



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

lcrig.org.uk

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FOREWORD

A message from our CEO

On behalf of LCRIG, I would like to welcome you to our very first Annual Report, which we are delighted to share with you.

In this report, we proudly look back on our accomplishments during the year and highlight the work that LCRIG has delivered for and on behalf of our members.

LCRIG has experienced significant growth over the last twelve months. Our membership has increased across the public, private, partner and academia sectors. Our flagship events, the Innovation Festival and Strictly Highways also continue to grow, achieving record bookings and attendance.

Importantly, our influence within the sector is also growing. Our reach into central and local government, national organisations and supply chains continues to develop and I have had the opportunity to represent LCRIG at events both in the UK and overseas during 2023.

Our growth has enabled us to continue to deliver on our objectives, to support our members and have a positive impact on the wider highways community. The statistics on our CIC activities highlighted within this report are just remarkable.

We hope you enjoy reading our report and invite you to get involved and join us on our journey in 2024.



Paula Clayton-Smith

Chief Executive
Local Council Roads Innovation Group (LCRIG)



WHO IS LCRIG?

The Local Council Roads Innovation Group (LCRIG) was established in 2013 by a group of forward-thinking councils. Our mission is to make the case for local roads through collaboration, innovation, skills and net zero for the highways community and our members. We do this by offering a unique platform for members to engage, offering a vital link between central and local government, supply chain and the wider

highways community to ensure ongoing improvements in the highways sector.

LCRIG is a Community Interest Company (CIC) and we are committed to giving back to the community through charitable donations and reinvest back into the highways sector by enabling local government members to benefit from fully funded services.



OUR BOARD MEMBERS



Will Britain

President
LCRIG



Paul Binks

Asset Manager
Lancashire County Council



Paula Claytonsmith

Chief Executive
LCRIG



Ian Large

Head of Service Highways and
Traffic Management
Blackpool Council



Martin Duffy

Chair
LCRIG



Sean Rooney

Head of Service - Highway
Maintenance
Oxfordshire County Council



Kerry Winstanley

Finance and Operations Director
LCRIG



Dwayne Lowe

Assistant Director Highways
and Engineering
Bolton Council



Susanne Ingham

Relationship Director
LCRIG



Carol Valentine

Business Technology and
Innovation Manager
Kent County Council



Darren Capes

Manager
Transport Technology Forum (TTF)
ITS Policy Lead
Department for Transport (DfT)



Andy James

Business Director
Cornwall Highways

OUR COMMUNITY

In 2023 we achieved a significant milestone, surpassing 300 members consisting of government, councils, national organisations, supply chain, academia and associations. All these members are actively driving change through innovation and technological advancements across the local roads network.



306
Total Membership



155
Associate Members



115
Council Members



27
Partner Members



9
Academia Members

Retention rate average is currently **89%**



COUNCIL MEMBERS



ACADEMIA MEMBERS



ASSOCIATE MEMBERS





PARTNER MEMBERS



OUR REACH

Our reach into Government and National Organisations

HM Government Department for Transport

Throughout 2023 we've engaged with a wide range of Government and strategic teams to provide policy advice, shared challenges faced by councils and suppliers and talked about the work LCRIG is doing around innovation, supporting collaboration, skills and net zero. These are just some of the policy teams we regularly worked and engaged with during 2023. LCRIG also delivers the Transport Technology Forum on behalf of DfT and Innovate UK.

Centre for Connected & Autonomous Vehicle (CCAV)	Road Networks and Statistics	Highways Maintenance, Active Travel & Strategy (Roads & Local)	Science, Innovation & Technology Division	ITS and Transport Technology Forum	Welsh Government - Strategic Road Network - ITS	RIS3 Road Investment Policy & Pipeline
Traffic and Technology	National Parking Platform & Future Roads Technology	Transport Scotland - Roads Division	Transport for London	Data Insights & People Analytics	Traffic Management Digital Services	Department for Infrastructure NI - Transport & Road Asset Management

