

Background

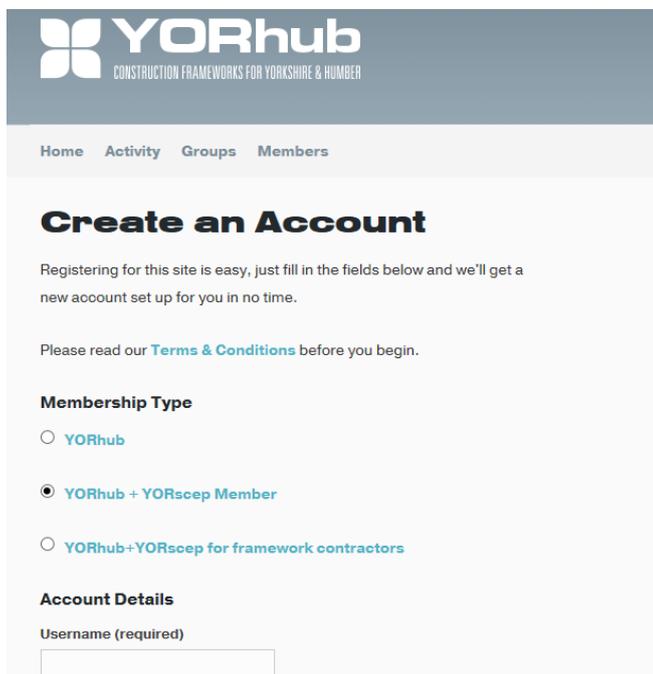
A Supply Chain Engagement Programme (SCEP) has been created primarily to provide local construction related companies with access to business opportunities and visibility of opportunities within the YORhub construction frameworks.

Membership

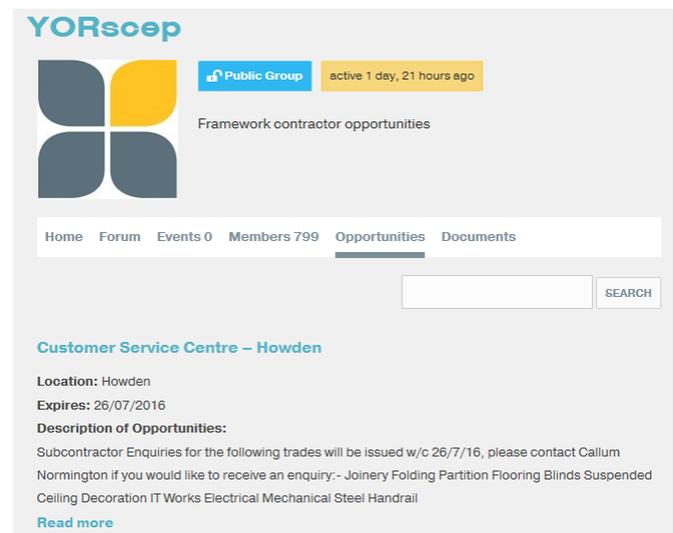
Membership of the SCEP is free and is obtained by signing up via the link on the YORhub website, www.yorhub.com



Creating an account is a straightforward process and is achieved by filling in basic company information on an online form. An extract from the online form is shown below.



There are currently c.800 members of the SCEP (including framework contractors) and members are normally alerted to new sub-contract opportunities posted by framework contractors via an automatic email. Alternatively members can log on to the YORScep group on the YORhub.net site to access the latest opportunities. An example of an opportunity for sub-contractors to tender for packages of work at Howden Customer Service Centre is shown below.



This opportunity was posted by Hobson & Porter Ltd who are a YORbuild2 framework contractor.

Some Frameworks have been criticised for failing to be transparent about the work delivered through them. YORScep solves this problem and can also be beneficial to framework contractors when they are working in new areas by giving them access to firms local to the project.

SCEP Events

The SCEP also hosts Meet the Buyer (MtB) events for members and any other interested parties as specific project opportunities arise.

For example a SCEP event was held in advance of the new £12m Beverley bypass project being delivered through the YORcivil framework.

The event introduced local suppliers and smaller companies to the main tenderers for the project, with

the aim of enabling local companies to become part of the supply chain and ensure that as much of the investment was spent in the local economy as possible. The photograph below shows delegates receiving an overview of the proposed project, prior to the opportunity to meet tenderers.



Reducing barriers

Contractors appointed to the YOR frameworks are required to make tendering for sub-contract packages as straightforward as possible and not make the selection process too onerous.

Delegates attending MtB events often comment that these events are invaluable for them as they can often find it extremely difficult to get an airing with larger firms who have their existing supply chains which can be difficult to access.

Local Suppliers

Framework Contractors are required to provide details of sub-contracts awarded on every framework project. This information is collected at project completion as part of the KPI process. Information is generally used for reporting purposes, in particular for determining the proportion of spend within the locality of the project.

Fair Payment

Contractors appointed to the YORbuild2 Framework are required to sign up to the Construction Supply Chain

Payment Charter details of which can be found at www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/306906/construction-supply-chain-payment-charter.pdf

This Charter applies to all parties to construction contracts with the aim of helping to create a more collaborative culture and ensure a strong, resilient and sustainable supply chain.

This Charter builds on and complements existing legislation and policy, namely the Housing Grants, Construction & Regeneration Act 1996 (as amended); the Late Payment of Commercial Debts Regulations 2013; the Fair Payment Charter; Cabinet Office Procurement Information Note 2/2010; and the Prompt Payment Code.

By becoming a signatory to this Charter, an organisation agrees to apply the fair payment commitments in its dealings with its supply chain, to be monitored for the purposes of compliance by reporting against a set of agreed key performance indicators (KPIs), and to consider the performance of its supply chain against the agreed KPIs when awarding contracts.

The YORhub lead authority is a member of the Cabinet Office Fair Payment Working Group.

Project Bank Accounts

Another way that the supply chain can be supported is through the use of a Project Bank Account (PBA) on framework projects, under which the supply chain is paid at the same time as the main contractor. This has been successfully trialled on the YORhub framework. For further information on PBAs please refer to the case study for the A164 Humber Bridge to Beverley route Improvement Scheme: www.yorhub.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/PBA-ERYC-A164-Case-Study.pdf