



21 August 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.

### **Corderoy joins CECA NW as an associate member**

Welcome to Corderoy, who has joined CECA NW as an associate member.

### **CECA NW Flyer 2019**

The 2019 flyer is now ready - hard copies are available upon request:

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/CECA-NW-Flyer-2019.pdf>

### **CECA NW 2019 video**

The new video, to promote careers in the industry, is now available on YouTube:

<https://youtu.be/myeRhpZRsvM>

### **Guests of Honour at CECA NW annual awards dinner, Manchester, Friday 11 October 2019**

Barry White, CEO of Transport for the North; Steve Moore, Director of Operations at the Environment Agency; and Natalie Webster of Homes England will be attending the CECA NW annual awards dinner as guests of honour. Due to changes in ministerial positions, Andrew Stephenson MP, former Construction Minister, is no longer able to attend. Please see the link to the awards entry forms (click on the link and all 8 categories open up): <https://www.ceca.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/CECA-NW-awards-entry-forms-2019.pdf>

The deadline for entries is **13 September 2019**.

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

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

CECA NW will be holding a meeting this summer for members on housing infrastructure opportunities in the region. Meetings are also being planned with Highways England and United Utilities - further details as soon as they are finalised. 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.

### **Professional Indemnity Insurance**

I am grateful to Cheetham Hill Construction for raising the following issue: The negotiations for our Professional Indemnity Insurance renewal have been more difficult this year, as we have been doing more design and build work that requires PI cover during last year and this year. This has impacted on our renewal cost - almost doubling what we paid last year. That raises the question: Do clients who insist on Design and Build realise that they are paying twice for the cover, because the contractor has to pay a premium and the consultant also has to pay?

CECA is due to produce a guidance note on changes to PI, and seek to influence Association of British Insurers, customers & Government on how this can work in the best interests of all parties. If any CECA NW member is willing to share any experiences of this, please 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.

### **CECA NW & CPMUK C&R in the news**

<https://www.lancashirebusinessview.co.uk/latest-news-and-features/building-new-lives-for-ex-offenders>

## Training & Development

### CECA NW & Midlands seminar on Reverse Charge VAT, Thursday 12 September 2019

A seminar with Liz Bridge is being arranged for 09.45 - 11.30, Thursday 12 September 2019, Chimney House Hotel, Congleton Road, Sandbach, CW11 4ST for CECA Midlands and NW members. To book your place: [admin@cecamidlands.co.uk](mailto:admin@cecamidlands.co.uk)

### CECA NW Legal Breakfast seminars, with Geraldine Fleming - autumn programme topics

- Liquidated damages, 26 September, Holiday Inn Express, Bamber Bridge, Preston
- NEC4, 8 October, North Lakes Hotel, Penrith
- Legal update, 22 October, Park Royal Hotel, Stretton, Warrington
- Supply contracts, December tbc

To book your place (free for CECA NW members), please contact Jemma Carmody:

[Jemma.Carmody@ceca-yorks.co.uk](mailto:Jemma.Carmody@ceca-yorks.co.uk)

### CITB to make £17.8m of funds available for site-ready workers

CITB is promising to provide at least 18,000 new site-ready workers under its latest initiative. The skills body is pumping-in an extra £17.8m to support employers in training and retraining more workers. The CITB Onsite Experience Commission will be inviting contractors to apply for funding over the coming months.

### Ex-offenders - speed interviews with HMP Hindley

Inspiring Change award winners, CPUK C&R and its partners recently held speed interviews at HMP Hindley to recruit groundworkers. More are planned - firms keen to address the industry's skills shortage should contact Paul Pritchard of Novus: t: 0161 674 1300 e: [ppritchard@novus.ac.uk](mailto:ppritchard@novus.ac.uk)

### 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.

### CITB Employer Update

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

### 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, date to be confirmed

#### **CECA: Industry Warns ‘No Deal’ Brexit Could Cost UK Economy £12 Billion**

CECA has joined with the Association for Consultancy and Engineering (ACE), Build UK, the Construction Products Association and the Federation of Master Builders in writing to the Prime Minister to warn that a ‘no deal’ exit from the European Union could cost the UK economy as much as £12 billion.

The letter states that “Our forecasts show that with a deal in place and a smooth Brexit, construction output would rise by over £1.2 billion by the end of 2020. Leaving in an unplanned way with a No Deal Brexit however could lead to a fall of £10.5 billion over the same period, with the greatest impacts felt on the house building and commercial sectors.”

