



5 June 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](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.

## **Inspiring Change Awards 2019**

Congratulations to CPUK Civils & Remediation, winner of the SME Award for their initiative to support ex-offenders into the industry (they are the second NW SME to win the award in consecutive years), and to all the other worthy winners. To find out more about the initiative: <https://www.ceca.co.uk/ex-offenders-initiative-2019/>

## **CECA NW SME meeting**

CECA NW hosted a meeting for SME members on 4 June, covering a range of issues from payment terms to work placements and apprenticeships. Notes of the meeting are available from me.

## **CECA NW Executive Committee, Wednesday 12 June 2019**

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

## **CECA NW/ICES Annual Golf Day, Leigh Golf Club, Thursday 4 July 2019 (please note change of date)**

Web: <https://www.ceca.co.uk/ceca-nw-ices-golf-day-4-july-2019/>

E: [cecagolf@btinternet.com](mailto:cecagolf@btinternet.com) ; M: 07740 731445

## **Construction Minister to be Guest of Honour at CECA NW annual awards dinner**

### **Midland Hotel, Manchester, Friday 11 October 2019**

We are delighted to report that Andrew Stephenson MP will be attending the CECA NW annual awards dinner as guest of honour. Please see the link to the awards entry forms:

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/ceca-nw-annual-awards-2019-entry-forms/>

To book places at the dinner: [https://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event\\_id=140](https://www.aldercross.com/events.php?event_id=140)

## **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>. There is also a shorter version we have just produced too: <https://youtu.be/4CiP7SE5lw>

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/>

## **In planning....**

CECA NW will be holding a meeting this spring for members on housing infrastructure opportunities in the region. A meeting for members with STAR Procurement will take place this summer. Also, following the CECA Payment Summit, a northern summit is being planned for later in the year. Now that planning for the west Cumbria colliery has been approved, a meeting will be arranged for CECA NW members later in the year - further details in due course. Interested parties should contact Guy Lawson.

## **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.

## **Training & Development**

### **CECA NW 2019 legal and commercial seminar (free for CECA members)**

Breakfast seminar: 8.30am - 10.30am

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

### **Reverse Charge VAT**

With reverse charge VAT coming this autumn, if members would like a CECA NW seminar on the subject, please let me know.

### **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.

### **Digital skills for the construction industry, Liverpool, Wednesday 19 June 2019**

This is an opportunity for you to understand how digitisation is going to affect your business and how main contractors can support you. Find out what this means to you at this free workshop. This event is jointly run by the Supply Chain Sustainability School and CITB.

<https://www.supplychainschool.co.uk/uk/sustainability/construction/support/supplier-training/910/digitising-skills-for-the-industry>

### **Manchester College Plant & Civils Schools Awareness event, 26-27 June 2019**

CPUK Civils and Remediation are leading a Plant & Civils Awareness Event - 26th and 27th June 2019 - sessions start at 09.30 and 14.15; Manchester College, Openshaw Campus, Ashton Old Road, Openshaw, Manchester M11 2WH. Come along and take advantage of this opportunity to promote our industry to students from Greater Manchester (please see flyer attached for more details).

### **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>

### **CITB Employer Update**

<http://elink-eu.azurewebsites.net/m/023a3170cc3440b2b5de2b317aba2411/610813C4/A6E289F7/102018n>

### **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>

### **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 September 2019 (please note the change of date)**

An early date for your diary - further details shortly.

### **HS2 final decision ‘by end of year’**

A final decision on HS2 is to be made by the end of the year, chief secretary to the treasury Elizabeth Truss has said. Speaking to the Economic Affairs Committee of the House of Lords, Ms Truss also said that it would be for the next prime minister to decide the fate of the project. Ms Truss confirmed that HS2 was among the projects that hadn’t been fully committed, and is therefore being examined as part of the spending review.

### **CLC calls for clients to drive direct employment**

The Construction Leadership Council has called on clients to put pressure on contractors to shift towards greater direct employment. The council is urging clients to sign up to a code of employment where those who contribute to a project are directly employed. It argues this would ensure that it is in the employer’s best interest to train their staff and benefit from their improved productivity.

It is one of three key recommendations set out in a new report looking at how to deliver a construction pipeline of more than £600bn over the next decade.

[http://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CLC-Skills-Workstream\\_Future-Skills-Report\\_June-2019\\_A4-Print-Version.pdf](http://www.constructionleadershipcouncil.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/CLC-Skills-Workstream_Future-Skills-Report_June-2019_A4-Print-Version.pdf)

### **Communities to benefit from new housing infrastructure rules**

New rules which make the way housing developers stump up money for infrastructure simpler and more transparent are being brought in, the government has confirmed. Contractors already have to pay for roads, schools, GP surgeries and parkland that is needed so that areas can cope with the influx of extra residents. Developers were charged £6 billion in contributions in 2016/17, helping to unlock jobs and growth. However, councils have previously not had to report on the total amount of funding received or how it’s spent. They will not only make it simpler for communities to know what the money has been spent on, but also make it faster for councils to introduce the Community Infrastructure Levy in the first place - so areas can benefit from getting the infrastructure they need in good time.

