



SIG MEMBERS MEETING

Update: May 2024

There have been nine Service Improvement Group meetings plus a SIG Chairs meeting since the last update in late 2023. We continue to have excellent levels of attendance and participation from group members across the MHA Plus region.

Agendas, minutes and presentation slides from all SIG meetings are available on the [MHA+ SIG members site](#) along with benchmarking exercises and online discussion boards.

Highways Asset Management – temporary Chair. Price Update model shared with Term SIG. Advised on the positive take-up of the e:foundation award commissioned by MHA+ skills available via the MHA+ lms – all have passed the test and received their certificates. Discussion on 6/12 DfT funding allocation and meeting/advising DfT reporting requirements for schemes/maintenance works. Leicestershire provided presentation on Vaisala Road AI. Content from UKRLG AM Board was shared. M2i shared content on 'Value for Carbon' work undertaken in partnership with UofLeeds

SIG Chairs – Eight chairs provided feedback on key outcomes from their SIG meetings. AR advised on the interim MHA+ support to be provided until a new SIG Co-ordinator is appointed. AR was warmly thanked for all the support provided to SIG (since 2015). Chairs were requested to provide content for MHA+ business plan update and 2023/24 Annual report. MHA+ Framework learning content; YouTube® and project description sheets links were advised to the Chairs. 2024 MHA+ Annual Event tentative date was advised

Casualty reduction - group discussion included Vision Zero' and sharing of 'Safe Systems' approaches at MHA+ member authorities and National Highways. Other topics included sharing views, experiences and policy/strategy positions on 20mph zones across the MHA+ region.

Development Management – no progress on Shared Surface approach; section 50 guidance launch is felt to be imminent Presentation from Leicestershire on highway design guide project -topics covered low carbon materials palette, Active Travel and value of trees toolkit. Members shared content on EV charging infrastructure; pertinent Appeal Decisions; section 59 template; no progress reported on List of Street sub-group

Traffic Signals – presentations from two system suppliers on access to system data using vehicle SIM cards; and use of AI to optimize traffic signal functions. Need for rigour in lone working was exemplified by health & safety issues. SIG advised on update of RLG code of practice - lead is TS Chair. Successful challenge by SIG members on unannounced BT line rental costs. Methods of reducing costs and net zero solutions advised. SIG updated on project (review of pedestrian crossing) working group. Recruitment of experienced engineers using the DfT funding – positive feedback on post FE/HE recruitment. Advised on the rigour in Active Travel site assessments to secure funding

Flood Water Management – Clarification on the publishing of SAB consultation documents; Feedback from SIG members on recent storms HENK and BABET; identification of lessons learned, funding issues and best practice. Group members agreed to convene a task and finish group to discuss National Flood Funding Recovery Framework; next meeting includes presentation on flood investigations and water course regulation

Transportation Data & Analysis – Hybrid meeting held at County Hall Matlock. Presentation from two product suppliers on technology providing real-time data (via sensors and mobile phone) to support Active Travel schemes; transport planning, modelling and evidence-based data needed for project briefs. Data and analysis being used to predicate decision being made prior to the creation of EMCCA and potential to prepare EMCCA capital project bids

Highways Records & Searches – List of Streets best practice document working group making good progress in considering the ‘development’ survey responses; working group membership augmented to ensure broader geographic spread and representation from local authority ‘tiers. Good SIG representation on the County Council Land Charges Group and updates provided’. Good progress in work to migrate local land charges paper-based data to a digital online platform

Street Lighting - Street Lighting – hybrid meeting held following tour of ASL Lighting. Issues concerning health & safety were advised and SIG to provide information that key issues can be discussed with Highways England. EV discussion included the need for consistency of charging and benefits of relationship management with sustainability and Active Travel colleagues. DNO issues were discussed at length and document share - to use as a basis for discussion with Ofgem was an action. Updates from regional groups, including [Live labs 2 project](#). LCC dimming pilot outcome was shared £142k savings; 81 tons Co2e. Positive feedback on development of street lighting career pathways and successful recruitment of post HE/FE candidates.

Highway Structures – presentation from Network Rail lead on asset protection. Safety moment highlighted unsanctioned work being noticed during site visit on unrelated A38 scheme. Presentation included use of Asset Protection Customer Experience (ACE) system that is designed to improve communication, information storage and retrieval and end to end support for projects and schemes. Presentation elicited questions from SIG on Network Rail Agreements; Delivering Work within a Possession (DWPP and Public Liability Insurance Levels

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 [SIG co-ordinators](#)