

“Improving service delivery through critical challenge and the sharing of knowledge”



# MSIG NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2018

## Partnership with Midlands Highways Alliance

Work to bring existing collaborative groups within the Midlands closer together is continuing.

A third joint MSIG Steering Group and MHA Executive Board meeting was held on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and with Mike Ashworth now confirmed as chair of both MSIG and MHA we will build on this foundation to develop an alliance which is more efficient and more connected.

*“We need to make more of collaboration and sharing of knowledge and resources between the local and regional alliances like the Midlands Service Improvement Group (MSIG) or Local Council Roads Innovation Group. They all have a major role to play. MSIG has developed scores of quantifiable economic improvements in terms of process, practice and benchmarking “*

*George Lee—Chief Executive, Highways Term Maintenance Association*

## Cumbria join MSIG

We welcome Cumbria as the 22nd MSIG member authority and look forward to working with and learning from them in the coming months.



Knowsley MBC have also expressed an interest in joining MSIG so watch this space ...



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## AECOM KSI Forecasting Tool

*Following a recent presentation at the MSIG Casualty Reduction Task Group meeting Ashley Green (AECOM) has arranged a workshop for MSIG authorities will be held at AECOMs Nottingham office on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2018.*

*The aim is to establish how the current AECOM KSI Forecasting Tool might be modified to deal with local authority roads rather than just the Highways England network that it has been designed for.*

**For more information please contact Ashley Green at AECOM or Suzanne Heydon (Chair of MSIG Casualty Reduction Task Group).**

## UKRLG Research Bid

*MSIG Highways Maintenance & Asset Management Task Group has made a collaborative bid with MHA and the London Technical Advisors Group (LoTAG) to commission a research project to develop Code of Practice Competence training for inspectors.*

*The aim of the project is to develop a robust competence and training framework that highway authorities can adopt to demonstrate compliance with the new Code of Practice as well as providing improved career paths and qualifications for highway staff.*

*Initial findings are due to be produced by October 2018 with implementation of training courses likely to take place during early 2019.*

**For more information please contact Paul Boss (Staffordshire), Clive Hall (Herefordshire) or David Walters (Staffordshire)**

## LANTRA/Bridge Inspection Competency Scheme

*The MSIG Highways Structures Task Group will be using their next meeting to hold an awareness raising event about the LANTRA Bridge Inspection Competency Scheme (BICS).*

*Andy Fewtrell from Up and Under will be the guest speaker and MSIG authorities are invited to bring along their bridge inspection colleagues who are engaged in the BICS process.*

*There will also be a presentation from Cascade about the management of abnormal loads and associated software.*

*The event will be held at Staffordshire County Council Chambers on 20th September 2018.*

**For more information please contact Alice Russell or Chris Plant (chair of MSIG Highways Structures Task Group).**





## Electric Vehicle Charging - MSIG Online Forum

*This resource has been created to bring all the information about Electric Vehicle Charging currently held on the MSIG website into one place.*

*A number of MSIG Task Groups - namely Civil Parking Enforcement, Accessibility, Traffic Engineering, Development Management and Street Lighting—have been discussing this topic. We hope that this forum will enable members from different MSIG Task Groups to communicate and share knowledge and best practice.*

*Should there be sufficient interest we may arrange a meeting in early 2019 to discuss future ways of working in this rapidly evolving area. See [msig.econtrack.com](http://msig.econtrack.com) for more information.*

## Recognising the benefits of MSIG

Over 240 individual examples of efficiencies/improvements/benefits have been reported by MSIG members since 2010.

A full log detailing all of these examples is available on the MSIG website on the 'Achievements' page.

Examples include a wide range of benefits, large and small. From savings made by shared training opportunities, time saved by sharing policy and guidance documents to sharing of experience and knowledge at task group meetings and via the discussion boards to inform decisions.

In the recent Highways Magazine article 'How do you solve a problem like local roads?', George Lee from Highways Term Maintenance Association name-checks MSIG as an example of how regional best practice alliances can help to drive efficiency through collaboration and sharing of resources.

**Please contact**  
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if you have any new entries for the MSIG Efficiencies Log.

## Funding MSIG projects and initiatives

*Since 2013, MSIG has made over £45k available for projects (proposed and designed by MSIG Task Groups) which had potential to make cost savings across the MSIG region.*

*Projects include:*

- Development of an online Travel Plan Monitoring Tool with not for profit organization Modeshift.*
- Development of West Midlands Highways Alliance Assessment Model for wider use through a light touch approach as part of a network of peer reviews across MSIG.*
- Provision of bespoke 2 day JBA training course for LLFA staff focusing on the assessment of planning applications and their impact on flood risk.*
- Design and production of customizable electronic publicity materials to raise awareness and provide information to relatives and friends of older drivers to reduce collisions in collaboration with Road Safety GB.*

# MSIG Members



## MSIG Task Group Meeting Calendar 2018-19

Task Groups	Group Chair	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb
MSIG Steering Group	Mike Ashworth - Derbyshire		11				
Accessibility & Smarter Choices	Richard Lovell - Derbyshire			21			
Casualty Reduction	Suzanne Heydon - Nottinghamshire		18				14
Civil Parking Enforcement	James Adams - Derbyshire			13			
Development Management	Chris Bond - Northamptonshire	26					
Flood Water Management	Victoria Coombes - Leicestershire			22			
Highways Maintenance & Asset Management	Paul Boss - Staffordshire		17			15	
Highways Structures	Chris Plant - Staffordshire	20					
Highway Records & Searches	Keith Davenport - Warwickshire						
Street Lighting	Martin Dunwell - Lancashire		9				
Streetworks & Temporary Activity	Gez Romano - Warwickshire			9			
Third Party Claims	Karen Seabright - Worcestershire	27				24	
Traffic Engineering	Peter Bell - Lancashire		25				
Traffic Signals	Gafoor Din - Warwickshire						7
Transportation Data & Analysis	Neill Bennett - Derbyshire		11				
Winter Services	Dave Kinsey - Derby City		10				

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