Restrictions will be eased to allow councils to fund single, larger infrastructure projects from the cash received from multiple developments, giving greater freedom to deliver complex projects at pace.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/communities-to-benefit-from-new-housing-infrastructure-rules>

### **Drop in construction apprenticeship starts**

The number of construction apprenticeship starts halved since last year. In March 2019, there were only 694 apprenticeship starts in construction, planning and the built environment, compared with 1,247 in March 2018.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/804361/Apprenticeship-and-levy-statistics-May2019-main-text.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/804361/Apprenticeship-and-levy-statistics-May2019-main-text.pdf)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/apprenticeship-and-levy-statistics-may-2019>

### **....even though CITB forecasts 168,500 construction jobs created in next five years**

The CITB's Construction Skill's Network Report 2019-23 predicted that approximately 168,500 construction jobs will be created in the UK over the next five years.

<https://www.citb.co.uk/about-citb/construction-industry-research-reports/search-our-construction-industry-research-reports/forecasts/csn-forecasts-2019-2023-uk/>

#### **.....but construction roles still ‘not skilled enough’ for job shortages list**

Construction roles facing shortages still should not be added to the government's shortage list because they do not meet the required skills threshold, a new report by the Migration Advisory Committee has said. The committee has published its review of the Shortage Occupation List - its list of roles it defines as needing migration to fill shortages. While related roles including engineering geologists, hydrogeologists and geophysicists have been added to the list, most construction jobs were not.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/full-review-of-the-shortage-occupation-list-may-2019>

#### **Stop. Make a Change 2019**

For 2019, Stop. Make a Change is aligning itself with the Infrastructure Client Group’s Top Risks project. The project aims to address seven of the biggest health, safety and wellbeing risks in the sector. Over the next year the Top Risks project will seek ways to tackle risks associated with:

- |                             |                                       |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. People & Mobile plant    | 5. Heavy goods vehicles operations    |
| 2. Mental health            | 6. Hand-arm vibration related disease |
| 3. Striking buried services | 7. Public safety                      |
| 4. Lifting operations       |                                       |

Stop. Make a Change 2019 events will take place from **9 to 13 September**. Full details can be found at [www.stopmakeachange.co.uk](http://www.stopmakeachange.co.uk), while companies interested in signing up for 2019 can contact

[enquiries@ceca.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@ceca.co.uk)

#### **IHS Markit/CIPS : Sharpest decline in output for more than a year**

Construction output experienced its sharpest decrease since March 2018 and the biggest drop in employment since 2012, the latest PMI data has shown. Lower volumes of commercial and civil engineering work more than offset a “modest” increase in housebuilding, leading to the overall fall. The index compiled by IHS Markit/CIPS read 48.6, which was below the 50.0 threshold between expansion and contraction for the third time in the past four months. IHS Markit said the May reading was the lowest since the snow-related downturn in construction output during March last year.

#### **2019 Youthbuild Young Builder of the Year Awards**

For 2019 there is a prize fund of £7,500 and all shortlisted finalists will receive a certificate and tools prizes and a trip on the London Eye. The winner of the 18 to 24 year old category may receive up to £1,500 (including tools), with further awards being made to the runners up. The winner of the 14 to 18 year old category will receive up to £750 (including tools) and their educational establishment will receive tools worth up to £500. <https://ybuuk.org/youth-builder-of-the-year-awards/2019-awards/>

The application window closes on Wednesday, 31st July.

#### **Preferred bidder confirmed for £1bn Silvertown Tunnel**

The RiverLinx consortium has been named by Transport for London as Preferred Bidder to design, build, finance, operate and maintain the Silvertown tunnel in East London. The contract is worth £1bn to the consortium of Aberdeen Standard Investments, BAM PPP PGGM, Cintra, Macquarie Capital and SK E&C . Construction work will be carried-out by a consortium of BAM Nuttall (including sister company Wayss & Freytag Ingenieurbau providing specialist tunnel engineering expertise), Ferrovial Agroman and Korean contractor SK E&C. The design includes a 1.4-km twin-bore road tunnel under the River Thames as well as 0.6-kms of access ramps. It will connect south of the River Thames with the access to the existing Blackwall Tunnel and north of the River Thames with the Tidal Basin Roundabout, in Silvertown.

#### **Plan for UK’s biggest plastics recycling plant**

Waste specialist Viridor has unveiled plans to build what will be the UK’s biggest plastics recycling plant at Avonmouth. The £65m plant will process 1.6 billion bottles, pots, tubs and trays annually and be powered by electricity produced by a £252m rubbish burning plant presently under construction at the site near Bristol.