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/ACE-BuildUK-CECA-CPA-FMB-release-Brexit-Preparations-final-12Aug19.pdf>

#### **New construction minister announced**

Nadhim Zahawi has been appointed as the new construction minister, taking on the role from Andrew Stephenson, who was appointed as construction minister on 5 April but was moved out as part of Boris Johnson’s cabinet reshuffle. The Conservative MP for Stratford-on-Avon, elected in May 2010, had previously been a junior minister in the Department for Education since January last year.

#### **IPPR: London still getting more transport investment per capita than the North**

The IPPR has claimed that the North is set to continue receiving significantly less transport funding per person compared to London, despite already missing out on £66bn transport funding over the last decade. The report shows a comprehensive picture of planned spending included in the most recent edition of the National Infrastructure and Construction Pipeline - a list of the government’s planned infrastructure projects between now and 2033.

While the capital will receive £3,636 per person, says the IPPR, the North will receive just £1,247 per person and within the North, Yorkshire and the Humber will see just £511; the North East £519; and the North West £2,062 per person.

<https://www.ippr.org/research/publications/transport-investment-in-the-northern-powerhouse-2019-update>

#### **Government announces investigation into major power cuts**

The government has announced and set out the scope of a review into the actions of the National Grid after last Friday’s power cuts. Power disruption resulted from the operation of Low Frequency Demand Disconnection relays on the UK’s power system at about 4.54pm last Friday (9 August). It impacted hundreds of thousands of customers and caused significant secondary impacts to the transport network. Though demand was fully restored within 90 minutes, the secondary impacts continued to be felt for much of the day. National Grid has already said the power cuts had “nothing to do with changes in wind speed or the variability of wind,” but the government’s Energy Emergencies Executive Committee will establish what happened to cause the outage and if correct procedures were followed. It will also consider whether improvements are needed to prevent future power cuts and better respond if they do occur, including minimising impacts on people and essential services.

#### **Javid unveils £600m boost for five projects in South East**

Chancellor Sajid Javid has earmarked more than £600m to support infrastructure projects that will help to pave the way for 50,000 homes in the south east. The fresh funding boost is coming from the Housing Infrastructure Fund pot, originally launched by Javid when he was communities secretary.

The cash will help to deliver five new road and rail projects in London, Central Bedfordshire and Essex - all areas of high demand for new housing.

### **CECA: Construction Industry Unites to Demand Delay to VAT Changes**

The Government must delay the implementation of damaging VAT changes in the construction industry, demands a coalition of the major trade bodies in the sector, in a letter to the Chancellor published this week. The letter calls on the Chancellor to push back the implementation of reverse charge VAT, due on 1 October, by at least six months due to the fact that:

- The timing of these changes could not be worse given they are due to take place just before the UK is expected to leave the EU, quite possibly on 'no-deal' terms;
- Reverse charge VAT will be yet another burden on construction employers on top of other pressures facing the industry, such as material price rises, increased pension contributions and skills shortages; and
- The changes could lead to a loss of productivity, reduced cashflow and in the worst cases, lead to a hit on jobs, tipping some companies over the edge, particularly small businesses.

Commenting, CECA chief executive Alasdair Reisner said: "Civil engineering contractors are extremely worried about the impact of the forthcoming new rules on their immediate cashflow and the impact that this will have on business sustainability. The construction sector is already struggling due to ongoing political uncertainty, with declining workloads for many members. The introduction of the reverse charge VAT may push small contractors into the red, as they do not have the resources to manage the immediate impact of the legislation change. We are therefore calling on Government to delay the implementation of reverse charge VAT and work with industry to help businesses prepare for the new rules in the best possible way."

**Please see details on page 3, of the seminar for CECA Midlands & NW members on 12 September.**

### **PM urged to block Heathrow's third runway**

Boris Johnson should follow through on his commitment to oppose the third runway at Heathrow, the London Assembly's environmental committee has said, issuing a letter in response to the third runway's consultation process that criticises Heathrow for failing to address concerns over noise and pollution. It was signed by the assembly's environment committee chair Green Party AM Caroline Russell.

Ms Russell said in an accompanying statement that now he has become prime minister, Boris Johnson "needs to follow through on the commitment he made to Londoners in his 2008 and 2012 mayoral manifestos and oppose a third runway at Heathrow".

Heathrow opened a consultation in June to gauge the view of the public on the airport's expansion, with its third runway scheduled to open in 2026. The consultation will run until **13 September**.