National Organisations

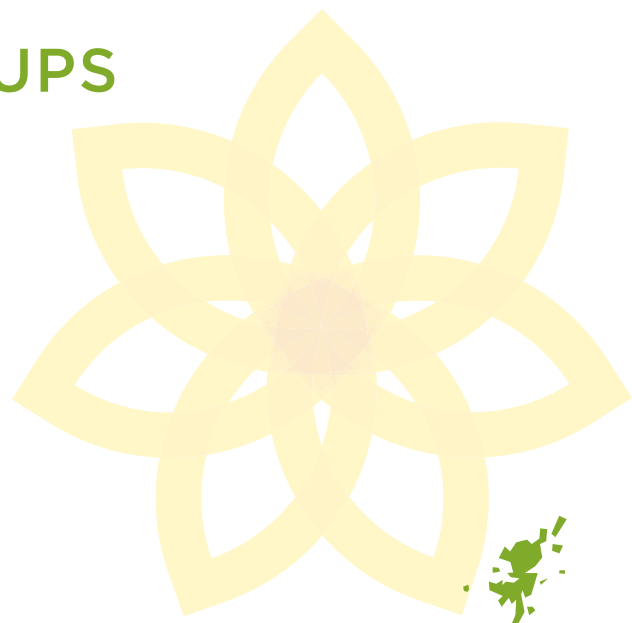
National Audit Office	National Highways	Roads Development (Research)	Supply Chain
Safety Engineering & Standards (Future Technologies & Mobility)	Local Government Association	Innovate UK & KTN	Crown Commercial Service (Transport)

HM Government Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Community

Supplier Markets & SGB Commercial (local Government)	Local Government Digital Markets & Supplier
------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------

We also work with a range of other Professional Institutions and Associations such as RSTA, IHE, CIHT, ADEPT and many others.

OUR REGIONAL GROUPS



LCRIG manages a number of national and regional working groups on behalf of its council members. These groups meet on a regular basis to share best practice.

Innovation Board representing DfT, National Highways, RSTA, Electricity North West, Blackpool Council, NY Highways, West Sussex CC, JAG (UK), LCRIG

Highways Direct Management Group (HDMG) representing 14 councils

Midlands Group representing 19 councils (launched this year)

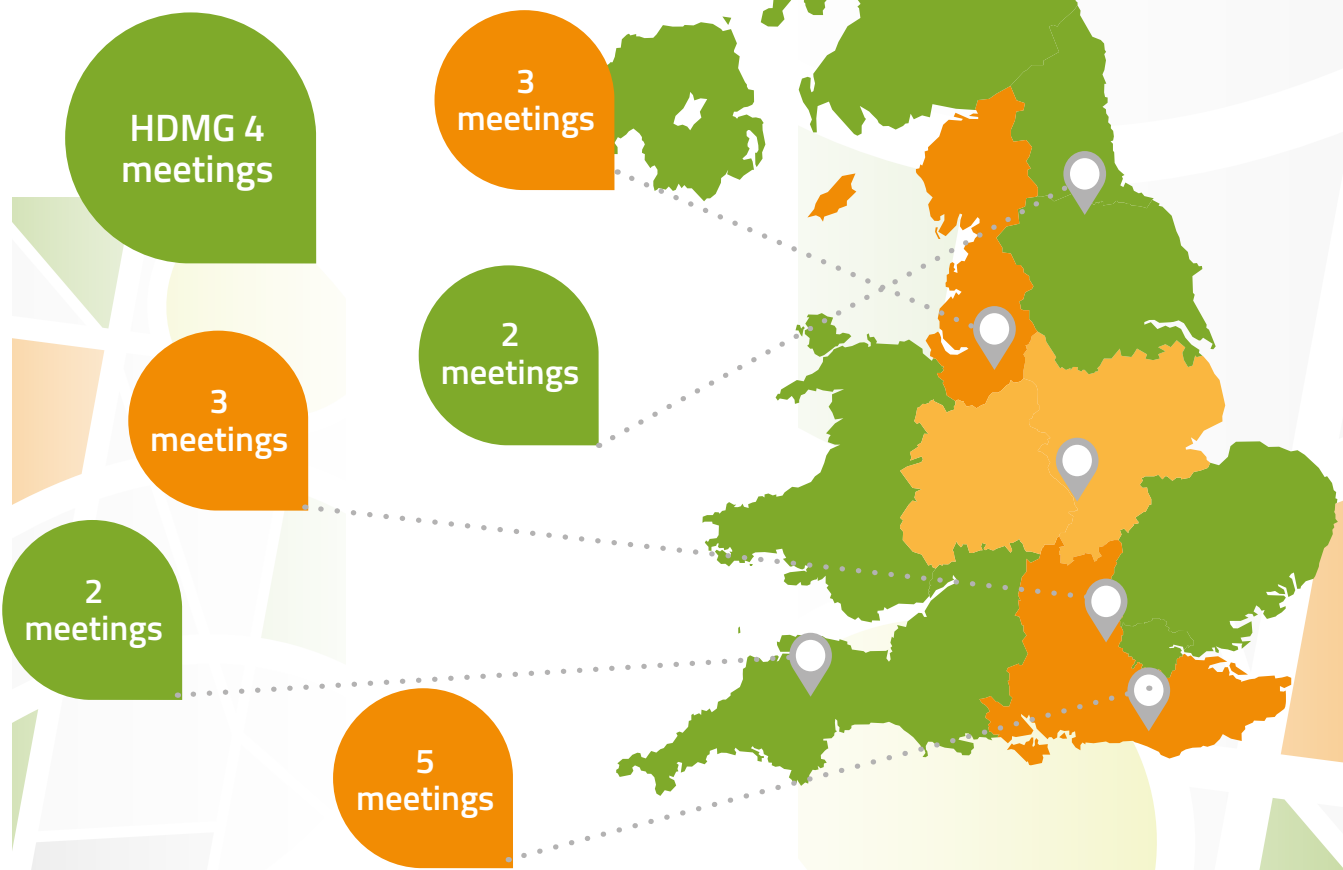
North West Group representing 8 councils and DfT

