**Category: Best use of Technology in the Reduction of Cost and/ or Productivity Enhancement**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | **MHA+ member name** |
|  |  |
|  | West Northamptonshire Council (Highways) |
|  |  |
| 2 | **other partners involved in the development of this product/project/nomination** |
|  |  |
|  | 1.) Kier has provided highways maintenance works for West Northamptonshire Council since September 2022. 2.) as Built Digital Ltd supported the development and delivery of the Smart Scheduling solution. |
|  |  |
| 3 | **Please provide a brief description of what was done.** |
|  |  |
|  | West Northamptonshire Highways, working with Kier, is keen to increase efficiencies in scheduling road maintenance works, with an aim to reduce costs and improve productivity. To do this, it has worked on an AI assisted Smart Scheduling concept to create a proof of value, in which the prior three months of data were compared with what could have been achieved had we used Smart Scheduling. |
|  |  |
| 4 | **Please provide a brief overview of what were the benefits of the digital deployment** |
|  |  |
|  | The AI assisted Smart Scheduling proof of value simulation over 3 months shows savings of £1,465 in fuel and £43,750 in labour costs, and a decrease in scheduling time of 90%. It also shows a cut in travel of 14,151 km, and reduced CO₂ emissions by 2,844 kg. |
|  |  |
| 5 | **Please provide a brief overview of why you should win an award** |
|  |  |
|  | This innovative AI smart scheduling proof of value initiative by West Northamptonshire shows the potential cost savings, productivity gains, and sustainability benefits. It provides a useful pilot for developing future-ready highways maintenance scheduling through a scalable and replicable approach that improves workflows, reduces emissions, and enhances service delivery. |
|  |  |
| 6 | **Please provide any other information that you feel needs to be included in the submission** |
|  |  |
|  | Please see... Smart Scheduling PoV Study Pack.pdf and Smart Scheduling Phase I One Pager.pdf sent by email to Victoria Barker <Victoria.Barker@leics.gov.uk> as I am unable to share organisational links. Also please see the following points... •Results: Compared to manual methods, Smart Scheduling saved an average of 10.88 hours of travel time per area and significantly reduced fuel usage and emissions. •Operational resilience: Embedding scheduling logic into the platform reduces reliance on individual expertise, supports new staff onboarding, and ensures consistent, high-quality decision-making. •User-centred design: Developed in collaboration with frontline schedulers, incorporating hands-on training and co-design to support user adoption and long-term use. •Scalability and future integration: Plans include full Work Management System (WMS) integration, AI-generated traffic management plans, and automated documentation. •Challenges addressed: The project overcame data quality issues, manual dependency, and integration complexities through early alignment, strong partnerships, and an agile, phased approach. |
|  |  |
| 7 | **Please provide contact details** |
|  | Sharon French, Communications Manager, Kier  |
|  |  |
| 8 | **Please provide other contact details** |
|  |  |
|  | sharon.french@kier.co.uk07962438532 |
|  |  |
|  | To note that West Northants have submitted supporting documents for their nomination. (Labelled in F drive as West Northants Supporting Documents. |