### **ICE Project 13 event, Manchester, 5 November 2019**

Project 13 is an industry-led movement to improve the way high performance infrastructure is delivered. It is about moving from transactional business models to collaborative enterprise models to boost certainty and productivity in delivery, improve whole life outcomes in operation and support a more sustainable, innovative, highly skilled industry: <http://www.p13.org.uk/>

Light refreshments will be available from 08:00 with the event to start at 08:30.

This is a joint event with ACE, CECA, CICES, CIHT. To book:

<https://www.ice.org.uk/events/ice-project-13-manchester>

### **Bidding race starts for £40m M1-A6 link road**

Central Bedfordshire Council has opened bidding for its planned 2.7-mile M1-A6 link road project. The new strategic link road to the north of Luton will run from the A6 Barton Road to junction 11a of the motorway. It will include building a new section of dual and single lane carriageway and a bridge over the railway mainline into London. There will be junctions to a proposed new Rail Freight Interchange at Sundon and to proposed new housing developments. Subject to planning permission and funding, construction will commence in March 2020 on the two-year project. Prequalification documents are available from the council's procurement site:

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/centralbedfordshire/aspx/Home>

### **CSCS Launches New Website Design**

The Construction Skills Certification Scheme is pleased to announce the relaunch of its website - [www.cscs.uk.com](http://www.cscs.uk.com)

If you have ever applied for a CSCS card you probably visited the website to assist with your application. CSCS have completely redesigned the website's layout to make sure the information visitors need is easier to access.

### **Guidance on forward tipping dumpers**

<https://www.cpa.uk.net/sfpgpublications/>

### **£1bn Silvertown Tunnel procurement suspended after legal challenge**

Award of the Silvertown Tunnel design, build, finance and maintain contract has been suspended following a legal challenge from the losing bidder. Transport for London (TfL) has been forced to suspend plans for the £1bn scheme after its reserve bidder, Silver Thames Connect (STC) - a consortium which includes Hochtief, Dragados and Iridium Concesiones de Infraestructuras - issued a legal challenge.

### **Gatwick Airport to invest £1.1bn over next five years**

Gatwick Airport has unveiled its refreshed five-year plan to invest £1.1bn in infrastructure improvements through to 2024. The planned spending at the London airport brings total investment since 2009 to £3.21bn. The re-phased latest plan will see the North Terminal extended with six new departure gates at Pier 6, main runway re-surfacing in 2021 and an additional rapid exit taxiway built. A new 3,250 space car park is also planned for the North Terminal.

### **Highways England to launch £400m resurfacing framework**

Highways England will open a £400m framework for resurfacing concrete on its Strategic Road Network (SRN) after "critical failures" and safety concerns on roads over the last three years. The government body is looking for contractors to develop a "comprehensive response" to the safety risks on legacy concrete, which is exposed or worn down, according to the OJEU notice. The works will be divided across four lots for testing, design, repair and maintenance, and renewals, and will take place between 2020 and 2025. This phase of works is the second of five road investment periods in an overall £1bn resurfacing scheme, which is set to last until 2051.

<https://ted.europa.eu/TED/notice/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:381217-2019:TEXT:EN:HTML&src=0>

### **Latest ONS figures show 1.3% decline in construction output**

The latest ONS construction output figures have been described as a "grim outlook on the state of the construction industry" by public sector procurement organisation the Scape Group.

The figures show a decline of 1.3% in Quarter 2 (Apr to June), which Scape's chief executive Mark Robinson described as continuing the "biggest quarter-on-quarter decline from the public sector since records began two decades ago," and that "the economy continues to be affected by infighting in Westminster." The main points of the ONS report show that:

Construction output decreased by 1.3% in Quarter 2 (Apr to June) 2019, largely reversing the increase of 1.4% in Quarter 1 (Jan to Mar) 2019;

- The decrease was driven by a fall of 2.6% in repair and maintenance in Quarter 2 2019, which was due largely to the 6.0% decline in private housing repair and maintenance, with a smaller contribution from the 0.9% fall in non-housing repair and maintenance;
- In new work, the decrease of 0.5% in Quarter 2 2019 was driven by declines in public other new work and private new housing, with public other new work seeing its largest quarter-on-quarter decline since quarterly records began, with a fall of 10.9%;
- Construction output decreased by 0.7% in the month-on-month all work series in June 2019; this was due to a 2.0% decline in repair and maintenance along with flat growth (0.0%) in new work.