North East Materials Group representing 14 councils

South East Group representing 10 councils

South Central Group representing 9 councils

South West Group representing 13 councils



OUR YEAR IN REVIEW

LCRIG delivered a wide range of services and implemented key initiatives to support the highways community.

LCRIG Events



The LCRIG Innovation Festival is an annual event where products, solutions, new innovations and techniques can be displayed and demonstrated over a range of live demonstration sessions. The event provides local authorities with a chance to find out about new innovations from the supply chain that will help to meet their current and future challenges.

The festival is linked to the LCRIG Innovation Fund which encourages innovation by providing funding for

innovation development and also matches innovators with local authorities looking to trial new products on their networks.

In 2023, the event saw more than 600 delegates in attendance including 80 different highways authorities and more than 230 public sector delegates. 7 Qualifying Innovators were announced as winners of our innovation competition, each receiving funding or securing a trial with a local authority.

Feedback

- **83% of respondents gave an overall satisfaction rating of 4 or 5 stars out of 5**
- **Attendees found the event useful for discovering new products, sharing information, networking and making new contacts**
- **97% of respondents said they would recommend the Innovation Festival to colleagues**
- **Stand out session: The Skills debate**

“This is an excellent event for learning and networking”



Thank you to our Award Sponsors:

JCB, Eurovia, Highway Resource Solutions, Kiely Group, WJ Group

Thank you to our Promotional Partner:

Multevo

Thank you to our Networking Partner:

Stabilised Pavements Ltd

Thank you to our speakers:

Asphalt IQ, Blackpool Council, Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council, Department for Transport, Dorset Council, Innovate UK, Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Lincolnshire County Council, QROS, Rennicks Ltd, Salford City College Group, Sprague & Co., Transport Technology Forum, West Sussex County Council, Wigan Council.

Thank you to our exhibitors and table hosts:

1Spatial Group Ltd, AGD, Aisin, Amey, Archway, ARTSM, Asphalt Group, Asphalt IQ, ATM Ltd, BituChem, Blue Phoneix, Causeway, Chevron Group, Clearview Intelligence, Clearway, Coeval Ltd, Connor Specialist Paving Ltd, DFT, Eurovia, Forta, Gaist, Gautam ZEN UK LTD, Grid Smarter Cities, Henry Williams & Son (Roads) Ltd, Hercules Site Services, Highway Care Ltd, Highway Resource Solutions, Highway Workforce, Hill and Smith Infrastructure, IHE, Institution of Lighting Professionals, Intelligent Traffic Systems, iTip Handles, ITS UK, JCB, Jenoptik, Jobling Purser, Jordan Road Surfacing Ltd, Kaarbon Technology Ltd, Kiely Bros, Kiely Group, LCRIG TTF, LGTAG, Map 16, Meon, Messagemaker Displays, Metrail, Miles Macadam, Milestone Infrastructure, Multevo, NAL, Naue Geosynthetics Ltd, Navtech Radar, Nuphalt Group, NWSRG, Proteus Equipment Ltd, Pudsey Diamond Engineering Ltd, QROS, R3 Ltd, Red Stag Materials Ltd, Rennicks Ltd, Restek, Roadmender Asphalt, Roadside Technologies, Roadside Technologies Ltd, Route Reports, RSL Asphalt, RSMA, RSTA, Safecote, Saint Gobain PAM UK, SocietyWorks, Solar Gates, SRL Traffic Systems, Stabilised Pavements Ltd, Swarco, Tennants UK Ltd, Tensar, Thermal Road Repairs, ThinkProject UK, TMP, Traffic Group Signals, TWM Traffic Control Systems, Ultracrete, Vaisala, Velocity UK Ltd, WCCTV, Westcotec, WJ Group, Wrekin, XAIS Asset Management Ltd.