### **£1.4bn M4 Newport relief road scrapped**

The Welsh Government has scrapped plans to build the £1.4bn M4 relief road around Newport. A joint venture between Costain and Vinci secured an early contractor involvement deal five years ago for the scheme. Since then there has been growing concern about the high risks and associated costs of delivering the 24km scheme, which was to include a 440m span cable stay bridge south of Newport. It was originally believed the project could be delivered for £400m, this rose to around £1bn a few years ago and it is now understood latest cost estimates had risen to £1.4bn.

### **....prompting Wales to set up a transport commission**

First minister of Wales Mark Drakeford has announced a transport commission to tackle congestion around the M4, after scrapping plans for the £1.4bn relief road. In a speech to the Welsh Assembly, Mr Drakeford said he is establishing the commission because issues of "capacity, resilience and environment" at the M4 corridor need to be addressed on a local and regional level. The commission will be supported by a dedicated team within the Welsh Government.

### **CECA Legal & Commercial Group focussing on contractual issues in infrastructure.**

The group has been established in response to the emergence of new forms of contract such as FAC-1 and the NEC4 Alliance contract. It also reflects changing commercial models such as Project 13 being adopted by clients including Network Rail, Environment Agency, National Grid, Heathrow and Sellafield. As well as discussing new developments, the group is intended to provide a forum to discuss issues relating to existing contracts. In recent months CECA has responded to a wide range of issues in this area, and want to ensure that our public positions accurately represent the views of members.

Finally, CECA continues to provide significant free commercial and contractual training for members. We hope that the new group will help to guide future developments for this training, ensuring that we continue to target those courses that will be most beneficial to members.

Fenwick Elliott LLP have offered to host and offer their expertise at the first meeting of the group, which will take place on the afternoon of 11 July, followed by a drinks reception at their offices in London. If you would like further details, or to join up, please email [marieclaudehemming@ceca.co.uk](mailto:marieclaudehemming@ceca.co.uk)

### **Major contractors warned again over late payment work ban**

Cabinet minister Oliver Dowden has fired another warning at major contractors over late payment. Dowden reiterated the government's get-tough stance at the RICS annual Construction Conference. September will see new rules introduced meaning large companies could be prevented from getting major government contracts if they do not pay 95% of their invoices within 60 days.

### **Network Rail seeks digital partner in potential £180m eight-year deal**

Network Rail has launched the third procurement in its major digital railway transformation programme on the East Coast Main Line (ECML) - a potential eight-year deal worth £180m.

The company is seeking a traffic management partner to work within its London North Eastern and East Midlands (LNE & EM) route on the first inter-city development and deployment of modern in-cab signalling. The traffic management system will be the first tailored system on the network designed and developed in conjunction with industry partners, reflecting a new way of working for Network Rail.

<https://ted.europa.eu/TED/notice/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:236105-2019:TEXT:EN:HTML%20>

### **£55m Homes England grant funding to boost development of 4,000 homes**

Homes England has agreed funding deals with 12 local authorities to deliver 4,000 homes across England. The £55m funding has been awarded through the government's £450m local authority accelerated construction (LAAC) programme, and will support local authorities with works required to prepare their sites for the development of new homes such as infrastructure enabling works, planning and technical expertise and site remediation. In the north, the local authorities are: City of York Council, Gateshead Council, Newcastle City Council, Pendle Borough Council, and High Peak Borough Council.

### **ICE report: Infrastructure project final costs average 80% above bid prices**

- Infrastructure owners should complete scope, design and exploration before work starts to avoid scope creep or retroactive changes, taking steps to include contractors in design at an early stage.
- The Government and infrastructure owners must move away from capital cost as the most important metric when assessing project benefits, and recognise the importance of whole-life economic, social and environmental value.
- All public infrastructure owners undertaking procurement must award contracts based on a cost estimate range, using a should-cost estimate as a reference point, with an amount of contingency allocated appropriate to the level of project maturity.
- Principles set out in the Government Outsourcing Playbook should be mandatory for infrastructure owners, this includes infrastructure owners undertaking should-cost modelling to help inform their expectations and knowledge of appropriate tender prices during the procurement process.

[http://cdn.roxhillmedia.com/production/email/attachment/730001\\_740000/ICE%20Report%20-%20Reducing%20the%20gap%20between%20cost%20estimates%20and%20outturns%20for%20major%20infrastructure%20projects%20and%20programmes.pdf](http://cdn.roxhillmedia.com/production/email/attachment/730001_740000/ICE%20Report%20-%20Reducing%20the%20gap%20between%20cost%20estimates%20and%20outturns%20for%20major%20infrastructure%20projects%20and%20programmes.pdf)

### **Kerslake commission: Create regional agencies to boost infrastructure**

Four new economic development agencies are needed to oversee infrastructure projects and regional development, an independent review of inequality in the UK will recommend.

The UK2070 Commission, established last year to examine inequalities across different parts of the country and chaired by former head of the civil service Lord Bob Kerslake will recommend the creation of the new bodies. Lord Kerslake's commission will say that an agency for each of the North, Midlands, South-east and South-west of England would help to stimulate growth.

