

Introducing the updated MCHW

Presenters:

Steve Davy, National Highways

Antony Atkins, National Highways

Suleman Sattar, National Highways

29 Jan 2026



national
highways

**Manual
of contract
documents for
highway works**

The Updated MCHW **Agenda**

1. Where we were and where we are now
2. What has changed
3. How this affects you
4. Available support



Standards and Specifications for UK Highways

Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works (MCHW)

Our standard suite of specification documents included within the construction contracts.

Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB)

It defines the design requirements for every aspect of the road infrastructure.

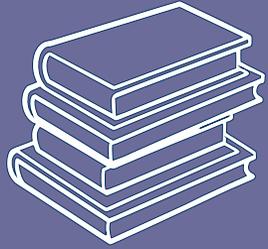


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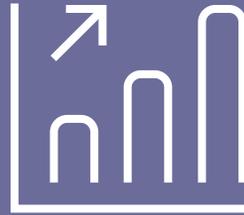
Where we were in April 2020



7 volumes
126 MCHW documents
571 drawings
3,485 pages



All documents in
pdf, limited
accessibility



11 years
average age, all
documents
requiring editorial
review, technical
update or
withdrawal



**Inconsistent in
style and
format**, including
presentation of
requirements



**Inconsistent
contract
specifications**,
varying style and
quality

Technical Regulations Protocol obligation

“Develop and deliver a work programme to refresh the MCHW during the second Road Period so that it reflects the needs of its users. This refresh should take account of the stakeholder consultation.”

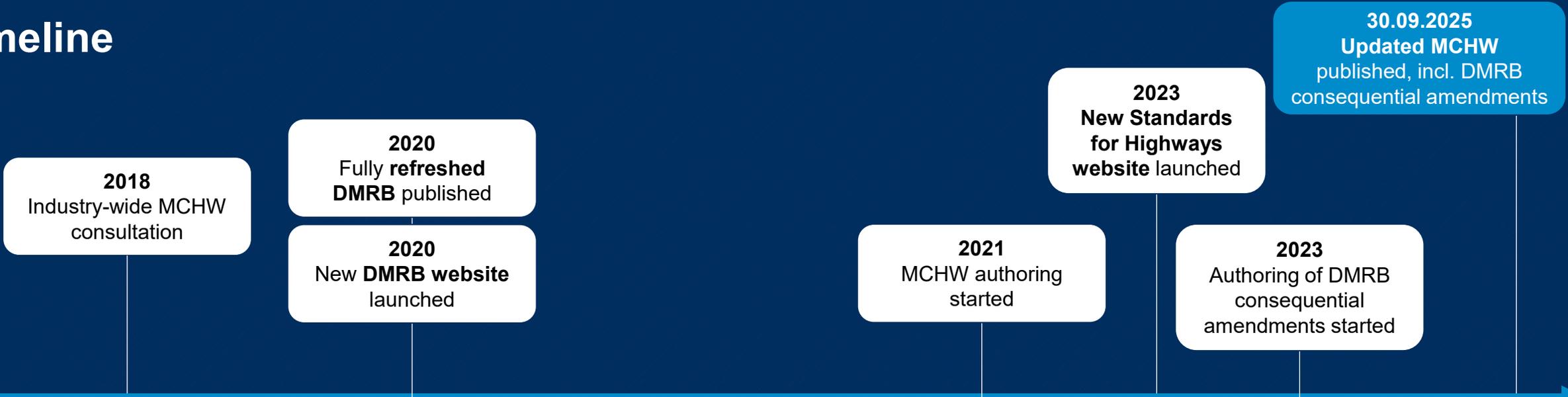


Vision for the Future MCHW

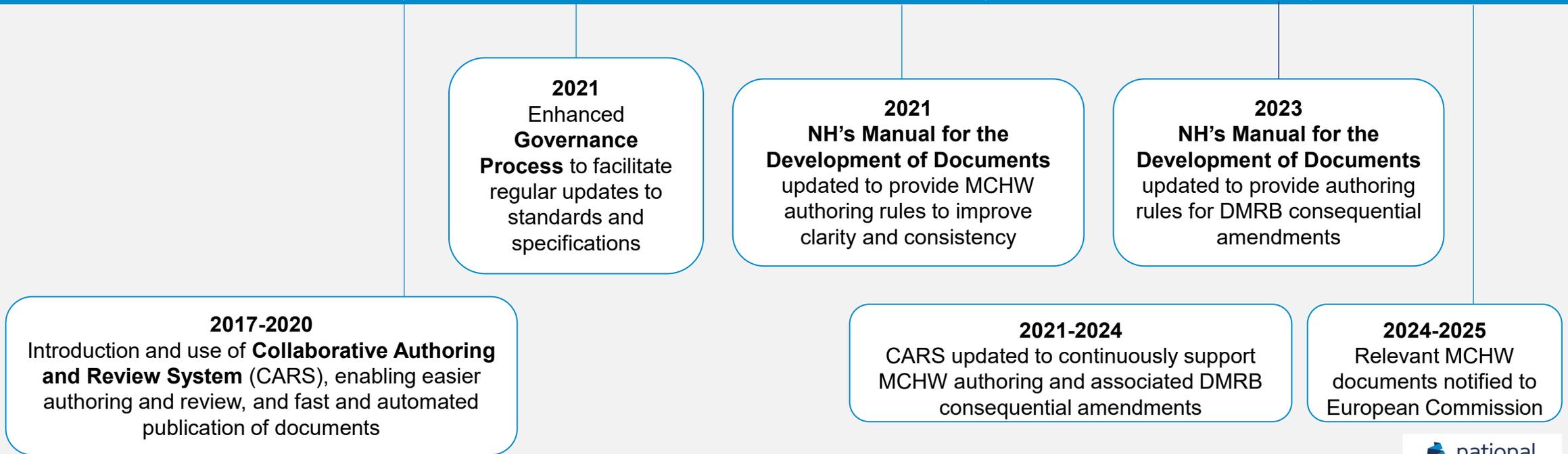
The future MCHW will provide clear and unambiguous requirements and instructions, compatible with modern contract forms and future construction practices