Thank you to our delegates:

Example job titles: Apprentice, Asset Manager, Asset Officer, Assistant Director Highways and Engineering, Assistant Director of Highways, Assistant Director of Parking and Traffic, Assistant Engineer, Assistant Highway Asset Manager, Assistant Highways Operations Manager, Assistant Operations Manager, Head of Parking Services, Business Director, Business Innovation and Technology Manager - Highways and Transportation, Business Manager, Buyer, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport, Capital Programme Manager, Centre Principal, CEO, Chairman, Chief Commercial Officer, Chief Executive, Clerk of Works, Commercial and Recycling Centre Manager, Communications and Social Value Manager, Construction Team Leader, Contract and Commissioning Officer, Contract Manager, Design Delivery Manager, Director of Strategic Transport, Engineer, Engineering Manager, Environmental Services Manager, Executive Member for Highways and IMT, Future Transport - Services & Technology Lead, Head of Account Management, Head of County Highways, Head of Highways, Head of ITS, Head of Local Highways Policy, Head of Maintenance and Operations, Head of Road Network Statistics, Head of Service - Highway Maintenance, Head of Strategic Transport and Highway Network Management, Health & Safety Advisor Highways Operations, Highway Asset Manager, Highway Commissioning Manager, Highway Control Manager, Highway Engineer, Highway Inspection Manager, Highway Maintenance and Schemes Commissioning Manager, Highway Network Manager, Highway Programme Manager, Highway Service Manager, Highways and Transport Asset Manager, Highways Asset and Traffic Manager, Highways Community Liaison Manager, Highways Engineer Technician, Highways Group Manager, Highways Inspector, Highways Manager, Highways Programme Manager, Highways Service Manager, Highways Technology Manager, Innovation & Efficiency Manager, Innovation Team Leader, Intelligent Transport Systems Manager, ITS Policy Lead, Managing Director, Network Commissioner, Network Management Officer, Network Monitoring Manager, Operations Director, Parking Engineer, Principal Engineer – Structures Asset Management, Principal Highway Engineer, Principal Operations Manager, Principal Engineer - Highway Infrastructure Maintenance Highways and Capital Delivery, Procurement Team Leader, Professor of Transport Strategy, Project Delivery Manager, Project Engineer, Project Manager, Quality Manager, Road Condition Statistics Lead, Routine Maintenance Engineer, Senior Advisor, Senior Asset Engineer, Senior Engineer, Senior Engineering Manager, Senior Highways Asset Engineer, Senior Highways Design Engineer, Senior Highways Inspector, Senior Manager - Highway Delivery, Senior Measurement Engineer, Service Manager, Highways, SHEQ Manager, Statistics Officer, Strategic Asset Manager, Strategic Project Lead, Streetpride Service Manager - Highways, Team Leader Highways Maintenance & Asset Management, Team Leader Roads & Street Lighting, Technical Advisor, Technology Lead, Traffic & Network Manager, Traffic Systems Engineer, Transport Innovation Manager, Vice Principal.



[View video here](#)

The dates for LCRIG Innovation & Learning Festival 2024 have been announced. You can find out more about the event here

[Find out more](#)

Watch the highlights from our 2023 event

Strictly Highways is our flagship annual conference, networking event and DfT Special Recognition Awards ceremony, which brings together the whole highways community and celebrates the amazing work that is taking place in our sector.

The event provides an opportunity to learn about new innovations and technology, share experiences, receive updates from the DfT and network across two days in the glittering setting of the Ballroom at the Winter Gardens.