<http://uk2070.org.uk/2019/05/28/first-report-of-the-uk2070-commission-to-be-published-on-thursday-30th-may-2019/>

### **Social Enterprise UK report: Social value-led procurement driving higher economic growth**

A new report, Front and Centre: Putting Social Value at the Heart of Inclusive Growth, launched by Social Enterprise UK, has found that local councils are increasingly using procurement as a way to drive higher economic growth.

The report calls on central government, local councils and other public bodies to do more to utilise social value, putting it front and centre of decision making. Based on in-depth research across local government, the report shows a growing use of social value - making spending decisions not just on financial cost but on the economic, social and environmental impact.

82% of local councils believe that spending public money focusing on social value, rather than just focusing on the cheapest product, generates higher levels of growth. Sunderland, one of the case studies referenced in the report, was one of the fastest growing cities in the UK in 2018. Two-fifths of councils also believe that a social value approach can reduce inequalities.

<https://www.socialenterprise.org.uk/front-and-centre-putting-social-value-at-the-heart-of-inclusive-growth>

### **Site inductions to contain modern slavery warnings**

Major contractors are now highlighting how to spot signs of modern slavery and labour exploitation as part of site induction talks. Leading firms have teamed up with the Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) for the initiative: <https://www.gla.gov.uk/>

The package includes a presentation for new starters which will be shown at the end of traditional health and safety inductions. Other initiatives include complementary posters on spotting the signs of exploitation and a toolbox talk aimed at raising awareness of workers' rights on site.

The move is part of the Construction Protocol launched by the GLAA and signatory firms to protect vulnerable workers, share information and raise awareness within supply chains.

### **Armitt demands Chancellor commits to funding infrastructure plan**

National Infrastructure Commission Chair Sir John Armitt has called on the Chancellor to commit to a major programme of upgrades of transport, energy and technology networks. Sir John is concerned that the Government is set to only pay lip service in the forthcoming Autumn spending review to the country's first National Infrastructure Assessment published last year. The government is required to consider the plan and formally respond with its own strategy, expected to be announced this autumn.

*Sir John's key tests set out in the letter to the Chancellor*

- Long term perspective - the strategy must look beyond the immediate spending review period and set out the government's expectations for infrastructure funding and policy up to 2050
- Clear goals and plans - where the government endorses NIA recommendation, this should be backed up with a specific plan, with clear deadlines and identified owners
- Firm funding commitment - the government should commit to providing funding of 1.2% of GDP a year in infrastructure
- Genuine commitment to change - recommendations such as devolving funding for urban transport to cities and a national standard for flood resilience are fundamental policy changes, and "the strategy needs to respond in the same spirit."

### **Digital UK map of buried utilities**

Work is starting on an ambitious project to draw up a digital map of all UK underground pipes and cables to end strikes and save workers lives. The government's Geospatial Commission plans to collate existing data on underground pipes and cables to create an Underground Assets Register. Nearly £4m is being invested in London and Sunderland to test the feasibility of the project. There is currently no comprehensive underground map of the UK's service network.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/map-of-underground-pipes-and-cables-designed-to-save-lives-and-prevent-major-disruption>

### **Network Rail £750 million signalling contract**

Network Rail has announced five-year contracts worth an estimated £750m to deliver signalling and telecoms across the country in period CP6, between 2019-2024, with further contracts set to be awarded in June 2019 and January 2020.

The signalling and telecoms (S&T) frameworks, which are split into six geographical lots, have been awarded to VolkerRail Special Businesses Ltd (London North West), Atkins Ltd (Anglia, South East and Wessex), Linbrooke Services Ltd (London North East), Babcock Rail Ltd (Scotland), Colas Rail Ltd (Western) and Siemens Mobility Ltd (Wales).

The frameworks will deliver projects of varying value, including stand-alone level crossings, stand-alone major telecoms and related civils works.

### **Rail firms call for independent body to oversee Britain's rail network**

Rail companies have today called for a new independent non-government body to oversee Britain's rail network. The Rail Delivery Group (RDG) has described its proposals as a golden opportunity to "call time on short term fixes and set out the once-in-a-generation system upgrade the railway needs if it is to help the country prosper over the next 25 years." They also claim their plans would "better join up the railway, improve accountability for passengers and result in easier, better value fares for all."

<https://www.raildeliverygroup.com/media-centre/press-releases/2019/469773861-2019-04-30.html>

### **£400m Eastern Highways Framework up for renewal**

An alliance of 11 local highways authorities in the East of England is set to invite bids for their third generation Eastern Highways Alliance Framework. Essex County Council is leading the procurement for the local authorities and plans to formally start the tender race in June. For more information email Dawn Gower at the council team: [procurement.team@essex.gov.uk](mailto:procurement.team@essex.gov.uk)

### **CITB Business Plan reveals spending proposals for £614m of levy cash**

The Construction Industry Training Board is planning a new “big, bold” careers campaign in a bid to attract a new generation of workers into construction.