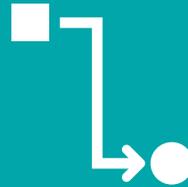
Timeline



Behind the scenes



Where we are now



3 document sets
95 distinct MCHW documents
2,800 pages of **digitalised** content

HTML versions, easier to **access** and **navigate** on the **website**

Up to date and aligned to industry practice and to DMRB design content

Consistent in style and format, including presentation of requirements and national variations

Templates for contract specifications now available

Benefits of the updated MCHW

Clearer and up-to-date requirements and instructions providing a framework for future construction practices and innovation

Greater efficiency in the production of contract specifications, as well as enhanced quality of the final outputs

Fewer, more accessible and easily searchable documents

Enables better environmental outcomes, strengthened operational performance, elevated customer experience

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Overview of changes made to the MCHW



New MCHW structure & document numbering system



New style for MCHW requirements, now digitalised



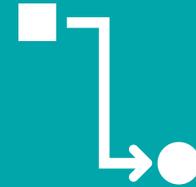
Works Specific Requirement (WSR) templates now replacing contract specific appendices



Country-specific versions now available containing integrated national variations



MCHW and DMRB requirements aligned



Technical requirements now consistent with latest standards and industry practice

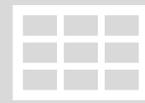
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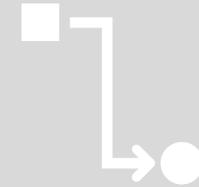
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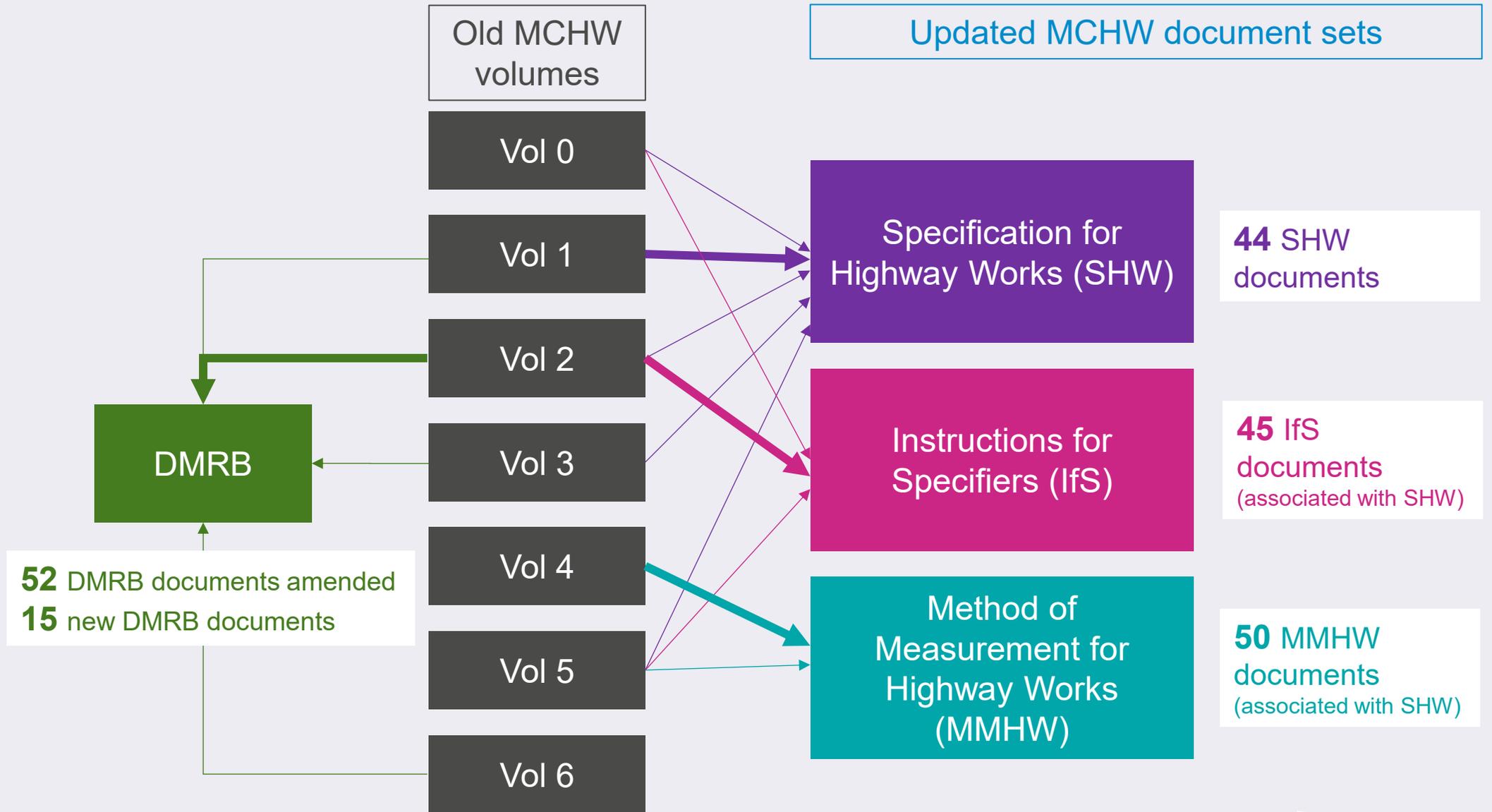
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New MCHW structure & document numbering system