In 2023, this event saw more than 400 delegates attend over the two days, with representation from more than 70 different highway authorities from across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as well as the Department for Transport (DfT), academia, industry associations, the supply chain and media.

Public sector feedback:

- **Average overall satisfaction rating was 4.8 stars out of 5**
- **97% of respondents rated the conference speakers across the two days as 4 or 5 out of 5**
- **98% of respondents were very satisfied with the quality of exhibitors**
- **33% of respondents placed an order as a result of visiting the show (61% said it was too early to say)**
- **100% of respondents said they are likely to attend future events and would recommend Strictly Highways to their colleagues**

Private sector feedback:

- **Average overall satisfaction rating was 4.4 stars out of 5**
- **87% of respondents were very satisfied or satisfied with the networking opportunities**
- **82% of respondents rated the suitability of delegates who visited their stand as 4 or 5 out of 5**
- **62% of respondents said they had already generated leads/orders as a result of exhibiting at the show**
- **97% of respondents said they are likely to attend future events and would recommend Strictly Highways to their colleagues**

“Best industry and client event of the season”



Thank you to our Main Sponsor:

Kiely Group

Thank you to our Networking Sponsor:

Galliford Try

Thank you to our Award Sponsors:

Gaist, JCB, Multevo, Stabilised Pavements, Tensar, Transport Technology Forum, WJ Group.

Thank you to our speakers:

Balfour Beatty Living Places, Blackpool Council, Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council, Cheshire East Highways, City of Doncaster Council, Colas Ltd, Cormac, Cornwall Council, Department for Transport, Dorset Council, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, Eurovia, Eurovia - Highway Data Systems, Galliford Try, Hertfordshire Council, Hochtief PPP Solutions (UK) Limited, Institute of Collaborative Working (ICW), JCB, Kent County Council, Kiely Bros Ltd, Kier Transportation - Highways, LCRIG, Leeds City Council, Lincolnshire County Council, National Highways, Norfolk Partnership Laboratory, NY Highways, Oxfordshire County Council, Plymouth City Council, Route Reports, Salford City College, Shropshire Council, Sprague & Co, Surrey County Council, TRL, Via EM Ltd, Wigan Council.

Thank you to our exhibitors and table hosts:

Amberon, Amey, Archway Roadmaster UK Ltd, Asphalt Group Limited, Breedon, Brightly, Causeway, Chevron, Clearview, Coeval, Colas, Connor Specialist Paving, Essency Consulting, Eurovia, Fosroc International, Gaist, Galliford Try, Geveko, Henry Williams and Son (Roads) Ltd, Holophane Europe Limited, IHE, iTip Handles, Jenoptik, Kaarbontech, Kiely Group, Kier, Local Authority Developer Compliance (LADC), Map16, Meon Ltd, Miles Macadam, Multevo, Nuphalt, Peacock Salt, R3, Roadtechs, Rosehill Highways, Route Reports, RSTA, Safecote Ltd, Stabilised Pavements, StarTraq, Sweco, Tarmac, Telensa, Tensar International, Thermal Road Repairs, Total Energies Marketing UK Ltd, Transport Technology Forum, TWM Traffic Control Systems, Vaisala Ltd, Valmont Structures, Velocity, Westcotec, Wilde Consultants Ltd, WJ Group, Women in Transport, Wrekin Products, Yunex.

Thank you to our delegates:

