



February 2023

PSP 4 Tender – now live!

Please be aware that the PSP 4 Tender was issued on 21 February and is now live.

The closing date for submissions is 12:00 midday on 05/04/23.

Whilst we have evaluators already identified for the evaluation panels, there is still an opportunity for local authority members with experience of using the PSP 3 framework to volunteer. It is a good development opportunity and MHA+ will compensate an authority for staff time spent on procurement projects. Please contact the [MHA+ Manager](#) by 17 March at the latest to register your interest.

Protect your access to the Frameworks

Following the merger to create MHA+ in July 2020, existing MHA members were required to complete a 'Deed of Variation', and non-MHA members to complete a 'Deed of Adherence' to become members of MHA+. Despite all existing members making an informal commitment in writing, a few members still need to complete the formal paperwork.

Please note that we are currently reviewing the membership records in conjunction with our legal department.

Some 20 members used MSF 3 and 30 Members are currently using PSP 3. Any member authorities who are intending to use MSF 4, or the new Professional Services Framework in August, will need to ensure that their membership paperwork and membership fees are up to date.

This only affects a small number of members, and we will be making contact over the next few weeks. If you think this applies to you, then please contact the [MHA+ Manager](#).

SIG Updates (Nov 2022 – Feb 2023)

There have been 8 Service Improvement Group meetings since the last update in October 2022. We continue to have excellent levels of attendance and participation from group members across the MHA Plus region and look forward to a full programme of SIG meetings in 2023.

Streetworks – The first meeting for this group since November 2021. Many thanks to the outgoing chair Gez Romano (Warwickshire CC) and also to the new group chair, Josh Pemberton (Leicester City).

Civil Parking Enforcement – Updates from group members on their plans to apply for Moving Traffic Enforcement powers in Tranche 2 (January 2023). Further discussions and sharing of best practices around cashless parking and virtual permits.

Flood Water Management – Excellent attendance at this meeting with members actively sharing case studies, proformas, guidance, and planning conditions with their colleagues on the topics of enforcement, project management/funding streams, SUDS, and flood resilience.

Street Lighting – An in-person meeting that was combined with an ILP Birmingham event which many group members were attending. In addition to the SIG meeting, members were able to attend two seminars and take a tour of the Fabrikat factory in Sutton in Ashfield.

Highway Asset Management – DfT reps James Brett and Gary Kemp attended to update group members on the work they are doing to build a standard for national highway condition data collection and provide a general update regarding funding and self-assessment. Xais also presented on their footway condition surveys which can be undertaken using a mobility scooter that can be driven along the footway rather than surveying from the carriageway.

Traffic Signals – Presentation from Andrew Walsh at TfWM about the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Traffic Management Programme, the establishment of a Games Route Networks and, traffic signal operational strategy.

Details of all upcoming Service Improvement Group meetings are available on the MHA+ Calendar and further information on each service improvement group is available from [Alice Russell](#).

Updated MHA+ Learning Management System

You should have received an email (from Virtual College) to advise you that your new learning account has been set up.

For those learners that have been accepted onto virtual learning modules, the system is set up for you to be sent a reminder to either commence or complete – or the license will be removed.

If you haven't yet received these emails, please check your SPAM, accept the mail sender domain, and follow the links. If possible, could you update your role, so our records remain up to date.

MHA+ learning, training, and development

Request for registering of interest for some potential learning and development CPD events:

NEC4: ECC Supervisor Accreditation this programme is designed to equip delegates with the skills necessary to be able to fulfil the role of a Supervisor using the NEC4 Engineering and Construction Contract (ECC). Click [here](#) for more information from NEC.

NEC4: ECC Project Manager Accreditation This programme is designed to equip delegates with the skills necessary to be able to manage a project under an NEC4 Contract, with specific reference to the role and importance of the Project Manager under the NEC4 Engineering and Construction Contract (ECC). Click [here](#) for more information from NEC.

Please email [Julia May](#) to register your interest and advise on the potential number of participants - if you represent one of our member organisations.

New Learning Content

We update our website regularly, with new learning content for our members. We've highlighted and linked a few recent ones that may be of interest:

New [Waterman Aspen content](#):

- [Highways England Water Risk Assessment Tool \(HEWRAT\)](#) presented by Josh Wilce
- [Lunch and Learn](#) on CIWEM.

New [Aecom content](#):

- [Overview of Parking](#). Please find the supporting [presentation here](#).
- [Carbon Impact Assessment](#). (ORIS/AECOM collaboration).
- Oxfordshire [KeyLines](#) and [KeySigns](#) training.

New PSP 3 Project Description Sheets, undertaken by our suppliers, are also live on our website now:

- [Oxfordshire KeyLines and KeySigns Training](#)
- [Derby City & Leicestershire County Council AutoCAD Civil 3D training](#)
- [Milton Keynes Streetpods](#)

MHA+ Members Fee

Local Authority membership of Midlands Highways Alliance Plus (MHA+) is subject to an annual membership fee of £3,750 which covers alliance running costs.

We've received nine payments to date and would like to remind those who haven't yet paid, to please ensure that we have up-to-date contact details so that orders can be raised, and invoices paid by 31 March 2023, to avoid placing your membership benefits at risk.