The move is part of the board’s latest three-year plan which highlights how it will spend the £614m of levy income collected between 2019/20 to 2021/22.

The plan outlines the ‘Big Six’ skills challenges identified by CITB research. They include:

- making construction an attractive career to a broader range of recruits
- developing a ‘site-ready’ workforce
- getting more construction learners to join the industry
- growing the number and diversity of apprentices
- helping smaller firms invest in the training that can transform their business
- boosting the number of assessors for vocational qualifications

<https://www.citb.co.uk/documents/businessplan/citb-business-plan-2019-uk.pdf>

### **CMA guidance on competition law for the construction industry**

The Competition and Markets Authority has recently been investigating a number of cases of potential competition law breaches by firms in the construction sector. Most recently, their investigations resulted in the disqualification of two company directors of CPM group due to their involvement in a cartel. To raise the level of awareness within firms about competition law and the rules with which firms have to comply, the CMA has launched a package of materials to help business. This includes:

- a [quick guide on how to avoid disqualification](#)
- a [checklist on how to comply with competition law](#)
- our #StopCartels campaign page <https://stopcartels.campaign.gov.uk/> that houses:
  - an interactive quiz to test knowledge of the law and what is/ isn’t permitted
  - case studies with lessons learnt and information
  - reporting form + info on immunity from fines under our leniency programme.

### **CECA: Infrastructure Finance Review**

The Government is keen to facilitate further private investment and involvement in infrastructure delivery. As we leave the European Union, the UK’s relationship with the European Investment Bank will change, and while Government will explore the options for a future relationship with the EIB, it wants to be prepared for all scenarios.

A Government review of the infrastructure finance market is underway and CECA is keen to respond with members’ views. As such, we would be grateful if you could fill in the short survey below.

CECA is also planning to hold a workshop to discuss and finalise its response to the consultation. An option for members to be further involved can also be found below.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/InfrastructureFinanceReview>

### **ICG lead drive to eliminate site accidents**

Major clients are joining forces to push for a step change in the safety, health and wellbeing of everyone involved in big UK infrastructure projects. Over the next 12 months representatives from the industry’s major clients, contractors and supply chain have agreed to work together to tackle the causes of illness and injury in the sector. The initiative has been driven by the Infrastructure Client Group (ICG), which represents some of the country’s largest client organisations.

ICG members include EDF Energy, Environment Agency, Heathrow, Highways England, HS2, National Grid, Sellafield Ltd, Tideway and Transport for London.

### **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>

## **£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>

## **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.

## **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/>

## **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/)

## **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)

## **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>

## **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)

## **News from ICES**

<http://mailshot.cices.org/Chartered%20ICES%20Newsletter%20may19.html>

## **News from ACAS**

<https://acasnational.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/r/E5C791276BB4A3F02540EF23F30FEDED/FA0B48F82FDBB0B0775FA7C4C6318CD9>

## **North West - and the North**

### **Government looking to axe Liverpool's HS2 link**

Money for a £7bn line linking Liverpool to the HS2 high-speed railway was supposed to have been “in the bag” before October’s budget last year, only for the Treasury to carry out a last minute U-turn.

<http://www.linkingleverpool.org/>

### **Cheshire East progresses Crewe HS2 hub**

A planning application for a major overhaul of Crewe railway station will be submitted next summer as the town prepares for the arrival of HS2. The plans centre around the railway station, including improved access, a southern link road bridge between Gresty Road and Weston Road to take traffic away from the station’s frontage, and better public transport and pedestrian routes.

The Department for Transport has already committed £9.5m of funding via Network Rail to support development at the station; this will allow it to serve between five and seven HS2 trains per hour.

### **Barrow to adopt Local Plan**

The council is expected to sign off its Local Plan, covering development across the borough up to 2031 and including a masterplan for regenerating the town centre. The Local Plan was first brought forward in 2014, and sets out development opportunities, job creation, and housing targets across the borough for the next 12 years. This includes developments around Barrow Marina, Cavendish Dock, and a waterfront business park; a potential masterplan to cover the town centre to improve its retail and leisure offering; and brownfield sites that can be brought forward for development.

### **Designs revealed for Ellesmere Port transformation**

Consultation events are being held in early June on the plans, which will see the town’s bus station replaced with a public service hub, while existing council offices will be demolished.

Under the proposals, Cheshire West & Chester council’s offices on Civic Way and the existing bus station will be knocked down. The new public service hub will be built on the latter site, next to the Mercer Walk entrance of the Port Arcades shopping centre. The capital cost of the project is cited at £16m and will be supported by £7m from the Cheshire & Warrington LEP.