Example job titles: Account Director, Asset and Infrastructure Service Manager, Asset Manager, Assistant Director Highways and Engineering, Assistant Director of Highways, Assistant Highway Manager, Bridges Team Leader, Business Director, Term Service Contracts, Business Innovation and Technology Manager, Cabinet Member for Community Safety, Street Scene and Neighbourhoods, Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport, Cllr - Portfolio Holder for Highways, Contract Director, Contract Manager, Contract Monitoring Officer, Corporate Lead Transportation, County Highways Manager, Depot Manager, Director of Community and Environmental Services, Director of Operations, Efficiency & Policy Development Manager, Engineer, Environmental Services Manager, Executive Manager Asset Management and Development, Functional Lead Technical Services, Head of Business Improvement, Head of Highways, Head of Highways and Transport, Head of Highways Asset and Local Management Services, Head of Local Highways Strategy and Environment, Head of Maintenance and Operations, Head of Profession, Asset Management & Maintenance, Head of Quantum, Head of Road Network Statistics, Head of Service, Highways & Traffic, Highway Asset Manager, Highway Asset Principal Officer, Highway Engineering Team Manager, Highway Inspections Manager, Highway Maintenance and Assets Manager, Highway Maintenance Service Manager, Highway Management Team Leader, Highway Manager - Commissioning, Highway Operations Manager, Highway Technician, Highways & Engineering Service Delivery Manager, Highways & Traffic Services Manager, Highways Asset Manager, Highways Construction Manager, Highways Delivery Manager, Highways Development Control / Asset Engineer, Highways Lead & Monitoring Officer, Highways Manager, Highways Network Technician, Highways Services Manager, Highways Technology Manager, Highways Works Senior Engineer, Highways, Transport & Design Manager, Interim Assistant Director Highways & Transport, ITS Policy Lead, Key Route Network Assets & Highways Maintenance Manager, Local Highways Manager, Local Highways Policy Advisor, Maintenance Performance Manager, Managing Director, NEC4 Project Manager, Operational Manager Data Intelligence, Operations Director, Pavement Engineer, Principal Construction Manager, Principal Engineer, Principal Operations Manager, Principal Project Officer - Engineering, Principal Engineer - Bridges and Structures Asset Management, Programme Director - CAM, Project Manager, Regional Business Director, Roads Development Director, Roads Team Leader, Roadworks Supervisor, Routine Maintenance Engineer, Senior Asset Data Officer, Senior Contract & Policy Engineer, Senior Engineer, Senior Manager - Highways Assets and Strategy, Senior Processing Officer, Service Director Environment and Highways, Service Manager, Site Development and Operations Manager, Statistician, Structural Maintenance Manager, Team Leader - Highway Capital Programme and Innovation, Team Leader Highways, Street Lighting & UTC, Team Leader Street Lighting and Traffic Signals, Technology Lead, Traffic and Network Management Officer, Traffic and Road Safety Engineering Team Leader, Transport Innovation Manager, Transport Planning & Strategy Manager.



[View video here](#)

Watch the highlights from our 2023 event

Strictly Highways – DfT Special Recognition awards 2023 winners Congratulations to all the winners this year:

- **Best of Britain** – *Richard Harris, Amey Staffordshire Highways*
 - **Employer initiative of the year** – *Kier: Making ground*
 - **Apprentice of the year award** – *Macy Richards, Trainee Civil Engineer, Milestone Infrastructure*
 - **Best use of technology** – *WJ Group – Thermoprint*
 - **Net zero project of the year** – *Colas and Coventry City Council*
 - **Transport technology innovation** – *Coventry City Council*
 - **Collaborative partnership** – *The reintegration to employment programme: Colas, local authority partners and local third sector organisations*
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The dates for Strictly Highways 2024 have been announced. You can find out more about the event here

[Find out more](#)

COLLABORATION

At LCRIG, we are committed to fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing through our events and webinars.

Webinars



- 17 webinars delivered – 5 LCRIG led, 12 LCRIG hosted/supplier led
- 1,189 total number registered and with access to watch the recording
- 660 total number attended

Here's some highlights from this year's LCRIG hosted webinars:

- **IPS – Your questions answered** - Watch here 
 - **Leverage the IPS to access innovation** - Watch here 
 - **Rebooting Social Value** - Watch here 
 - **Practical steps on the journey to net zero – Carbon reduction in fleet** - Watch here 
-





Interviews



We have collaborated with representatives from across the highways sector to get their thoughts on some of the key challenges facing the sector and how we can facilitate fresh thinking and embrace new technologies.



Here's some of our highlights from this year's industry interviews:

- **Charlie Dunkerley – East Riding of Yorkshire Council** - Read here 
 - **Paul Aldridge, Sustainability Director, WJ Group** - Read here 
 - **Angela Dixon, Society Works** - Read here 
 - **Macy Richards – Milestone Infrastructure** - Read here 
-

External events

Transport Technology Forum



In our capacity as delivery partner, we are proud to have delivered the following events this year on behalf of the Transport Technology Forum (TTF):

- **TTF Conference – 250 delegates**
- **TTF Autumn Meeting – 160 delegates**
- **Roads to Tomorrow workshops (Birmingham, Bolton and Newcastle) - 65 delegates with representation from 45 councils and DfT**
- **EV Working Group meeting – 41 delegates**
- **Micro Mobility event organised by ERTICO in partnership with TTF**
- **UTAC event – 50 delegates**
- **ITS European Congress in Lisbon – UK Pavilion hosted by the Transport Technology Forum, supported by Department for Transport and Innovate UK and delivered by LCRIG. Provided an opportunity for 12 SMEs to be showcased on the international stage**
- **ITS European Congress Ambassador reception for UK SMEs and european businesses**

