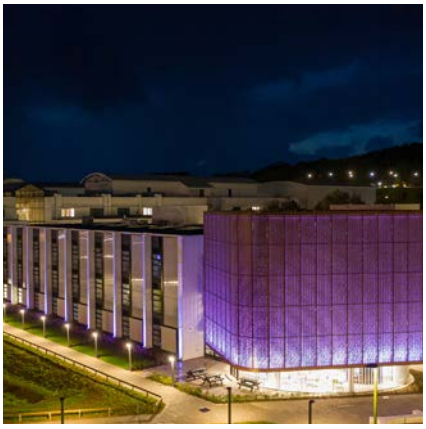
ANNUAL REVIEW 2020

CONSTRUCTING EXCELLENCE South West



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SW Built Environment Awards 2020

Members

What is Constructing Excellence?

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Chairman's Report

Little did I know when taking the Chair in November 2019 what would lay ahead of us. The onset of the Covid pandemic from March onwards will certainly be remembered for many years to come. The impact of the pandemic whilst disruptive, has however, driven change in a way that must be recognised and indeed celebrated. The agility of both CESW and the wider industry has been excellent and I am proud to be associated with both. ‹ • ƒ ‰

CESW has seamlessly become a digital entity with our online webinars hosted by LeadersMeets covering many topics and engaging with more than 2,500 people. Our Board and Theme Group meetings are now digital with greater engagement than ever before. We have transformed the way CESW works and have even managed to find time for some satirical light-hearted fun, including guest appearances online from 'Donald Trump' and 'Boris Johnson'. Our AGM, Annual Conference and Awards in 2020 will all be digital. I do however still look forward to the day when we can all meet up in person for such special events.

In March and April whilst the rest of the UK were heeding the Government's advice of 'stay at home and protect the NHS' our industry, having been recognised as a key economic driver, was taking a lead in finding new ways to continue to operate safely. The industry led collaboration sitting behind the

ensured our people worked in line with all the latest guidance, whilst the

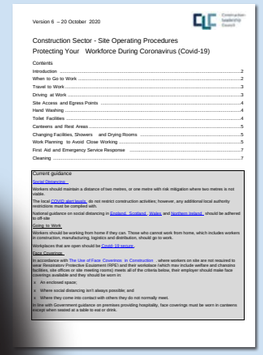
• • clearly signposts the way forward. The Roadmap to Recovery echoes the CE ethos of collaboration and supply chain integration, an industry led endorsement of our principles. Whilst writing this in mid-October, I only hope the great work delivering the Nightingale hospitals is not tested in earnest in months to come. Only time will tell.

Unfortunately, the pandemic has impacted our industry with an economic slowdown and redundancies. There are, however, positives that must be recognised. The government's 'Build Build Build' message along with 'Build Back Better, Build Back Faster, Build Back Greener' are all positive endorsements and stimulants for our industry and signpost the part that we can all play going forward.

There are some exciting changes in the CESW pipeline. Our new website and engagement of specialist PR support will provide us with the right platforms to connect with members, stakeholders, and influencers alike and help position CE as the go-to construction related organisation in the South West. We are playing a pivotal part in delivering the • • and are now in a position to relaunch G4C – the young professional voice of the UK built environment industry – with a management structure in place headed up by Dwaine Bushell of Ward Williams, assisted by Lisa Denby of Kier and Josh Hodder of Highways England. This team will be instrumental in our 'recruit or die' project. The project will both critically review past failings and looking forward to how we better promote our sector to the younger generation, along with providing guidance for future employers on how to engage with the audience whilst working with specialist partners.

My thanks must go out to everyone who has supported us in an extremely difficult year. I hope that we have lived up to your expectations given the difficulties faced and rapid change agenda. The Board, and all of the Theme Group and Club Chairs have been instrumental in the way we have performed – I thank you all for your dedication and hard work. A final thank you must go to the management team of CESW led by Andrew Carpenter. The diligent management of finances and change has been excellent, whilst selflessly protecting our organisation and decreasing their salaries, truly leading by example.

As Chair I hope 2021 will be a far kinder year than 2020. Winston Churchill once said "never waste a good crisis" – I hope the changes implemented in CESW and future changes will put us in a great position going forward where we can deliver even more value to our members and the wider industry.


Version 6 – 20 October 2020

Construction Sector - Site Operating Procedures
Protecting Your Workforce During Coronavirus (Covid-19)

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Current guidance

Social Distancing

Workers should maintain a distance of two metres, or one metre with risk mitigation where two metres is not viable.

The full COVID alert levels, do not restrict construction activities, however, any additional local authority restrictions must be complied with.

National guidance on social distancing in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland should be adhered to.

Going to Work

Workers should be working from home if they can. Those who cannot work from home, which includes workers in construction, manufacturing, logistics and distribution, should go to work.