### **Lack of bidders forces HS2 to rethink £1.5bn track deal**

HS2 is revising a £1.5bn track and overhead power deal following “increasing concern” from contractors over risk transfer. Project leaders will now hold an open day next month to gauge industry concerns over the scheme. An OJEU notice stated: HS2 Ltd is hosting an Industry Day on **3 September 2019** to re-engage with the market and launch its revised strategy based on market appetite and conditions.

### **Council pauses £129m bypass scheme**

Plans for a controversial new £129m bypass have been blocked by Herefordshire Council. The bypass proved to be a key local election issue in May this year, when the previously Conservative-led council moved to no overall control. Several newly elected councillors campaigned against the bypass, and the council cabinet has now decided to ‘pause and review’ the plans, as well as the Southern link road scheme which represents a follow-on second stage of the bypass.

### **Subcontractors wanted for £400m Dounreay decommissioning**

Winning firms on a £400m decommissioning framework at Dounreay are set to highlight work available to subcontractors over the next four years. The Scottish nuclear site and its Decommissioning Services Framework contractors are planning a supply chain event next month to outline work opportunities. Work will centre on construction, demolition and engineering projects that will take decommissioning of the site into a new phase. The event will be held on 5 September in Wick, Caithness and is only available to companies who register in advance. Spaces are limited to 2 per organisation and registration is available here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dounreay-decommissioning-services-framework-supply-chain-event-registration-68583514137>

### **UK set to establish up to ten new freeports after leaving EU**

The government has announced plans to create ten freeports in the UK after Brexit. The plan follows a 2018 Mace-led report on the economic benefits of supercharged ports, and the government has now appointed an advisory panel to help establish the ports.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/trade-secretary-announces-freeports-advisory-panel-will-ensure-uk-is-ready-to-trade-post-brexit>

### **Bidding starts for £8bn new national framework**

Procure Partnerships has opened prequalification for its new national framework. The body, which stems from Procure North West, has put an £8bn price tag on the new four-year framework, which is to be split into 10 regional lots. Procure Partnerships said that the decision had been taken to roll the regional delivery model out nationally after more than 24 public sector bodies have used the regional North West framework since it was launched 10 months ago. Contractors will have the chance to select from two value banded lots; £4m to £12m, and £12m+. Interested firms have until **12 September 2019** to complete the prequalification process: <https://www.procurepartnerships.co.uk/>

### **The Williams Rail Review**

The Williams Rail Review was established in September 2018 to look at the structure of the whole rail industry and the way passenger rail services are delivered. The review will make recommendations for reform that prioritise passengers’ and taxpayers’ interests. The review’s findings and recommendations will be published in a government white paper in autumn 2019. Reform will begin in 2020.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/the-williams-rail-review>

### **CECA SME Procurement survey - now live**

If you are an SME (less than 250 employees) please do fill it in:

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

## **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
2. Mental health
3. Striking buried services
4. Lifting operations
5. Heavy goods vehicles operations
6. Hand-arm vibration related disease
7. Public safety

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)

## **RAIB calls for review of zero-hours contracts for rail workers**

The Rail Accident Investigation Branch (RAIB) have released their findings into the fatal accident between London Victoria and Three Bridge in November 2018. The investigation found track worker was hit by a train in the earlier hours of the morning after they had placed equipment on the track. The report criticises Network Rail for their use of zero-hours contracts, which they claim contributes to fatigue and a higher risk of accidents.

## **Government plans for electric car charge points to be installed in all future homes**

The government has announced a public consultation for new plans that could see all new-build homes fitted with an electric car chargepoint. The proposals aim to support and encourage the growing uptake of electric vehicles within the UK by ensuring that all new homes with a dedicated car parking space are built with an electric charge point, making charging easier, cheaper and more convenient for drivers. The legislation would be a world first and complements wider investment and measures the government says it has put in place to ensure the UK has one of the best electric vehicle infrastructure networks in the world, as part of the £1.5bn Road to Zero environmental strategy. The government has also announced that it wants to see all newly installed rapid and higher powered charge points provide debit or credit card payment by spring 2020. This consultation closes at **11:45pm on 7 October 2019**.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/electric-vehicle-chargepoints-in-residential-and-non-residential-buildings>

## **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)

## **HS2: Phase 2b design refinement consultation**

The Department for Transport has proposed enabling HS2's lines to be used as part of Northern Powerhouse Rail. HS2 phase 2b will connect Crewe to Manchester and the West Midlands to Leeds. The Department for Transport has launched a consultation on future touch points for NPR.