New MCHW structure & document numbering system

Old MCHW series	
Vol 1	Series xxx
Vol 2	NfG for series xxx
Vol 4	MMHW Chapter IV Series xxx

Updated MCHW document code

		Discipline (1 st digit)								
		G	L	C (Civil Engineering)				T (Technology)		
		General Principles & Scheme Governance	Sustainability & Environment	Road Layout	Pavement	Highway Structures & Bridges	Drainage	Geotechnics	Control & Communications Technology	Road Lighting
Life Cycle Stage (2 nd digit)		100 - 999	100 - 999	100 - 199	200 - 299	300 - 499	500 - 599	600 - 699	100 - 499	500 - 999
General Information	G									
Appraisal	A					DMRB				
Design	D									
Contract Preparation	P					IfS				
Construction	C					SHW				
Maintenance & Operation	M									
Inspection & Assessment	S					DMRB				
Disposal	Z									

Codes and numbers to be selected when allocating documents

Updated MCHW documents



New MCHW
structure &
document
numbering
system

Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works



Road Layout
Construction

CC 130

Construction of temporary traffic signs, road markings and road studs

(formerly part of Series 1200)

Version E/1.0.0

Summary

This document gives requirements for temporary traffic signs, including self-supported traffic signs, road markings, road studs, cones, portable barriers, cylinders and delineators, portable traffic signals, variable message traffic signs; and removal of both permanent and temporary road markings.

This document incorporates specific requirements for National Highways. Alternative versions of this document are available for other Overseeing Organisations.

Feedback and Enquiries

Users of this document are encouraged to raise any enquiries and/or provide feedback on the content and usage of this document to the dedicated National Highways team. The online feedback form for all enquiries and feedback can be accessed at: www.standardsforhighways.co.uk/feedback.

This is a controlled document.

Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works



Road Layout
Contract Preparation

CP 130

Instructions for specifiers for CC 130
Construction of temporary traffic signs, road markings and road studs

(formerly part of Series NG 1200)

Version E/1.0.0

Summary

This document gives specifier instructions with respect to temporary traffic signs, including self-supported traffic signs, road markings, road studs, cones, portable barriers, cylinders and delineators, portable traffic signals, variable message traffic signs; and removal of both permanent and temporary road markings.

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Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works



Road Layout
Construction

CC 130/MMHW

Method of Measurement for CC 130
Construction of temporary traffic signs and road markings

(formerly part of the Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works, part of Series 1200 and Method of Measurement Guidance, Series 1200.)

Version 1.0.0

Summary

This is a new method of measurement that corresponds to the specification document CP 130 Construction of temporary traffic signs, road markings and road studs.

