

Frequently Asked Questions



Membership

What is MHA Plus?

MHA Plus has been created to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the three existing highways-related efficiency groups that currently operate in the Midlands region. MHA Plus will combine the Midlands Highways Alliance, Midlands Service Improvement Group and West Midlands Highways Alliance. Is my authority a member of MHA Plus?

If your authority is currently a member of either MHA, MSIG or WMHA (or a combination of these groups) then you will be part of the MHA Plus, subject to your authority signing up to the new membership agreement which will be made available to your representative on the Executive Board.

What is the annual subscription fee?

The new membership fee for MHA Plus will be £3,750 per annum. This will represent a significant fee reduction for existing MHA members and a small increase for those authorities that are either only members of MSIG or WMHA. Invoices for the new MHA Plus fee will be sent out in Autumn 2020 to cover membership costs for the 2020/21 financial year.

What are the benefits of MHA Plus?

- ✓ Participation in a wide range of industry sector workstreams and discussion groups
- ✓ Access to quality, trusted resources for the design and delivery of works, services, learning, training and development opportunities, by working with the private sector through a series of well-established framework contracts
- ✓ Learning from peers and experts within the sector through networking opportunities with like-minded people who are passionate about highways
- ✓ Participation in Peer Reviews to help you understand how your authority can make service delivery improvement
- ✓ Access to best practice advice and sharing ideas about innovation and efficiencies
- ✓ Opportunity to be part of the 'bigger picture' to look at benchmarking and public satisfaction as measured by the NHT and CQC Efficiency Networks

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- ✓ Gathering insights and advice in relation to DfT funding initiatives
- ✓ Involvement in special projects such as Carbon Reduction in the industry
- ✓ Invitation to attend MHA Plus annual event which is the flagship event within the Midlands

Can I now access the MSF 3 and PSP 3 Frameworks?

Information about the frameworks can be found [here](#)

MSF 3 Contacts [MSF 3 Contact Card](#)

PSP3 Contacts [PSP 3 Contact Card](#)

Any questions relating to these frameworks can be directed to [Peter Barclay](#) Midlands Highways Alliance Manager

Task Groups and workstream meetings

Will the task group or workstream meetings that I attend, be changing?

During the transition phase, we will be looking at any ways that we can make the current groups work more efficiently and effectively. This could mean either no change to the current set-up or it might be that some groups could merge from April 2021. This will maximise resources as well as reduce any duplication that has been identified.

It may be necessary to update remits, to ensure that all relevant subject matter is being covered and new areas of interest, such as carbon reduction and network resilience, are being addressed.

Any changes will take place following consultation with and agreement of group members.

Who should attend MHA+ as the three Alliances targeted different audiences?

If your authority becomes a member of MHA+, you will be able to send representatives to the different events and meetings that are appropriate to the target audience. For example, your asset management team or Traffic Signals staff would continue to attend the relevant MSIG-related task groups.

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Where will MHA+ meetings and events take place?

Once COVID-19 travel restrictions are relaxed, we will endeavour to select venues that are central and easy to get to using sustainable travel options. However, we will continue to host virtual meetings when possible to increase opportunities for participation and reduce non-essential travel.

I am interested in attending a meeting – who should I contact? where can I find information about meeting dates and venues in 2020?

MHA meeting calendar can be found [here](#)
MSIG Task Group timetable can be accessed [here](#)
Dates of WMHA meetings (which will now take the form of MHA Plus Programme Board meetings) can be found [here](#)
Any questions about meeting attendance can be directed to:
Alice.russell@derbyshire.gov.uk (MSIG);
peter.barclay@leics.gov.uk (MHA) or
aclarkson@worcestershire.gov.uk (WMHA)

Websites and newsletters

Will the websites be Changing?

There will be no major changes to the MHA, MSIG and WMHA websites during the transition period from April 2020 up until March 2021. During the transition phase, group members will be signposted to websites of MHA, MSIG and WMHA and will be provided with access to those sites that they may not already have logins for
After this date, we hope to launch a new MHA Plus website which will bring together all of the information and functionality from the three existing websites.
Please contact alice.russell@derbyshire.gov.uk with any questions about MSIG website access

Will I continue to get a Newsletter?

A MHA+ quarterly e-newsletter will be sent to all members from September 2020 and will replace any newsletters that you will have received through MHA, MSIG and WMHA.
MSIG task group members will continue to receive MSIG Task Group e-bulletins.