These will facilitate junctions that could connect to a potential new line from HS2 towards Liverpool. One junction would allow future Liverpool-Manchester NPR trains to use the HS2 line into Manchester. The other would allow future London-Liverpool HS2 trains to use any new, future NPR route into Liverpool. Both would enable improved capacity and connectivity between Liverpool, Warrington and Manchester Piccadilly. This consultation closes at **11:45pm on 6 September 2019**.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/hs2-phase-2b-design-refinement-consultation>



### **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.

### **News from ICES**

<http://mailshot.cices.org/Chartered%20ICES%20Newsletter%20JulAug19.html>

### **News from People’s Health (from B&CE)**

[http://elinkeu.clickdimensions.com/m/1/11894794/p1-b19199-86c970b71f8342a7ab575381adf13f6b/1/117/589dc2f9-1b4f-4be4-aea3-6bfa89e3dd0b?\\_cldee=Z3V5Lmxhd3NvbkbjZWVhbnCuY28udWs%3d&recipientid=contact-fe99174d73e0e111bc38101f742e5414-bc2383e7aa1e413882c50f9886c07abe&esid=0e3ef197-a3a7-e911-81e3-00155d713d09](http://elinkeu.clickdimensions.com/m/1/11894794/p1-b19199-86c970b71f8342a7ab575381adf13f6b/1/117/589dc2f9-1b4f-4be4-aea3-6bfa89e3dd0b?_cldee=Z3V5Lmxhd3NvbkbjZWVhbnCuY28udWs%3d&recipientid=contact-fe99174d73e0e111bc38101f742e5414-bc2383e7aa1e413882c50f9886c07abe&esid=0e3ef197-a3a7-e911-81e3-00155d713d09)

### **News from ACAS**

<https://northwest.cmail20.com/t/ViewEmail/r/2A0604CB168F7F9F2540EF23F30FEDED/28044CCD491C701405263A35EB2CBB57>

## North West - and the North

### Leaders across the North demand a 'Northern Budget' to deliver infrastructure boost

Leaders from across the North of England have called on the Government to commit to a 'Northern Budget' in order to deliver a boost to the region's economic fortunes. It includes:

- Commitment to a £7 billion Northern Infrastructure Pipeline - a list of shovel-ready road and rail projects to be delivered by the mid-2020s
- Commitment to build the full £39 billion Northern Powerhouse Rail (NPR) network by 2040
- Commitment to £1 billion for Transport for the North over the next three years to deliver on its vision, including funding for the development of Northern Powerhouse Rail and other road and rail schemes

For more information on the Northern Budget, please visit:

[www.transportforthenorth.com/northernbudget](http://www.transportforthenorth.com/northernbudget)

To view the campaign video, please visit:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s6FqYaFRWjU&feature=youtu.be>

### TfN: £700m funding bid for 16 northern road projects

Transport for the North has submitted a bid for a £700m investment in the region's roads over the next five years. The schemes are:

#### *Major Road Network schemes*

- A595 Improvement Scheme (Bothel) - Cumbria County Council
- A1079 Improvement Scheme - East Riding Council
- A582 Dualling - Lancashire County Council
- Blyth Relief Road - North of Tyne Combined Authority/North East Combined Authority
- Durham Northern Relief Road - North of Tyne Combined Authority/NECA
- Sunderland Transport Corridor - North of Tyne Combined Authority/NECA
- Tyne Bridge & Central M'way - North of Tyne Combined Authority/NECA
- Shalesmoor Gateway - Sheffield City Region
- A689 Corridor Improvements - Tees Valley Combined Authority
- A34 Cheadle - Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- A650 Tong Street - West Yorkshire Combined Authority
- Dawsons Corner Jct & Stanningley Bypass - West Yorkshire Combined Authority

#### *Large Local Major schemes*

- Kendal Northern Access Route - Cumbria County Council
- The Rocket Junction - Liverpool City Council
- Wigan East-West - Greater Manchester Combined Authority
- A1237 Dualling (Phase 2) - City of York Council

### Burnham refuses to back plan for high speed rail station

Wrangling over the details of the Northern Powerhouse Rail scheme and how it will connect with the HS2 route between London and the North has caused tensions between transport officials and northern political leaders. And the lack of agreement has led to fears that the arrival of high speed rail in the North could potentially be delayed beyond the long-promised date of 2033. A major bone of contention is how Manchester's Piccadilly station should be extended to accommodate the 250mph HS2 trains from London and NPR trains to Liverpool, Leeds and the rest of the North.