We were also honoured to be invited by our esteemed industry colleagues and media partners to have a presence at the following events:

- **Highways UK – Exhibited on the Local Authority Hub stand alongside TTF, LGTAG, ADEPT and UKRLG. LCRIG's Chief Executive took part in two panels**
- **JCT Symposium – LCRIG's Chief Executive chaired a session**
- **Transport+Energy Conference**
- **Traffex – LCRIG's Chief Executive took part in two panels**
- **PIARC Technical Committee – LCRIG's Chief Executive hosted by Tunisian Roads Authority for African nations**



Highways Awards – Team of the Year

In October, the LCRIG team was announced as the winner in the Team of the Year category at the Highways Awards in London. The prestigious award signifies LCRIG's collaborative ethos, recognising a team of employees who have undertaken exceptional work within the public or private sector to improve/sustain the outputs or efforts of their organisation, over and above their general working activities.



Being presented with the award was a proud moment for the LCRIG team and receiving such recognition from our industry peers and colleagues made this accolade even more special.

Community Interest Company (CIC) activities

As a Community Interest Company (CIC), we prioritise accessibility and inclusivity by offering fully funded delegate places for local authorities. Fully funded places include accommodation, transport to and from the hotel to the venue, catering and refreshments.



£340,000 collaboration value

Fully funded places at events for local authorities in 2023

Care Leavers Gift Appeal

£2,750 raised in total for
Care Leavers

£1,000 donated by LCRIG

110 presents bought for
18-21 year olds leaving care



Highway Maintenance Academy



£6,000 cabin donated by LCRIG
to support the creation of an
outdoor practical area

100 hours of time donated

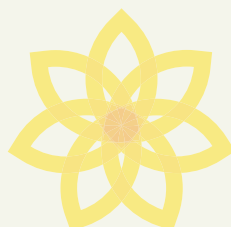
10 students supported in first cohort

Innovation Fund Winners

£20,000 awarded to two
companies to develop their
innovations (£10,000 each)

Continuing Professional Development

1,700 hours of
fully funded CPD



INNOVATION

In June, we launched the DfT supported LCRIG Innovation Procurement System (IPS) in partnership with Crown Commercial Service (CCS), with the aim of increasing the pace of change and giving council members greater control to adopt innovation at a lower cost.

The LCRIG IPS removes hurdles in accessing innovation in the sector by creating a dynamic route for councils to access the market and engage with innovators nationally.



IPS webinars

We delivered a series of webinars to inform members on how to engage with the IPS, which you can read more about in the Webinar section on page 17.

IPS Guidance document

We published a step-by-step guide, exclusively for Associate Members to support them through the application process.

What's next?

Details of the next categories to be launched will be announced in early 2024.

You can find out more and register your interest in the IPS here

[Find out more](#)

Innovation Festival

In July, we held our second Innovation Festival which saw over 600 people including 230 public sector delegates in attendance. 7 Qualifying Innovators were announced as winners of our innovation competition, each receiving funding or securing a trial with a local authority. The winners were ATM, Connor Specialist Paving Ltd, Highway Care Ltd, iTip Handles, KaarbonTech, Kiely Bros Ltd, and Solar Gates UK.

Find out more about the Innovation Festival on page 12 of this report



SKILLS



We are committed to tackling the skills shortage facing the highways sector. At the beginning of the year, the Local Government Association published some stark figures as part of their workforce survey, highlighting the true scale of the problem.

Over the last 12 months, our activities have focused on helping to address the skills gap facing our sector and

Skills in Highways report

We published a report on Skills in Highways, which highlighted a range of actions needed to help local councils address skills shortages and increase workforce knowledge. The report is based on the findings of an exclusive survey kindly facilitated by the Asphalt Industry Alliance (AIA) as a voluntary addendum to its ALARM Survey. [Access the report here >](#)

Highway Maintenance Academy

We collaborated with Salford City College and Salford City Council to create a new Highway Maintenance Academy apprenticeship. The apprenticeship is tailored to meet the specific requirements of a Highways Operative working on the local road network. The first cohort of ten students have now embarked on their apprenticeships and we are excited to see their journeys progress. To support the students during their apprenticeship, we also worked together with Salford City College and Salford City Council to create a purpose-built outdoor area within the academy to

What's next?