Feedback and Enquiries

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Updated MCHW documents



New MCHW
structure &
document
numbering
system

Life Cycle Stage		Discipline								
		G	L	C (Civil Engineering)				T (Technology)		
		General Principles & Scheme Governance	Sustainability & Environment	Road Layout	Pavement	Highway Structures & Bridges	Drainage	Geotechnics	Control & Communications Technology	Road Lighting
		100 - 999	100 - 999	100 - 199	200 - 299	300 - 499	500 - 599	600 - 699	100 - 499	500 - 999
General Information	G									
Appraisal	A					DMRB				
Design	D									
Contract Preparation	P			CP130		IfS				
Construction	C			CC130		SHW				
Maintenance & Operation	M									
Inspection & Assessment	S					DMRB				
Disposal	Z									

Codes and numbers to be selected when allocating documents

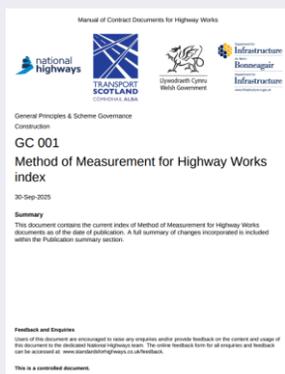
Key documents to be aware of



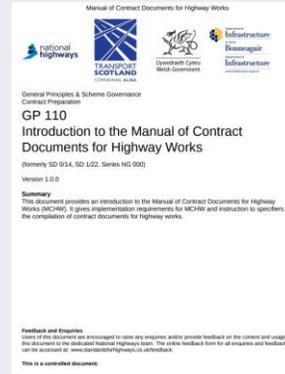
GC 000 -
[Specification for Highway Works index](#)



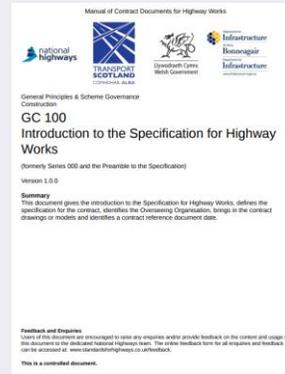
GP 000 -
[Instructions for Specifiers and Works Specific Requirements templates index](#)



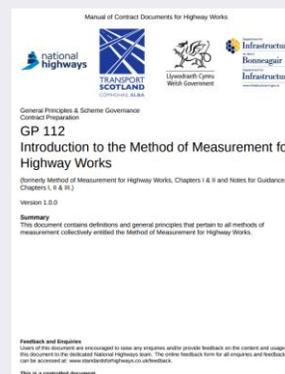
GC 001 -
[Method of Measurement for Highway Works index](#)



GP 110 -
[Introduction to the Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works](#)



GC 100 -
[Introduction to the Specification for Highway Works \(and associated GP 100\)](#)



GP 112 -
[Introduction to the Method of Measurement for Highway Works](#)

See also:

[GC 101 - General requirements for the Specification for Highway Works](#) (and associated GP 101)

[GC 102 - Site and work constraints](#) (and associated GP 102)

[GC 103 - Environment, sustainability and carbon management](#) (and associated GP 103)

[GC 104 - Works data, third party aspects and customer communications](#) (and associated GP 104)

[GC 105 - Arrangements for the Overseeing Organisation](#) (and associated GP 105)

[GC 106 - Working on the highway](#) (and associated GP 106)

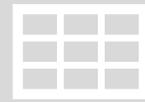
Overview of changes made to the MCHW



New MCHW structure & document numbering system



New style for MCHW requirements, now digitalised



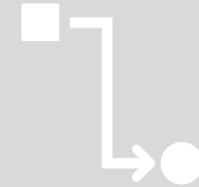
Works Specific Requirement (WSR) templates now replacing contract specific appendices



Country-specific versions now available containing integrated national variations



MCHW and DMRB requirements aligned



Technical requirements now consistent with latest standards and industry practice

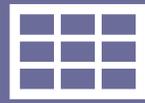
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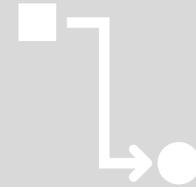
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Technical requirements now consistent with latest standards and industry practice

- Works specific requirement templates are **downloadable** from Standards for Highways website in .ods format.
- WSR templates provides a **standardised approach** to develop contract specifications.



Works Specific Requirement (WSR) templates now replacing contract specific appendices

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1										
2		CC 130/WSR/002 Temporary traffic signs								
3		Version 1.0.0, 2025-09-30								
4										
5	*	<i>General guidance on how to complete Works Specific Requirements templates is provided via the link below. Specific instructions for the completion of schedules is provided under the relevant table. All rows marked with an asterisk shall be removed before issuing as part of a tender or contract.</i>								
6										
7										
8	Purpose	Reference SHW Ref.	Content							
9		1	[Element 1]							
10			Temporary traffic signs							
11			Section 2, CC 130 version 1.0.0, 2025-09-30							
12		1.1	Work specific requirements							
13			General requirements for temporary traffic signs							
14										
15	Requirement	1.1.1	CC 130/2.1	Temporary traffic signs specified by the Overseeing Organisation shall be:						
16				Unique item or identification number	Installation location	Mounting arrangements	Drawing or model reference(s)	Form of temporary sign	Height of sign face mm	Width of sign face mm
17				(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
18										
19										
20										
21										
22										
23	*			a) Enter a unique reference.						
24	*			b) Enter a date, to identify the location at which the sign is to be installed.						
25	*			c) Enter text, to identify how the sign is to be supported (e.g. self-supported or on a post)						
26	*			d) Enter text, to identify the drawing(s) or model(s) in which details of the installation are shown.						
27	*			e) Enter text, to identify the unique diagram number(s) from the applicable traffic signs regulations.						
28	*			f) Enter a number in units of mm, to identify the height of the sign face.						
29	*			g) Enter a number in units of mm, to identify the width of the sign face.						

