

## Skills and Digital

Holywell Park Conference Centre, Loughborough University Science and Enterprise Park  
17 September 2024 – 9.00 am - 4.00 pm

Speaker	Pen portrait
<p><b>Ann Carruthers</b></p> <p><b>Chair, Midlands Highway Alliance Plus Executive Board</b></p>	<p><b>Pen portrait</b></p> <p>Ann is Director of Environment and Transport for Leicestershire County Council responsible for all highways, transport, environment and waste services. Before joining Leicestershire CC, Ann worked with a number of local authorities across Scotland and England covering the highways, transport, environment and growth agendas. Ann also spent some time introducing sustainable transport options and new ways of working across New Zealand state highway system. Ann is President of the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport (ADEPT), a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation, a member of the Highways Sector Council and Chair of Midlands Highway Alliance Plus.</p>
<p><b>Philip Reid</b></p> <p><b>Chair of MHA+ Digital Working Group</b></p>	<p>Philip is the Head of Innovation &amp; Transformation for VINCI Construction Companies in the UK. He leads the team to develop new solutions and implement the best of those already in the market that will help our businesses and industry to deliver their works better. He has been a core member of the VINCI Construction UK team for over 15 years, in that time he has never stayed still, always looking for the next challenge, this has given him experience in many aspects of highway construction &amp; maintenance.</p>
<p><b>Karen Notman</b></p> <p><b>Manager, Midlands Highway Alliance Plus</b></p>	<p>Karen has been Midlands Highway Alliance Plus Manager since May 2021, having had a number of active roles in MHA, since its inception - through local authority and consultancy roles with Aecom, Waterman Aspen, Derbyshire and Leicestershire County Councils. She has worked in most areas of a local authority highway department and was a service manager of highway maintenance and design services for over 15 years, with Leicestershire County Council, before joining AECOM as an Associate Director in both the Nottingham and Birmingham offices. She has had close involvement with the Institution of Civil Engineers over her career and is a past Chair of the East Midlands Region. Originally from Birmingham, she started her career in Coventry with a placement at Geotechnics Limited in the city before heading east to Leicestershire.</p>



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<p><b>Katie Parnell</b></p> <p><b>Future Mobility &amp; Placemaking Team Leader: Oxfordshire County Council</b></p>	<p>Katie took her present team leader role in the Innovation Service (HUB) in September 2022, leading a multi-disciplinary team, covering innovation in mobility and placemaking, ranging from self driving vehicles projects to IoT device deployment to data analysis, monitoring and evaluation, and ensuring innovation is considered within policy and strategic planning at Oxfordshire County Council. She has over 15 years' experience within Local Government, beginning her career in sustainable travel and behaviour change, before moving into transport planning and policy, then into transport innovation and research. She was one of the founding members of the Innovation Service at Oxfordshire County Council, being instrumental in its success and growth from 4 members of staff in 2014 to 24 members of staff in 2024, having either successfully initiated or overseen many of the 100+ innovation projects delivered by the service over the last decade.</p>
<p><b>Adam Symons</b></p> <p><b>Innovation Business Development, Amey Consulting</b></p>	<p>Adam is the Team Leader at Oxfordshire County Council, having previously worked in climate and as Head of Waste Management. He is also a lecturer in Environmental Consultancy at Oxford Brookes University and has worked for a range of public and private sector organisations in his 30-year career. Early in his career he worked for what is now AECOM as a consultant and has continued to provide freelance consultancy advice over the last 20 years in environment, planning and resources, including for the British Council in Siberia.</p>
<p><b>William Oldham</b></p> <p><b>Local Government Association (LGA)</b></p>	<p>Will is an Adviser in the Leadership Team at the LGA and is leading the LGA work on developing a new flagship recruitment campaign for local government, 'Make a Difference, Work for Your Local Council'. The campaign will be rolled out to all regions in England in autumn 2024 and is funded by the UK Government. Will's wider work at the LGA involves delivering leadership development programmes for councillors and officers in councils across the country.</p>
<p><b>Hannah Bartram</b></p> <p><b>Chief Executive, Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning &amp; Transport (ADEPT)</b></p>	<p>Hannah joined ADEPT in February 2016 and is responsible for setting the strategic direction and overseeing delivery of all aspects of ADEPT business. This includes offering a range of membership services, facilitating extensive networking and learning opportunities, delivering a major research programme and influencing emerging government policy on a broad portfolio of issues affecting the delivery of council place services. She moved from the Environment Agency, where she led various national teams working on policy areas including planning, growth &amp; devolution, climate change and flood risk management. Prior to that she worked for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) on a range of international and domestic nature conservation issues. She is a trustee and the honorary treasurer of the Beds, Cambridgeshire &amp; Northamptonshire Wildlife Trust.</p>