Analysis by TfN, HS2 Ltd and Network Rail suggests a six platform, 400 metre station could be built above ground - extending the proposed HS2 station at the site by two platforms - for an extra £570m compared to the original HS2-only scheme. But officials in Greater Manchester, led by Labour metro mayor Andy Burnham, refuse to back this and have argued strongly for an underground station to accommodate Northern Powerhouse Rail.

### **Liverpool cruise line terminal update**

Liverpool's new cruise terminal has moved a step closer after the council submitted an application for the latest stage of the project. The council got outline planning permission for the new terminal, which will be on Princes Dock, in 2018.

### **Plans progress for new waste-to-energy plant in Preston**

Plans for a £200 million waste-to-energy plant on the outskirts of Preston, UK, have moved one step closer to fruition. Preston City Council's planning committee voted not to object to the proposals put forward by infrastructure development, asset management and investment company Miller Turner. The firm plans to build the plant at Red Scar industrial estate. Lancashire County Council's development control committee will make the final decision on whether the facility can be built.

### **Cuadrilla resumes fracking in Lancashire**

Energy firm Cuadrilla has resumed fracking at its site in Lancashire, it has confirmed. Drilling began at the Preston New Road site in October but operations were halted on a number of occasions due to underground tremors.

### **First Trenitalia partnership announced as new operators on West Coast mainline**

A partnership of UK-based First Group and Italian firm Trenitalia has been announced as the successful bidder to operate the West Coast mainline. The partnership will replace Virgin/Stagecoach and take over the running of the West Coast main line train route from London to Glasgow from December, in a move that ministers claim will provide passengers with new trains, more seats, simplified fares and more frequent services. First Trenitalia will also act as the shadow operator responsible for HS2. The government will shortly launch a review into HS2, and ministers say the partnership has been designed in order to ensure that it can implement the review's outcomes.

### **North West beats London as most active for construction contracts**

According to Barbour ABI's latest Economic & Construction Market Review, 36.6% of construction contracts awarded in June were to sites across the North West, beating London as the most active region in the country. The North West's position was bolstered by £1.5bn of works being awarded as part of the Sellafeld decommissioning scheme. Overall, £5.2bn worth of contracts were awarded across the UK in June, with 37.2% in infrastructure, 33.1% in residential, and 9% in education. This was a 5.5% increase on May. London came second with 13.7%, marking a 22.6% difference between the two regions. <https://www.barbour-abi.com/economic-and-construction-market-review/>

### **....but unemployment on the rise**

There's been a sharp rise in unemployment in NW - up 21,000 on last quarter. The CBI said the figures were a "warning sign" for the region's economy. They said Government had to invest more in training and infrastructure and do more to grow the NW economy.

### **£120m plan to replace Liverpool flyover with tunnel**

A £120m plan to radically redesign Liverpool's Rocket junction at the M62 has been submitted to the Department for Transport. Transport for the North has included Liverpool City Council's scheme as one of four major projects within a £700m programme of works identified as critical to growth in the north of England. The major upgrade to the Rocket Junction would see the existing Queens Drive Flyover demolished and replaced with a new roundabout and dual-lane underpass.

### **Cheshire East rejects Crewe road proposal**

Planning permission for an additional road at Grand Junction Retail Park in Crewe was rejected by Cheshire East Council's planning committee. Triton Property Fund, who own and manage the retail park, put in the application in order to "assist the flow of traffic into, around and out of the retail park".

### **£22m upgrade for A64 in North Yorkshire**

Highways England has outlined more than £22m investment on the 55-mile A64 Yorkshire coastal route over the next 12 months. Resurfacing, drainage, junction upgrades as well as major safety improvements are being planned for the A64 between the A1(M) at Bramham and Seamer in Scarborough. Around 25 schemes are being carried out along the 55-mile route including safety improvements at Crambeck and Rillington between now and the end of March next year.

### **Highways England: A66 update**

We are not yet at the stage where we can release full package information. However, we can confirm that there will be a range of values across the four proposed packages. The values will range from £100 million to £275 million including PCF stage 5 design costs. Please note these figures are outturn costs and include inflation. At 2019 prices the value range is £75 million to £200 million.