### **Design of £7m Protos hydrogen facility revealed**

Energy-from-waste specialist Waste2Tricity is to consult on a planning application for a £7m development at Peel Environmental’s Protos at Ellesmere Port. The plans would see a plastics-to-hydrogen facility delivered at the 250-acre Cheshire site, with Waste2Tricity agreeing a 125-year lease with Peel. Waste2Tricity is the development partner of listed energy group PowerHouse. The £7m facility would take up to 25 tonnes of non-recyclable plastic each day, and use it to produce hydrogen which could be used to power road vehicles.

### **Network Space brings forward 183,000 sq ft in Little Hulton**

The developer has advanced plans to build four warehouses totalling more than 183,000 sq ft at the site off Ravenscraig Road, in a scheme designed by architect AEW. The 11-acre site, known as Raven Locks, received outline planning consent for up to 200,000 sq ft of employment and industrial space in 2017, and the developer is now progressing with a reserved matters application.

### **Icon sells airport land to The Hut Group**

Icon Industrial has confirmed the sale of an 11.6-acre site at Manchester Airport to online beauty retailer, The Hut Group, as part of the first phase of its £150m logistics park.

The site, also known as Icon, was recently granted planning permission and is set to include 104,000 sq ft of offices over four floors and content creation studios totalling 168,000 sq ft.

Work will start on the development this month and is expected to be completed by July 2020. Winvic Construction has been appointed as contractor.

### **Energy giants plan carbon capture hub in Humberside**

Britain could have the world's first "carbon-negative" power station by the mid-2020s under plans by a trio of energy companies to capture carbon emissions in the Humber region.

National Grid, Drax and Equinor said that they planned to work together on developing the country's first carbon capture, usage and storage hub, following the recommendations of climate change chiefs.

### **Giant wind turbine plant planned for former steelworks site**

Demolition and decommissioning specialist Able UK has submitted its "scoping plans" to build a huge wind turbine plant on the site of a former steelworks on Teesside. Able wants to develop a 72-hectare site on former SSI steelworks land, building a facility that would create around 600 jobs, combining assembly, installation and servicing of offshore wind turbines on one super-site. Details of the project have emerged in early-stage planning documents submitted to Redcar and Cleveland Council.

### **Recent North West floods 'unprecedented' in modern history**

A study of the floods that hit the North of England in 2009 and 2015 has revealed they were the largest to hit the region in 600 years, which researchers say points to the impact of climate change on extreme weather events. In a paper published in the journal 'Earth Surface Processes and Landforms', a team of researchers led by the Universities of Liverpool and Southampton, studied the lake sediment records from the extreme floods of 2009 and 2015, and compared them with a 558-year record from the bottom of Bassenthwaite Lake, Cumbria. They looked at the layer of coarse sediment that is left in the lake sediment record which provided them with a way of recording each flooding event.

### **£8.5bn Morecambe Bay 'tidal power gateway' and road link plans to go on show**

An £8.5bn "tidal power gateway" road link across Morecambe Bay would provide energy for two million homes and generate thousands of new jobs, according to those behind the proposals. The project, which would see a road link being built from Heysham to south Cumbria via the Furness Peninsular and then crossing the Duddon Estuary, is being driven by the Northern Tidal Power Gateways board headed by Chief Executive Alan Torevell. He will present the project and the latest details to businesses at a Tidal Power Business Forum at Kendal Town Hall on 7 June 2019.

<https://trafalgar-pr.co.uk/northern-tidal-power-gateway/>

### **Aviation strategy integral for Northern UK to ensure global position**

The UK government must establish northern airports as the 'beating heart' of Northern Powerhouse as leaders stress the importance of global connectivity in the transport sector. Figures from the forthcoming NatWest Northern Powerhouse PMI report, show the Northern Powerhouse is making good progress; outperforming London in 29 out of the previous 36 months. But more needs to be done.

Lord Jim O'Neill, Vice-Chair of the Northern Powerhouse Partnership; Andrew Cowan, Manchester Airport CEO; Councillor Susan Hinchcliffe, Chair of the West Yorkshire Combined Authority and Leader of Bradford Council; and Joanne Roney, CEO of Manchester City Council have said that creating a super-connected, productive and internationally-competitive Northern Powerhouse is not just important to the North itself, but is required to create a balanced and outward-facing UK.

They said that direct access to the world's most important economies is critical to the creation of internationally significant centres of excellence in fields like advanced manufacturing, technology,

### **Merseytravel reveals £250m framework winners**

Companies including Pell Frischmann, IBI, Waterman, Aecom, and Arup have secured a place on a framework covering disciplines such as engineering consultancy, transport planning, quantity surveying, and architecture. The framework will cover a vast range of disciplines needed across Merseytravel's estate, which includes its offices, bus stations, ferry terminals, and tourist attractions including Spaceport. It also includes the Kingsway and Queensway Mersey tunnels.

### **Sellafield awards 20-year contracts worth up to £7bn**

Sellafield has awarded contracts to four firms to carry out decommissioning work at its Cumbria site over the next two decades. According to Sellafield, the total programme and project procurement value has an expected range of £3bn-4bn but could end up being worth as much as £7bn.

