The Knowledge Centre has seen a sharp increase in member usage since the beginning of 2019 and particularly since the last issue of EPW. This is in part due to the very positive promotion of the space through word of mouth and a growing recognition of the value of the materials it contains.

We are beginning to see a lot of users from councils and other organisations go to the site to access Standard Drawing sets. The Knowledge Centre provides a secure and up-to-date options for the drawings and we have received positive feedback from councils on the organization of collections into their specialized functions such as roads, drainage etc. There is also a collection of all drawings arranged by number for those who prefer to access them in that manner.

We’ve also witnessed a steep increase in the use of our QUDM documents. This has been particularly gratifying because one of the fundamental principles around which the Knowledge Centre was developed is to act as an information repository is support of the services IPWEAQ offers our members and affiliates in the public works section. QUDM is one of our central document development projects and a strong user uptake confirms the quality and functionality of the manual for its users.

For the same reason, we have been building strong collections around ADAC that contain documents covering the history of its development as well as practical guides to its use and examples of how it has been implemented and utilized by various councils across the state. The same is true of the Street Planning and Development Manual that IPWEAQ currently has in development as a complement to, and successor of Complete Streets. Each of these functions is fully supported by collections within the knowledge centre.

There is an expanding collection for the Professional Development courses and services on offer. We are also moving towards using the Knowledge Centre to house all the required materials for attendees of courses to access digitally, helping to contribute to the sustainable goals of the public works sector, while allowing participants to have all they need for a course at their fingertips through their laptops and phones.

In addition, the site also contains all the materials from IPWEAQ conferences, with branch conference proceedings available with every membership and without further subscription fees. Given we are in the middle of our branch conference season, that means a lot of interesting and valuable material is being added continually to Knowledge Centre. We held a very successful South West Branch conference at Gatton in March and have others coming up very soon in Rockhampton, Croydon and Cairns. All the presentations and associated information will go into Knowledge Centre immediately after those events.

Any queries about joining or accessing the information contained within the knowledge centre can be directed to me at Mark.Lamont@ipweaq.com.