### **.... and set for £3.5m environmentally friendly upgrade**

Highways England claims that safer, smoother journeys as well as environmental benefits are on the way along the A66 in Cumbria, thanks to a £3.5m package of improvements. Work along the A66 in west Cumbria includes junction improvements between Workington and Cockermouth and an extension of ground-breaking partnership work with Cumbria Wildlife Trust to enhance wildlife habitats, especially for pollinators like bees, along the route.

### **EA: £220m marine and coastal defence framework**

The Environment Agency has named the contractors it will use to deliver a £220m programme of marine and coastal flood defence work. Work has been split into two lots on the new framework, one covering major projects valued from £5m-£50m and the other smaller jobs worth less than £5m. The new arrangement will run until March 2023.

- £5m-£50m projects (total value £185m over four years)  
BAM New Wave Solutions JV, Van Oord UK, VBA (VolkerStevin/Boskalis Westminster/Atkins)
- Projects up to £5m (total value £35m over 4 years)  
JN Bentley, BAM Nuttall, Van Oord UK, VBA JV

### **GMSF delayed again**

Greater Manchester's 201,000-home spatial framework looks to have been kicked into the long grass again, although the GMCA's attempts to pin the blame on the Government for the delay have been questioned by those close to the process. The latest delay leaves it unlikely that any final form of the framework will come forward before next year's Mayoral elections, taking place in May 2020.

### **Labour announces major £3.5bn investment in Mersey tidal power project**

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn has backed major plans for a £3.5bn investment in the Mersey tidal power project as part of Labour's 'green industrial revolution' proposals to address the climate emergency and boost investment in the north of England. The project will harness the power of the River Mersey and Liverpool Bay to produce clean, renewable energy to power up to a million homes, create thousands of jobs and contribute towards the UK's zero-carbon economy. Labour has previously committed to net zero UK carbon emissions before 2050.

### **Crewe HS2 hub consultation gets under way**

Cheshire East has launched two consultations for the future of Crewe station, including options for a road bridge and the potential to bring forward up to 3.8m sq ft of commercial space along with 3,700 homes. The first consultation focusses on the area action plan, an area which stretches from Basford Hall sidings, across Weston Road to Second Avenue; along Gresty Road, South Street and Mill Street; and as far as Manchester Bridge along the A532.

### **£500m Sellafield DDP framework extended to 2026**

Sellafield has extended contracts to 2026 with seventeen firms it selected three years ago to deliver its £500m clean-up programme in Cumbria. So far the six alliances and joint ventures on the Decommissioning Delivery Partnership have delivered £385m worth of work and recorded 4.5m hours without a lost-time accident. The future pipeline projects include completing demolition of the infamous 110m tall Windscale pile chimney, scene of Britain's worst nuclear accident, and clearing land and removing the heat exchangers around the redundant Calder Hall reactors and turbine halls. The firms will help to plan the dewatering of the pile fuel storage pond and clean up the large Thorp and Magnox reprocessing plants.

#### *DDP framework*

- Lot 1 (Remediation, Pile Fuel Cladding Silo, Pile Fuel Storage Pond, other major projects) Integrated Decommissioning Solutions (comprising Atkins, Altrad Hertel, North West Projects and Westlakes Engineering)  
Nexus Decommissioning Alliance (Costain, Mott Macdonald, Nuvia, Squibb Group)  
ADAPT (Orano, Doosan, Atkins)  
Cumbria Nuclear Solutions (Jacobs, React, James Fisher Nuclear, Shepley Engineers, Westinghouse, WYG Engineering).
- Lot 2 (First Generation Magnox Storage Pond)  
The Decommissioning Alliance (Jacobs, Atkins, Westinghouse)
- Lot 3 (Magnox Swarf Storage Silo)  
13 Decommissioning Partners (Wood, Altrad Hertel, Shepley Engineers)

### **Plan to start £85m Eden Project North in 2020**

Details have been revealed of ambitious plans to build an £85m northern version of Cornwall's Eden Project on Morecambe Bay's seafront. The first environmental scoping planning report for the proposed Eden Project North attraction has been submitted to Lancaster City Council. Backed by Eden Project International, the project will consist of five mussel-shaped domes rising to nearly 40m.

<https://www.edenproject.com/media/2018/11/new-vision-morecambes-eden-project-revealed>

### **Merseyrail chooses three for framework**

The transport organisation has named the successful bidders for its five-year £10m framework, for construction works across its estate. Projects being delivered, or set to be delivered, across the network range from large schemes, station enhancements and rebuilds, car park projects, lift installations and booking office refurbishments. Merseyrail had started the tender process by asking for bids on three lots, with bidders invited to aim for lots covering values up to £100,000; between £100,000 and £1m, and £1m-plus. However, the organisation, which trades as Merseyrail Electrics 2002 Ltd, a joint venture between Serco and Abellio, decided not to award lot one. Instead, it has awarded places on both other lots of the framework to Morgan Sindall, Styles & Wood and Amalgamated Construction.