Example of typical **element schedule** to be completed depending on the specific contract

Additional documents

WSR Template

CC 120/WSR - Works Specific Requirements for CC 120 Construction of permanent traffic signs, road markings and road studs W/1.0.0 .ods

14.0 kB

Download

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	
1		CC 130/WSR Works Specific Requirements for CC 130 Construction of temporary traffic signs, road markings and road studs								
2										
3		Cancelled, substitute, and additional requirements								
4		Version 1.0.0, 2025-09-30								
5										
6	*	<i>General guidance on how to complete Works Specific Requirements templates is provided via the link below. Please enter all CR, SR, and ARs on separate, index numbered rows; including the relevant SHW/IS document reference and clause number in the column provided, i.e. "GC 101/1.4" or "GP 101/Sl.1.4b". Remove this instruction row before issuing as part of a tender or contract.</i>								
7										
8	*									
9		Reference	SHW/IS Ref.	Content						
10		1		Scheme level departures						
11		1.1		Cancelled requirements (CR)						
12		1.1.1		There are no scheme level cancelled requirements.						
13		1.2		Substitute requirements (SR)						
14		1.2.1		There are no scheme level substitute requirements.						
15		1.3		Additional requirements (AR)						
16		1.3.1		There are no scheme level additional requirements.						
17										
18		2		[Element 1]						
19		2.1		Cancelled requirements (CR)						
20		2.1.1		There are no element specific cancelled requirements.						
21		2.2		Substitute requirements (SR)						
22		2.2.1		There are no element specific substitute requirements.						
23		2.3		Additional requirements (AR)						
24		2.3.1		There are no element specific additional requirements.						
25										

Example of typical **departure schedule** to be completed depending on the specific contract

For guidance on how to prepare WSR templates for dissemination (including table display), see the MCHW information hub



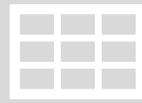
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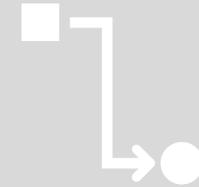
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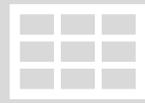
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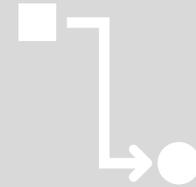
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MCHW and DMRB requirements aligned



Technical requirements now consistent with latest standards and industry practice

52 DMRB documents have been updated to align with the MCHW.

15 new DMRB documents have been created.

Thread of information running through DMRB, MCHW and as-built information and documentation using consistent topics and terminology.



MCHW and
DMRB
requirements
aligned

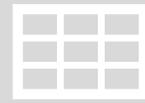
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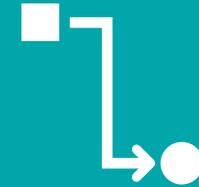
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MCHW and DMRB requirements aligned



Technical requirements now consistent with latest standards and industry practice

All MCHW documents (and associated DMRB) have been reviewed to ensure they provided up to date technical requirements, reflecting latest standards and industry practice.



Technical requirements now consistent with latest standards and industry practice



Carbon reduction / positive environmental impact



Shorter traffic management



Reduced construction programme



Customer benefits

The Updated MCHW **Agenda**

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Implementation considerations



The updated MCHW will be used for all contracts awarded after its publication date.
For details relating to the implementation of the MCHW, refer to GP 110 requirements.



Exceptions are listed in GP 110 “Introduction to the MCHW”, for example, where adopting the updated MCHW would lead to significant cost or delay.

This approach to adopting newly published standards remains consistent with current practice.



Old style and new style MCHW documents should not be mixed.

In any case, decisions are for the project team to make and record. Please talk to your client Project Manager.

When do I use it?

Access the MCHW Information Hub for the answers to these and more questions

- 1) I have an existing construction contract let before 30 September 2025.** Should I redraft my contract-specific specification to align with the updated MCHW?
- 2) I have an existing construction contract let before 30 September 2025 and I now need to update the contract-specific specification.** Should I use the updated DMRB and MCHW documents?
- 3) I have designed to the old DMRB (design completed before 30 Sept 2025) and I now need to start drafting the contract-specific specification.** Should I re-design it following the updated DMRB and then use the updated MCHW?
- 4) My project is using the previous version of the MCHW.** Can I adopt technical changes implemented in the updated MCHW and DMRB documents?



**How this
affects you**

Details are
provided on the
MCHW
Information hub



Designer

- Be aware of DMRB consequential amendments.
- Continue to undertake design activities and produce design outputs.
- Familiarise with the WSR templates.

Specifier

- Familiarise with the new instructions now provided in IfS documents.
- Complete WSR templates following guidance on the Information Hub.