<p><b>Emily See</b></p> <p><b>Highways Market Director Amey Consulting</b></p>	<p>Emily focusses on working with Local Authorities and National Highways, to achieve their strategic objectives. With 11 years of experience in the sector, Emily is passionate about supporting the sector with key priorities such as decarbonisation, asset management and innovation. She is also actively engaged in the sector including acting as the Senior Vice President of LGTAG, chairing LGTAGs Highway and Infrastructure Management Board and working with the CIHT as a Technical Champion.</p>
<p><b>Darren Dival</b></p> <p><b>Regional road safety manager, Transport for West Midlands (TfWM)</b></p>	<p>Darren’s role at TfWM is to enable, support and facilitate road safety improvements across the West Midlands Combined Authority region. As Lead Coordinator for the 16 Regional Road Safety Partnership organisations, Darren ensures delivery of a robust and fit for purpose strategic approach aimed at achieving a 50% reduction in the number of killed and seriously injured casualties by 2030. His current focus is on the delivery of a Regional Road Safety Action Plan based on robust statistical evidence and community-based insight, along with a new multi-agency Operational Working Agreement for average speed enforcement. Darren is a former Chair of the Institute of Road Safety Officers and Head of Road Safety GB Academy. He is also a judge for the Prince Michael International Road Safety Awards and represents TfWM on the PACTS Safe System Forum.</p>
<p><b>Shane Foley</b></p> <p><b>VivaCity Labs</b></p>	<p>Shane has extensive experience in both operational management and sales management roles, across large multinational mobility providers and start-up tech-based organisations. He is passionate about sustainable, green travel and working towards making our communities safer, cleaner and generally better places to live. Shane's role at VivaCity allows him to work alongside combined and local authorities to ensure they can use our cutting-edge AI technology to have the best, most accurate data possible to make impactful decisions on the way we live.</p>
<p><b>Sunil Budheo</b></p> <p><b>Transport Innovation manager, Coventry City Council</b></p>	<p>Sunil has over 40 years’ experience in the Traffic, Transport and ITS Industry; his current has helped in development of new technology for transportation. Now venturing into the latest mode of transportation of Electric-Vertical Take Of and Landing (E-VTOL). His skills in securing funding for other CAV projects funded by Innovate UK and the DfT such as UK Autodrive, UK Cite and NPP Parking Platform with other key partners. Supporting Coventry University with their transport related R&amp;D projects. Delivered the first demonstration of an Autonomous vehicle driven on the streets of Coventry, introduced Micro Mobility as part of MaaS. A member of the UTMC Standard and specification development group, BSi Future of Flight Advisory Group, Royal Aeronautical Society, working with various organisations to set standards in the emerging new modes of transport sector; and supporting several Advisory Board and groups</p>