### **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>

### **Plans for disused rail line in Warrington?**

Officers will examine whether a new mass public transport system in Warrington will need to use a new crossing over the Manchester Ship Canal. Speculation over a new multi-million pound bypass along the disused railway embankment in Latchford sparked widespread concerns in 2017.

There is still uncertainty over what the area will be used for but the council says disused rail corridors have the potential to be used for transport purposes in the future. See LTP4 above for more details.

<https://www.warringtonguardian.co.uk/news/17849632.uncertainty-future-disused-railway-line-latchford/>

## Tenders

Homes England - Basford East Primary Infrastructure Works

Expressions of interest close on 16/09/2019.

Contact: Mike Sidebottom, Email: [mike.sidebottom2@atkinsglobal.com](mailto:mike.sidebottom2@atkinsglobal.com)

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=96be41cb-37bf-e911-80f8-005056b64545>

Homes England - Goole 36 Plot A & B Access Road

Expressions of interest close on 13/09/2019.

Contact: Andrew Laird, Email: [andrew.laird@aecom.com](mailto:andrew.laird@aecom.com)

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=8ce0613d-47bf-e911-80f8-005056b64545>

Blackpool: Highways - Surfacing and Civils Work (Large-Scale Framework)

Expressions of interest close on 13/09/2019.

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/>

Sefton: A59 KRN Improvements - A59 Northway / Liverpool Road South / Dover Road Junction

Expressions of interest close on 19/08/2019.

Contact: Jane Taylor, Sefton Council, Email: [jane.taylor1@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:jane.taylor1@sefton.gov.uk)

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

Cumbria: Capital Works Framework 2020-2024

Expressions of interest close on 30/08/2019.

Contact: Clare Redpath, Cumbria County Council, Email: [clare.redpath@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:clare.redpath@cumbria.gov.uk)

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

Wigan: Carriageway Resurfacing Works 2019/20

Expressions of interest close on 23/08/2019.

Contact: Dave Hibbert, Wigan Council, Email: [d.hibbert@wigan.gov.uk](mailto:d.hibbert@wigan.gov.uk)

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

NWCH Low Value Construction Framework

Expressions of interest close on 09/09/2019.

Contact: Neil Davies, Manchester City Council, Email: [n.davies@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:n.davies@manchester.gov.uk)

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

Stoke: Term Contract- Highways Minor Works

Expressions of interest close on 16/09/2019.

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

<https://procontract.due-north.com/Advert?advertId=61eded97-31c0-e911-80f8-005056b64545>

Darlington: Highways Surfacing Framework

Expressions of interest close on 27/08/2019.

Contact: Claire Weatherburn, Darlington Borough Council, Email: [claire.weatherburn@darlington.gov.uk](mailto:claire.weatherburn@darlington.gov.uk)

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

Also, further details can be provided of the following upon request:

Douglas: Decommissioning of The Freeport Pumping Station (QUICK QUOTE)

Liverpool: Engineering Design & Construction for Replacement of Kingsway Tunnels Discharge Drainage Pipework

Liverpool: Otterspool GreenUP SuDs

Liverpool: Reinstatement of Springfield Park

Lancaster: Salt Ayre Pool Pillar Steel Repairs

Grimsby: Inspection, Repair and Maintenance of Permanent Way

Chorley: Construction of a Sports Pavilion, Car Parking and Access at Westway Playing Fields

Warrington: Risley Moss Tower Works

Preston: Traffic Management Framework Agreement

Preston: Application of Traditional Surfacing, Surface Patching, Hand Patching and Hot Rolled Asphalt  
Manchester, Great Places Housing: Groundwork Contractors, Drainage Subcontractor & Tarmac Work Contractor

**....and finally**

**Notre-Dame restoration restarts on 19 August**

Construction has restarted on the burnt-out Notre-Dame Cathedral after it was paused due to lead contamination. The iconic Parisian landmark caught on fire on 15 April, causing major damage to much of its roof and spire. Work to restore the cathedral began shortly afterwards.

The local authority of Île-de-France said that the restoration had been put on hold since 25 July, in order to protect workers from lead pollution.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0iKIJFWuHus>