Morgan Sindall has been named civils construction management partner and said its deal was worth an expected £1.6bn. Doosan Babcock has been appointed as the process construction management partner. Wood was awarded the design and engineering partner role with KBR appointed as the integration partner. The decommissioning programme is expected to last for 100 years at the Cumbria site, which ranges over two square miles and contains more than one thousand buildings.

### **Economic and green boost for Peak District as £14m rail freight scheme unveiled**

Network Rail has transformed a disused council tip at Buxton into 430 metres of railway sidings so longer freight trains can serve local quarries.

### **Warrington Local Transport Plan update**

Please find a link to the latest version of the Warrington Local Transport Plan LTP4.

<https://www.warrington.gov.uk/info/201080/streets-and-transport/2383/local-transport-plan>

### **STAR Procurement: GM Streetscene Alliance update**

STAR have now had firm commitment from the following authorities to be part of the new GM Streetscene Alliance for Civil and Highways Works:

- Stockport - Full Alliance Partner
- Rochdale - Full Alliance Partner
- Bury - Full Alliance Partner
  - Trafford - Customer
  - Tameside - Customer

A revised procurement programme has now been established which includes the following key milestones:

- Technical/procurement kick off meeting 1st May 2019.
- Market Engagement Event - June 2019
- Issue of OJEU Notice and Stage 1 (SQ) - August 2019
- Issue of Shortlist Stage 2 (ITT) - October 2019
- Award of Alliance Contracts - February 2020
- Start of GM Streetscene Alliance April 2020

Based on the current value of Stockport's alliance contract (£9m for 2019), it is expected that, overall, the proposed new contract will have a total value of £600-700 million.

Current proposal to have separate Alliances for full partners above (instead of sub-geographical lots).

Each one having a single contractor for each Lot (with ten lots per Alliance). It is currently proposed that there will be three bandings for the Highways Structures Maintenance lots, for example.

Customers (as listed above) will then be able to enter into any of the above Alliance contracts when the need arises (we will specify an indicative value for those Authorities).

Each Full Alliance Partner will also be able to call upon the services of other contractors from other Alliances when capacity issues arise.

They are intending to have a Memorandum of Understanding developed across all 5 GM Authorities to define how the relationship will work.

STAR have now introduced the Social Value Portal for all procurements above £50K. This will be introduced on the GM Streetscene Alliance procurement.

### **Go-ahead given to acquire land for important Lancashire road scheme**

The proposed scheme, which will link the west side of the city to the M55 motorway, is the biggest new road programme in the Preston, South Ribble and Lancashire City Deal.

### **Cheshire East to green light £59m Middlewich bypass**

The 1.7-mile road, designed to unlock major employment sites to the south of the town centre, could get under way in 2020 with Cheshire East Council to sign off the latest stage of the project.

The proposed road, valued at around £58.5m, will run from the Salt Cellar roundabout on the A54, to Booth Lane, south of Middlewich. The single carriageway road is expected to unlock significant amounts of housing and employment land south of the town.

### **Volker Stevin HSEQ Expo at Brockholes Nature Reserve, Preston on Tuesday 11th June 2019**

The event will be open from 09:00 until 16:00, with a series of presentations throughout the day (schedule to be confirmed nearer the date). You can drop in at any time, for as long as you like, to browse the exhibitors' stalls or listen to one of the talks.

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=uq94GI2EHkyr\\_ADOwCFl32gDRrUHc4FCj1UB\\_t9i56xUOFoxWTBJMFdZRFNTOFc5T045M0s3V1pZNi4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=uq94GI2EHkyr_ADOwCFl32gDRrUHc4FCj1UB_t9i56xUOFoxWTBJMFdZRFNTOFc5T045M0s3V1pZNi4u)

### **New trans-Pennine roads study announced**

Highways England is to lead a £300,000 study looking at major improvements to road links between the M65 in East Lancashire and parts of Yorkshire. The study - due to start in April - will consider what enhancements could be made to road connections between the end of the M65 at Colne and communities like Skipton in North Yorkshire and Keighley and Bradford in West Yorkshire.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-trans-pennine-roads-study-announced>

### **Network Rail: five year £5.7bn investment in LNW**

Just days before Network Rail enters its next five-year funding cycle, its London-to-Carlisle region has unveiled a £5.7bn plan to keep services running smoothly along Europe's busiest mixed-used railway. The London North Western (LNW) region runs the railway infrastructure in the Chilterns, West Midlands, North West, Merseyside, Lancashire and Cumbria - accounting for 24% of the country's railway network. The West Coast main line which features prominently in the network connects main cities like London, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow.

In its funding package for the five years to 2024, government has given LNW, otherwise known as the "backbone of Britain", £5.7bn for its vital operations, maintenance and renewals activities supporting the region's business vision of "one team delivering brilliant service for customers and taxpayers." Money within that funding pot will go towards railway renewals (replacing track, bridges, points, embankments and structures), major resignalling and track remodelling at Crewe on the West Coast main line and the delivery of HS2.