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<p><b>Teresa Hylton</b></p> <p><b>Framework Manager (MHA+) and East Midlands Regional Director, Waterman Aspen</b></p>	<p>Teresa began her career at Mansfield District Council, where she specialised in highway engineering, learning a multitude of disciplines within highway maintenance and capital schemes, which laid a strong foundation for her subsequent endeavours. She then transitioned to the private sector, where she contributed significantly to national projects, including the US Embassy and the London Olympics. Her experience in multi-disciplinary works has been instrumental in her professional growth. Currently, at Waterman Aspen, she continues to learn and apply her extensive knowledge and skills in civil engineering; adapting to roles within National Highways, and within City and County authorities. She has recognised and embraced the importance of communication, collaboration and trust to achieve successful service and project delivery.</p>
<p><b>David Owens</b></p> <p><b>Head of Digital Engineering and BIM, WSP</b></p>	<p>David is a seasoned Digital Engineering and Building Information Modelling leader, with 20 years of experience in the highways, rail, and natural resource markets. With over a decade of expertise in driving digital transformation and implementing innovative engineering solutions on major infrastructure projects. In his role at David leads digital initiatives, enhancing productivity, and project delivery through advanced technologies and BIM practices. His notable projects include the M25 Widening, A556 Knutsford to Bowdon, and the Smart Motorway Programme Alliance. He has disrupted traditional design models with automation and digital strategies, leading to significant productivity gains. Previously a design manager with Balfour Beatty and Costain, he was central to the National Highways BIM programme, setting industry standards and is recognised for his leadership in PMO, design management, and data-driven asset management. David's work continues to set benchmarks in the digital transformation of infrastructure projects.</p>
<p><b>Nitesh Alagh</b></p> <p><b>Business Lead, Severn Trent</b></p>	<p>Nitesh leads in digital engineering, sustainability and emerging technology and, as a contemporary business leader, is skilled in identifying opportunities for growth and innovation, developing effective strategies, and leading cross-functional teams to achieve business objectives. His experience includes leading large-scale transformation programs, driving operational excellence, and implementing digital solutions to improve business performance. He is also an expert in data &amp; AI and has experience in developing data-driven strategies, implementing AI solutions, and leveraging analytics to drive business performance. Nitesh is passionate about sustainability and believes that businesses must go beyond the minimum to drive positive change and create a more sustainable future.</p>

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<p><b>Josh Wilce</b></p> <p><b>Regional Director, Water &amp; Environment, Waterman Aspen</b></p>	<p>Josh is a chartered (C.WEM) Water &amp; Environmental Manager with 16 years experience in the Highways and Flood Risk industry. He heads up a team of 30 consultants that work directly with clients on all aspects of work relating to Water &amp; Environment, with clients ranging from LLFA's, Environment Agency, private consultants and Water companies. Josh spent 10 years within Leicestershire County Council and was involved in the development of the Lead Local Authority and the delivery of its statutory duties under the Flood &amp; Water Management Act, eventually heading up the LLFA team for 2 years. Following this, he moved to Waterman Aspen to spearhead the growth of the Water &amp; Environment Team. Josh has undertaken work with National Highways and their consultants to develop the programme of priority outfall assessments and water quality relating to carriageway runoff.</p>
<p><b>Ruairi Charlesworth</b></p> <p><b>Highways Data Systems</b></p>	<p>Ruairi has worked across technical and commercial roles for 12 years in the asphalt construction industry, gaining experience on highways, airfields and defence estates infrastructure projects. As head of business development for Highway Data Systems he is responsible for promoting intelligent construction technology in both the UK and the USA. He has helped shape market understanding of intelligent construction technology which, through Highway Data Systems, has led to specification change at Transport Scotland, National Highways, Heathrow Airport and across local authority frameworks. Ruairi holds a masters' degree in Management &amp; International Business and is a Committee Member of the Institute of Asphalt Technology.</p>
<p><b>Jamie Missenden</b></p> <p><b>MSF 4 Framework Manager Galliford Try</b></p>	<p>Jamie joined Galliford Try in 2015 as a Project Manager on schemes during the MSF 2 Framework. Working across multiple MSF 2 and 3 schemes over the next five years; becoming more involved with the Framework Community Board along the way, he took the role as Regional Manager in 2020 and has overseen the growth of the Galliford Try business in his region as well as supporting the medium schemes framework at every step of the way. Since starting in the industry in 2002 as a Trainee Site Engineer, he has delivered schemes across the country with various organisations from complex public realm schemes to some of the largest infrastructure schemes the Midlands has seen, up to £500m.</p>