Constructor

- Review updated SHW documents.
- Familiarise with the WSR templates.
- Be aware of implementation considerations.



Project Manager

- Understand implementation considerations.
- If updated documents are to be used, review them in detail.

Product Supplier

- Review the documents for the technical areas relevant to your product or service.
- Note that materials and products will need to meet the specification requirements for the contract they are being used for.

Certification Body

- New document / clause numbering potentially impacting certifications.
- Review updated verification and documentation requirements.

How this affects you



Quantity Surveyor

- New MMHW broken up into different documents to align with SHW.
- No significant changes made to clause style.
- Familiarise with the WSR templates.

Local Authority

- Review updated documents, check cross-references.
- WSRs can be targeted to different roads and related authorities.

Software Developer

- New document and clause numbering potentially impacting software.
- Content in HTML with a plan to provide an API for 3rd party systems.

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Where do I find SHW documents?

All MCHW documents are published on and available to download from the [Standards for Highways \(SfH\) website](#), including previous versions.

STANDARDS FOR HIGHWAYS Standards ▾ Updates

Standards for Highways

Welcome to Standards for Highways

On this site you will find all the essential documents on the design, construction and operation of highways in the United Kingdom. Please use the "Choose a date" filter below to find standards and specifications relevant to your scheme.

Search for a document

Filter standards by country

England Northern Ireland **Scotland** Wales

Choose a date

21/10/2025

Select a standard (optional) Select a document type

MCHW SHW

Refine your search by typing in document names, codes or keywords (optional)

Search all standards by document names, codes or keywords

Search

The screenshot shows the search interface of the Standards for Highways website. It features a dark background with white text. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'STANDARDS FOR HIGHWAYS' and 'Standards ▾ Updates'. Below this, the main heading is 'Welcome to Standards for Highways', followed by a brief description of the site's purpose. The search section is titled 'Search for a document' and includes several filters: 'Filter standards by country' with buttons for 'England', 'Northern Ireland', 'Scotland' (highlighted with a pink arrow), and 'Wales'; 'Choose a date' with a date input field showing '21/10/2025' (pointed to by a pink arrow); 'Select a standard (optional)' with a dropdown menu showing 'MCHW'; and 'Select a document type' with a dropdown menu showing 'SHW' (pointed to by a pink arrow). At the bottom, there is a search input field with the placeholder text 'Search all standards by document names, codes or keywords' and a blue 'Search' button (pointed to by a pink arrow).

Where do I find SHW documents?

All MCHW documents are published on and available to download from the [Standards for Highways \(SfH\) website](#), including previous versions.

Showing search results 1 – 30 of 45 results
Displayed in alphanumeric order, prioritised by exact match

Download list to csv

Expanded Compact

MCHW - CC 120 - Construction of permanent traffic signs, road markings and road studs CURRENT

Discipline: Road Layout Lifecycle stage: Construction Document Type: SHW

Countries Applicable: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales

Open Download PDF Version: 1.0.0 Issued: May 2025 Match: Exact

MCHW - CC 130 - Construction of temporary traffic signs, road markings and road studs CURRENT

Discipline: Road Layout Lifecycle stage: Construction Document Type: SHW

Countries Applicable: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales

Open Download PDF Version: 1.0.0 Issued: May 2025 Match: Exact

MCHW - CC 133 - Construction of temporary automatic speed cameras at road works (TASCAR) CURRENT

Discipline: Road Layout Lifecycle stage: Construction Document Type: SHW

Countries Applicable: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales

Summary Construction requirements for temporary automatic speed cameras at road works (TASCAR)

Open Download PDF Version: 1.0.0 Issued: May 2025 Match: Exact

MCHW - CC 201 - Pavement foundation construction CURRENT

Discipline: Pavement Lifecycle stage: Construction Document Type: SHW



MCHW

CC 120 - Construction of permanent traffic signs, road markings and road studs

PUBLISHED

This is a Specification for Highways Works (SHW) document.
It has an associated Instructions for Specifier (IFS) document called CP.120 - Instructions for specifiers for CC.120 Construction of permanent traffic signs, road markings and road studs.
Find out more [about document types](#)

Details about this release
This document supersedes Series 1200 (Traffic Signs) of Volume 1 - Specification for Highway Works - of the Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works, which is withdrawn.

Discipline: Road Layout Issued: May 2025
Lifecycle Stage: Construction Version: E/1.0.0

You are viewing a country specific version. If this is wrong, please change the applied Country:

View and download the document:

Open Download PDF

This document is also available to view online in PDF format. [Click here to open.](#)

Timeline
Please see our [help area](#) for information on how 'timeline documents' are identified.