### **One NW site shortlisted for regional Heathrow construction hub**

Heathrow Airport has revealed 18 sites left in the running to become construction hubs for the third runway project, one of which is in the North West: Mckeating (East Coast West Cumbria Ltd), Lillyhall Industrial Estate, Workington.

### **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.

## Jobs

### H&S Advisor

Location: Head office based in Middleton, but extensive travel to sites will be required.

Bemus Construction Services Limited provide bespoke groundworks and civil engineering solutions for a range of clients. We operate as both a Principal Contractor and a Tier One Contractor working in partnership with some of the UK's largest construction companies and developers. The general scope of our service includes earthworks, remediation, demolition, foundations, reinforced concrete, highways, drainage, hard landscape works and Multi Utility installations.

Key responsibilities:

- Complete site safety audits and corresponding paperwork including monitor that corrective actions are in place and when they are completed
- Outline safe operational procedures which identify and take into account all relevant hazards
- Ensure working practices & policies are safe and comply with legislation
- Prepare health and safety strategies and develop internal policy for Head Office & site
- Carry out regular site inspections to check policies and procedures are being properly implemented;
- Monitoring & ensuring completion of all health & safety paperwork generated from site (RAMS, plant & equipment inspections, temporary works etc.)
- Ensuring company insurance policies and documents are legally compliant and up to date
- Recording & investigating accidents & incidents
- Construction phase plans
- Keep up to date with new legislation and maintain a working knowledge of all Health and Safety Executive (HSE) legislation and any developments that affect the employer's industry;
- Contact with external professional advisors, partner organisations, contractors and Health and Safety agents as required
- Deliver workshops, new starter inductions and training
- Risk Assessment & Method Statement Management
- Attending client health & safety forums / meetings
- Training needs analysis for all staff
- Managing the training budget for H&S in coordination with the SHEQ Manager
- Create & implement the H&S strategy for the company

#### Person Specification

- Qualified to NEBOSH standard or equivalent
- Knowledge of OHSAS 18001 / ISO9001 / ISO14001(desired but not essential)
- Experience and understanding of health, safety, quality & environmental issues in construction.
- Detailed knowledge of the construction procedures and processes.
- Methodical approach to duties
- Presentation skills
- Pleasant and confident manner
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
- Organisational skills and workload prioritising.

Salary: £30k-£45k DOE

Bemus, Brooke House, Morton Street, M24 6AN, 01706 627055 [construction@bemus.co.uk](mailto:construction@bemus.co.uk)

## Tenders

Blackpool: Yeadon Way (Phase 2) Refurbishment - Highways Design & Build

Expressions of interest close on 31/07/2019.

Contact: Trish Rimmer, Blackpool Council, Email: [trish.rimmer@blackpool.gov.uk](mailto:trish.rimmer@blackpool.gov.uk)

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

Bury: Highways Investment Strategy - Prestwich Year 2

Expressions of interest close on 14/06/2019.

Contact: Chris Bayfield, Bury Council, Email: [c.bayfield@bury.gov.uk](mailto:c.bayfield@bury.gov.uk)

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

Rotherham: Forge Island Flood Defence Works

Expressions of interest close on 14/06/2019.

Contact: Joanne Kirk, Rotherham MBC, Email: [joanne.kirk@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:joanne.kirk@rotherham.gov.uk)

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

Newcastle: Loadman Street Earthworks

Expressions of interest close on 12/06/2019.

Contact: Chris Rush, Newcastle City Council, Email: [Chris.Rush@newcastle.gov.uk](mailto:Chris.Rush@newcastle.gov.uk)

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

Also - more details for the following can be provided upon request:

- Wigan: Access Works at Three Sisters Local Nature Reserve and Recreation Area
- Wigan: Carriageway Resurfacing Works 2019/20 - A580 East Lancashire Road
- Douglas: Quick Quote - King Edward Road, Railways Drainage Investigation
- Tameside: Playing Field Works at Russell Scott Primary School, Denton
- Homes England: South Central Demolition Framework
- Wythenshawe Community Housing: Groundworks - Repairs & Maintenance
- Spennymoor: Merrington Lane infrastructure works
- Great Places Housing: Drainage, Groundworks & Surfacing contracts
- Mansfield: Ground Stabilisation Works by Drilling & Grouting

....and finally

**Network Rail 'site of the future' saves 6,000 litres of fuel**

Network Rail and Colas Rail have used solar energy to power a site at a major rail renewal project in Llanwern, South Wales. The initiative used solar and battery technologies instead of diesel generators, achieving 97 per cent diesel-free operation and saving 6,000 litres of fuel, and more than 15 tonnes of CO2 in two weeks, a statement from the operator said. Network Rail has a target to reduce carbon emissions by 25 per cent by 2024 and called this the 'site of the future'.