



CIHT West Midlands Awards Dinner 2022 – Highlights & Award Winners

CIHT West Midlands region was delighted to host its first in person AGM, annual dinner and awards ceremony in three years at the Burlington Hotel in Birmingham city centre on the evening of 12th May 2022.

The day began with the inspirational CIHT president Deborah Sims, the outgoing CIHT West Midlands Chair Philip Santos, and the incoming CIHT West Midlands Chair Gavin Maciel being taken on an emotional and humbling tour of the Birmingham Children's Hospital which is the CIHT West Midlands chosen charity. The tour, arranged by the hospital's Dearbhla Craddock and Helen Miles, demonstrated the huge dedication of all staff that work at this truly world leading hospital as well as highlighting the pioneering work that the hospital is leading on.

This was followed by a presentation on the mind boggling logistics of the Commonwealth Games by Graham Jones and Zoe Smith of West Midlands Combined Authority, followed by a tour of the traffic control and CCTV room - an awe inspiring sight which has to be seen to be believed (a CPD session is being planned, to be held after the Commonwealth Games).

At the AGM, the mantle of Chair was passed from Philip Santos to Gavin Maciel. Philip has led the region with passion and dedication through the challenging times of the pandemic. He also did an excellent job of organising the annual dinner, practically from scratch given the amount of time that has passed since the last one.

The awards ceremony was brilliantly organised and executed with aplomb by Paul Unwin. There were a record number of entries submitted, all very high quality which showcased the engineering talent in the West Midlands and made judging extremely difficult. Congratulations to the winners and highly commended / commended which are listed below:

Emerging Professional Award 2022 (Sponsored by WSP)

- **Winner** – Charlie White (Octavius Infrastructure Limited)
- **Highly Commended** – Conchita Munar (Waterman Aspen)

Innovation Award 2022

- **Winner** – Viking Deck Scraper (Currall Lewis & Martin, Kier Highways, and National Highways)
- **Highly Commended** – West Midlands Safari Park Sustainable Car Park (Mulberry GBC Ltd and West Midlands Safari Park)

Collaboration Award 2022

- **Winner** – Emergency Active Travel Fund Trance 1 Measures (Birmingham City Council and Jacobs)
- **Highly Commended** – A46 Binley Weekend Beam Lift Operations (Octavius Infrastructure Limited and National Highways)



Environment and Sustainability Award 2022

- **Winner** – Birmingham Transport Plan (Birmingham City Council)
- **Highly Commended** – Sprint Bus (Transport for West Midlands)

Best Small Project Award 2022

- **Winner** – Coundon Cycle Way (WSP and Coventry City Council)
- **Highly Commended** – Shrewsbury Town Centre Works (WSP and Shropshire Council)

Best Large Project Award 2022 (Sponsored by Waterman Aspen)

- **Winner** – Interim Works Programme (Integrated Programme Alliance – Birmingham City Council, Birmingham Highways Ltd, Tarmac, Kier, Arcadis, HTM and WJ)
- **Highly Commended** – Oswestry Mile End Roundabout Junction Improvements (Balfour Beatty and Shropshire Council)
- **Commended** – M5 Junction 6 Improvements (WSP, Tilbury Douglas, and National Highways)

An amazing £2,500 was raised on the night for the Children's Hospital through raffle sales and donations – thank you to all who so generously donated and to Dearbhla Craddock, Laura Menéndez González and Jodie Rowbottom for selling so many tickets in a very short time. CIHT West Midlands will be aiming to beat this amount next year! CIHT Chief Executive Sue Percy also showcased great skill auctioning unwanted prizes, raising even more money for this very worthy cause.

It was fantastic to finally be able to recognise two former West Midland Chair's, Peter Parker and Alan Bailes, for their work and commitment to the CIHT over the years. Their work has helped shape the region into what it is today and their attendance at the event to receive awards was very warmly received.

To conclude, the whole event was a great success with very positive feedback received. There were of course some minor niggles, which were to be expected given the amount of time lapsed since the last in person event, but the committee will look at these in lessons learned sessions so that they can be ironed out to ensure the next year's awards dinner is an even bigger success!

Photographs of the evening can be viewed at:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.5478764618800720&type=3>