We are proud to have been involved with this project and our support doesn't end there. LCRIG will be a member of the Employer Curriculum Board and we will be supporting the success of the Highways Maintenance Academy and the students who will be enrolling for an apprenticeship in future years.

at this year's Innovation Festival and Strictly Highways, delegates listened to some engaging debates from younger highway professionals who gave their views on how the sector can do more to promote itself and to attract a younger and more diverse workforce.



[Download here](#)



enable students to fulfill the practical elements of their course.

The Highway Maintenance Academy cost in the region of £120k to create and following an appeal for donations, the project garnered overwhelming support from organisations in the sector, including LCRIG. Due to the generous contributions received, approximately £90k of the cost has been donated, either through materials or work done on the site.

Salford City College plans to recruit 144 new highways apprentices over the next 5 years. Our ambition is for the successful collaborative effort in Salford to be replicated in other areas of the country.

LCRIG Skills was created to provide learning and development support to individuals working in the highways community, at all stages in their career. Users of the online training platform can gain CPD certification after watching webinars and other content via the platform.

The platform is a central hub to find courses from multiple organisations including CIHT, Institute of

Highway Engineers (IHE) and Road Surface Treatments Association (RSTA).

LCRIG Skills has received widespread support from the sector, including Roads Minister, Richard Holden who gave his backing for LCRIG Skills.

“

Our motorists and road users deserve a modern road network and those who work on and manage our vital road network should always have access to top training and skills. That’s why it’s fantastic to see LCRIG launch a new state-of-the-art training platform to boost skills, create new exciting opportunities across the road industry and ensure our first-rate workforce are equipped for the future.

Richard Holden, Roads Minister

”

[Visit LCRIG Skills](#)



Following the publication of our Net Zero report back in December 2022, we put a focus on net zero during the first quarter of 2023 – with more than 130 people attending two webinars which looked at how to achieve carbon reduction in fleet and making the right asset management decisions.

In February, we delivered a CPD webinar on Carbon Reduction in Fleet which focused on:

- **Calculating vehicle emissions**
- **Decarbonising production machinery**
- **Steps to reduce use of vehicles and implementation of future technologies.**



In March, we delivered a CPD webinar which focused on Asset Management and in particular:

- **Considering climate factors in highway maintenance initiatives**
- **How to make the right investment decisions**
- **Consideration of whole life carbon outputs**
- **Cutting through greenwashing**



FOCUS AREAS FOR 2024

Our focus areas for next year will continue to follow our overall themes of innovation, collaboration, net zero and skills however we will be increasing our activities in the following areas:

- **Innovation Procurement Support aligned with the new Procurement Bill in 2024**
- **Research and learning from our engagement activities such as regional groups, industry intelligence and thought leadership**
- **Industry supporting webinars**
- **Technical Training**
- **Skills**
- **Decarbonisation**

LCRIG Community online system

The New Year will see the launch of our new online system and event app, designed to enhance the customer experience for our members and event attendees.

The LCRIG Community app will provide users with a new way to engage, network and receive important information about LCRIG events and membership all in one place.

Users will benefit from streamlined processes, improved accessibility, and more personalised and user-friendly interaction.

Our new portal will also reduce the amount of paper that is used for our events, which will help us to reduce our carbon footprint.

We are committed to meeting the needs of our community and the LCRIG Community App has been created with our members in mind, to provide a seamless and efficient service.



Save the Date for LCRIG's 2024 Events

Innovation & Learning Festival

02 – 03 July 2024
NAEC Stoneleigh

Bookings open January 2024

[Register interest here](#)

Strictly Highways

01 – 03 October 2024
Winter Gardens, Blackpool

Bookings open January 2024

[Register interest here](#)



**For further information,
contact:**

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t: 01254 945250

lcrig.org.uk

 [@LCRIGnetwork](https://twitter.com/LCRIGnetwork)

 [@LCRIG](https://www.linkedin.com/company/lcrig)

The Local Council Roads
Innovation Group (LCRIG)
is officially established as
a Community Interest
Company (CIC)

 INNOVATION

 COLLABORATION

 NET ZERO

 SKILLS