Showing 30 timeline documents
List ordered by issue date - most recent first

Document	Version	Issued	Withdrawn
CURRENT CC 120/MMHW - Method of Measurement for CC 120 Construction of Per...	1.0.0	May 2025	
CURRENT CP 120 - Instructions for specifiers for CC 120 Construction of permanent...	1.0.0	May 2025	
CURRENT CC 120 - Construction of permanent traffic signs, road markings and roa...	1.0.0	May 2025	
SUPERSEDED Method of Measurement for Highway Works	—	May 2008	May 2025
SUPERSEDED Series NG 1200 - Traffic Signs	November 2008	May 2008	May 2025
SUPERSEDED Series 1200 - Traffic Signs	May 2008	May 2008	May 2025

Current version

Previous versions

Where do I find IfS documents?

All MCHW documents are published on and available to download from the [Standards for Highways \(SfH\) website](#), including previous versions.

STANDARDS FOR HIGHWAYS Standards Updates

Standards for Highways

Welcome to Standards for Highways

On this site you will find all the essential documents on the design, construction and operation of highways in the United Kingdom. Please use the "Choose a date" filter below to find standards and specifications relevant to your scheme.

Search for a document

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MCHW IfS

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Expanded Compact

MCHW • CP 120 - Instructions for specifiers for CC 120 Construction of permanent traffic signs, road markings and road studs PUBLISHED

Discipline: Road Layout **Lifecycle stage:** Contract Preparation
Countries applicable: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales **Document type:** IFS

Summary:
This document gives instructions for specifiers with respect to the construction of permanent traffic signs, including upright traffic signs, parallel...

[Open](#) [Download PDF](#) **Version:** 1.0.0 **Issued:** 30 Sep 2025 **Match:** Exact

MCHW • CP 130 - Instructions for specifiers for CC 130 Construction of temporary traffic signs, road markings and road studs PUBLISHED

Discipline: Road Layout **Lifecycle stage:** Contract Preparation
Countries applicable: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales **Document type:** IFS

Summary:
This document gives specifier instructions with respect to temporary traffic signs, including self-supported traffic signs, road markings, road studs,...

[Open](#) [Download PDF](#) **Version:** 1.0.0 **Issued:** 30 Sep 2025 **Match:** Exact

MCHW • CP 133 - Instructions for specifiers for CC 133 Construction of temporary automatic speed cameras at road works (TASCAR) PUBLISHED

Discipline: Road Layout **Lifecycle stage:** Contract Preparation
Countries applicable: England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales **Document type:** IFS

Summary:
This document gives instructions for specifiers with respect to the construction of temporary automatic speed cameras at road works (TASCAR)



MCHW

CP 120 - Instructions for specifiers for CC 120 Construction of permanent traffic signs, road markings and road studs

PUBLISHED

This is an Instructions for Specifier (IFS) document.
It has an associated Specification for Highway Works (SHW) document called [CC120 - Construction of permanent traffic signs, road markings and road studs](#).
Find out more [about document types](#)

About this document
This document gives instructions for specifiers with respect to the construction of permanent traffic signs, including upright traffic signs, parallel and zebra crossing globes, refuge indicator lamps, twin amber flashing lights, bollards, marker posts, road markings and road studs.

Details about this release
This document supersedes Series NG1200 Traffic Signs, which is withdrawn as part of the MCHW re-write.

Discipline: Road Layout **Issued:** Sep 2025
Lifecycle Stage: Contract Preparation **Version:** E/1.0.0

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Additional documents

WSR Template
CC 120/WSR - Works Specific Requirements for CC 120 Construction of permanent traffic signs, road markings and road studs E/1.0.0 .ods
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Timeline
Please see our [help area](#) for information on how 'timeline documents' are identified.

Showing 8 timeline documents
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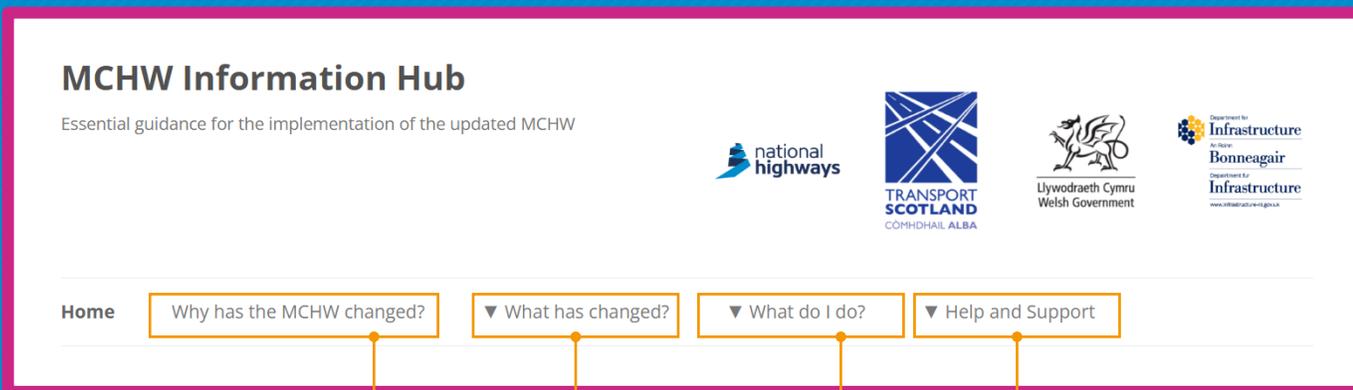
Document	Version	Issued	Withdrawn
PUBLISHED CP 120 - Instructions for specifiers for CC 120 Construction of p...	1.0.0	Sep 2025	

WSR templates



What guidance and support are available?