Alliance membership allows a member authority access to benefits including:

- A collaborative community of client, consulting and contracting professionals
- Staff development through active engagement in governance, working groups, etc.
- Free training via the free Learning Management System (LMS)
- Free shared learning opportunities e.g., supplier training, learning library, working groups
- Free Annual Conference event with the opportunity for networking, learning, and self-promotion

- Free Service Improvement Group (SIG) network of 16 highways and transport specialist groups and supporting website (previously MSIG)
- Medium Schemes Frameworks (MSF 3/4) where terms and conditions agreed
- Professional Services Frameworks (PSP 3/4) where terms and conditions agreed
- Information via the website, information sharing platform (ISP), newsletters, and meetings
- Support via core team and supplier contacts

The Future Highways Research Group (FHRG) recognises that local highway authorities demonstrating the greatest value for money are active members of alliances such as MHA+.

Persistent non-payment of membership fees will ultimately undermine the services MHA+ are able to offer and increase future membership fees. Non-payment is now routinely reported to the Programme Board. All local authority Directors with outstanding fees due will be written to and continued non-payment will be escalated to the Executive Board with a recommendation on further action to be taken.

MSF 4 Procurement Fee

The below highlights the MSF 4 procurement fee for each scheme that is put through the framework:

- 0.25% of the 'value of the work order' at the start of construction
- Minimum fee of £2,500 and a maximum fee of £50,000
- MHA+ Annual Membership Fee of £3,750 will be deducted from the **MSF 4 Procurement fee** once a year

This is generated when a scheme reaches stage 2 – 'construction', and an annex C is completed.

Live Labs 2 – the success of Transport for West Midlands bid

The MHA+ with its Carbon Steering Group have supported the successful bid put forward by (TfWM).

TfWM's Mark Corbin (Director of Network Resilience) said:

“We are truly delighted to be part of the **ADEPT** Live Lab 2 programme. Our focus over the three years of our Live Lab will be the creation of a UK Collaboration Centre of Excellence for Decarbonisation of Materials. This will provide a centralised hub for research and innovation for the decarbonisation of highways. It will be one programme across two campuses – the north campus will be hosted by **North Lanarkshire Council** and we at **Transport for West Midlands** will be the south campus.



Together with our industry partners, academic institutions, and public sector bodies, we will develop a knowledge bank, test materials in real-life conditions, share learning and embed new approaches and materials across the highways sector. This is a significant opportunity to shape the future and for the UK to be a global leader in this space and we are truly excited to be on this journey.”

Future Highways Research Group / MHA+ Liaison

FHRG recently held its key quarterly 'waypoint' meeting. Jonathan Evans attended and presented an update regarding the MHA+ new Term Community Service Improvement Group (which Jonathan is Chair of) & detailed the opportunities and potential for joint working. Andy Perrin from the FHRG will be attending the next TCSIG to update members on their work on Term Community delivery and other associated topics.

Annual Event 2023

The Annual Event for 2023 is on the theme of Value and Skills. The event will now be held at Hollywell Park Conference Centre, Loughborough on 20 September to allow for the participation by the suppliers of the new Professional Services Partnership Framework, PSP 4.



A New MHA+ Editorial Group

The Programme Board has supported the creation of a new Editorial Group for MHA+. The group will provide a focus to all matters pertaining to the effective communications of MHA+ & to drive forward the delivery of its Communications Plan as a part of MHA+ Business Plan, alongside an overarching editorial function for key communication matters for MHA+. We are looking for enthusiastic members who can commit to several meetings per year. If you are interested in joining, please contact MHA+ Support, [Ian Bamforth](#) or give him a ring on **07842 034616**.

Ensure that you are properly represented at Executive Board level

The aim of the Alliance is to support its member authorities in providing effective, efficient innovative and sustainable customer focussed highway services by:

- developing and sharing best practice in delivering highway services.
- providing effective routes to market that reflects the quality, innovation, and value for money the alliance strives for.

The MHA+ relies on member authorities and Suppliers all working collaboratively together to ensure our success and to achieve our aims. It is vital that this is directed through a governance structure that allows each authority to have its say on our direction of travel to shape the Alliance for the future.

Overall governance is by a **director level Executive Board**, which meets twice a year and annually reviews and approves the MHA+ business plan.

The MHA+ executive board undertakes the following activities:

- Sets the priorities for the Alliance by approving the annual business plan at the start of the financial year.
- Creates an environment which encourages the sharing of ideas and information and supports potential collaborative partnerships.
- Influences and leads on the development of national best practice.
- Is aware of national and regional trends and changes to funding programmes and legislation that will influence the work of the Alliance and ensures that timely action to effect any necessary changes can be facilitated.
- Ensures the work of the Alliance is given a high profile nationally and connects with other regional alliances across the country.

The Executive Board undertakes the strategic decision-making on behalf of the whole alliance. Please ensure that we have the right contacts at the right level to ensure that you are properly represented.

The next meeting of the Executive Board will be at 2pm on Tuesday 21 March on Teams to approve the Business Plan that will set the direction of MHA+ over the next three years.

For enquiries about this bulletin or to suggest any future articles please contact Jacqui Wooldridge/
Karen Notman. If you have colleagues who may not have received this email please share it with them,
so that they can contact us directly to confirm that they wish to receive our bulletin, alternatively if you
wish to unsubscribe from this bulletin email MidlandsHighwayAlliancePlus@leics.gov.uk

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