carroll, Durham County Council, Email: [richard.carroll@durham.gov.uk](mailto:richard.carroll@durham.gov.uk)

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

Little Don Bridleway Trail - Langsett to Underbank

Expressions of interest close on 20/03/2019.

Contact: Yvette Everitt, Barnsley MBC, Email: [YvetteEveritt@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:YvetteEveritt@barnsley.gov.uk)

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

## ....and finally

### **HS2: High-speed train recycled heat can power 500 new homes**

Engineers developing the HS2 super-hub at Old Oak Common believe they can provide energy for up to 500 London homes by recycling heat from the brakes and engines of high-speed trains.

HS2 Ltd say by using five air source heat pumps, engineers could draw warm air from the railway's tunnels into a local District Heating System, instead of it being extracted by traditional ventilation systems that seeps into the ground surrounding the tunnels.

The organisation believe that this innovative mechanism would enable hot water power and central heating for up to 500 new homes that could be built nearby.

Based on current energy price forecasts, HS2 estimates that the investment waste heat recycling system would pay for itself after just four years.