We have developed and launched the MCHW Information Hub.



- Why has the MCHW changed
- Our communication and support strategy

- Key changes
- Document mapping
- Key MCHW documents
- List of new MCHW sections
- Changes summarised by documents
- Link with other document sets
- How the updated MCHW operates contractually

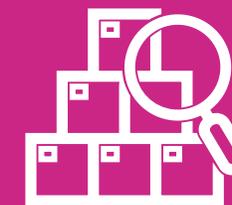
- Feedback and questions
- Webinars
- FAQs and webinars Q&A
- Terms and definitions

- How does this affect me?
- Where do I find the MCHW documents?
- How do I navigate the Standards for Highways website?
- When do I adopt it?
- How do I prepare a contract-specific specification?

Online public repository providing essential information to support the transition to the updated MCHW.



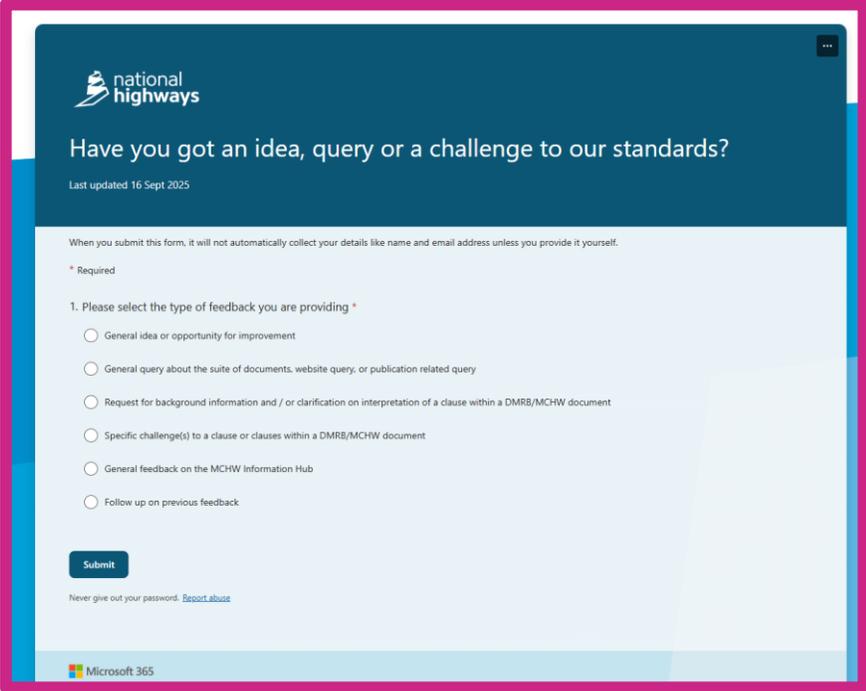
Accessible from the Standards for Highways (SfH) website.



How can I share feedback?

We hope the MCHW Information Hub helps you successfully transition to the updated MCHW.

For feedback on standards, general questions on the updated MCHW or the information hub, please use the feedback form provided on the Standards for Highways (SfH) website:
<https://www.standardsforhighways.co.uk/feedback>.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "national highways" with the heading "Have you got an idea, query or a challenge to our standards?". It includes a "Submit" button and a list of radio button options for feedback types. A disclaimer at the bottom states "Never give out your password. Report abuse" and the Microsoft 365 logo is visible in the footer.

national highways

Have you got an idea, query or a challenge to our standards?

Last updated 16 Sept 2025

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

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1. Please select the type of feedback you are providing *

- General idea or opportunity for improvement
- General query about the suite of documents, website query, or publication related query
- Request for background information and / or clarification on interpretation of a clause within a DMRB/MCHW document
- Specific challenge(s) to a clause or clauses within a DMRB/MCHW document
- General feedback on the MCHW Information Hub
- Follow up on previous feedback

Submit

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Closing remarks



What this means...



Fewer digitalised content – from 7 to 3 volumes, 20% fewer pages, faster navigation



Clearer and up-to-date SHW requirements – foundation for future construction and innovation



Clearer and easy to access instructions to the specifier in the new IfS



Improved efficiency and output quality through downloadable WSR templates



Searchable HTML documents now live on the updated SfH site – country-specific versions included



Embeds quality from design to construction through better alignment between MCHW and DMRB



Delivers greener outcomes, stronger operations, and better customer experience

We hope that by the end of this session you have understood ...

1. Where we were and where we are now
2. What has changed
3. How this affects you
4. Available support

Thank you



The updated MCHW is here!



Standards for
Highways
website



MCHW
information
hub



Feedback form

