



Category: Best use of innovation to build resilience

MHA+ member name

Cheshire East Highways

Supporting organisation(s)

Ringway Jacobs

Summary

Cheshire East Highways experienced a severe, area-wide flooding event that generated an exceptional volume of incidents across the network, overwhelming conventional highways reporting and assessment processes. The event exposed a fundamental gap: existing asset management systems were designed around individual asset condition rather than understanding the road network's role as a critical community lifeline. Management arrangements focused on continuity at individual sites rather than the resilience of the wider network and the communities it serves. Following this experience, Cheshire East Highways adopted the Stormchain Rapid Impact Assessment as its Integrated Emergency Management System, providing a consistent, network-wide framework for capturing geo-located, time-stamped impact and consequence data in real time. This represents the beginning of a wider resilience journey, embedding highways resilience thinking into day-to-day management and operational practice and testing arrangements through live exercising as the authority prepares for its worst day, not its average day. Continued development of Stormchain will strengthen Cheshire East's own resilience while improving its ability to both request and provide mutual aid across the MHA+ network.