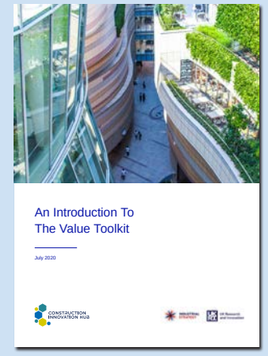
Workplaces that are open should be Covid-19 secure.

Face Coverings

In accordance with The Use of Face Coverings in Construction , where workers on site are not required to wear Respiratory Protective Equipment (RPE) and their workplace (which may include welfare and changing facilities, site offices or site meeting rooms) meets all of the criteria below, their employer should make face coverings available and they should be worn in:

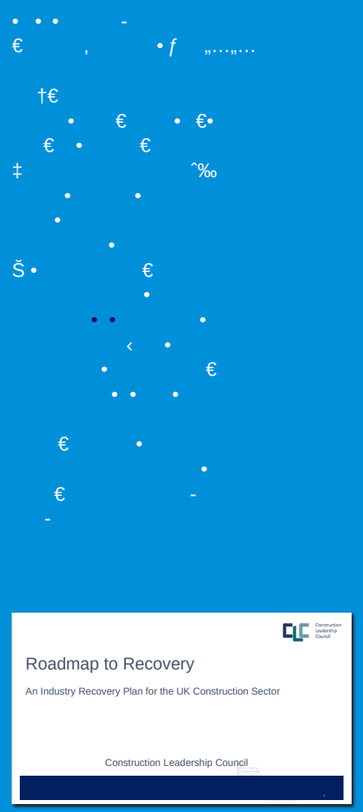
a. All circumstances;
b. Where social distancing isn't always possible; and
c. Where they come into contact with others they do not normally meet.

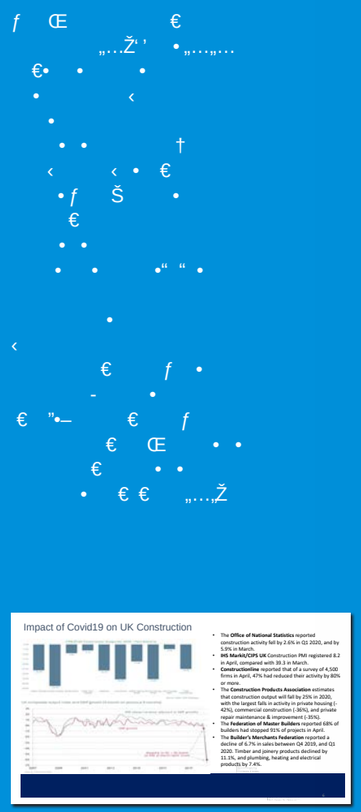
In line with Government guidance on premises providing hospitality, face coverings must be worn in canteens except when seated at a table to eat or drink.



Chief Executive's Report

Never have I been required to write an annual report against a backdrop of what we have all endured during 2020. Little did I think at our November 2019 AGM that I would be reporting on such an unprecedented set of circumstances only twelve months later. ‹ •





In 2019 / 2020 we have seen a series of Theme Group chair appointments and I would like to thank all those listed below for taking on their new roles as well as expressing my thanks to those who are outgoing:

- … • , Magna Housing, taking over as chair of the Construction Clients' Group from Andrew Goodenough, Bristol Airport, when he became chair of CESW.
- ‹ • • , Churngold, taking over as chair of the Procurement & Productivity Theme Group from the inimitable Martyn Jones who we are pleased to say will be staying on as a board member.
- … • ƒ , Buro Happold, taking over as chair of the Innovation & Sustainability Theme Group from David Greensmith and who is already putting her own personal stamp on this important team.
- † •• , SWPA, taking over as chair of the Smart Construction (Digital & Offsite) Theme Group from Mary Bon and who is leading on a project to list all South West MMC providers.
- ” ‘ , ex-Bouygues UK, taking over as chair of the Quality & Compliance Theme Group from Peter Dack and who has quickly got together a team of committed individuals.
- • , LeadersMeets, who has agreed to be our inaugural chair of the Health & Wellbeing Theme Group as we collaborate with CE Midlands in this critical area.

Our club network continues to be the bedrock of our success and I thank all those involved for their endeavours during very trying circumstances. The main element of club membership is of course networking, and this has become very difficult during lockdown. The support all club chairs have given the board and me is critical to our future and most appreciated.

We have seen the revival of the South West G4C group during the second half of 2020 and our thanks are due to Dwaine Bushell of Ward Williams, Lisa Denby of Kier and Josh Hodder of Highways England for leading on this. This young person's group is vital to the future of our industry in general and CESW in particular and we look forward to reporting on their spectacular success this time next year. They will be working with consultant, Gordon Brown, on a Recruit or Die project to help promote our sector to young people and better understand the reasons they are not joining the UK construction industry in greater numbers. They will also be looking at the CESW Adopt a School campaign, which has been furloughed, with a view to re-introducing it in 2021.

It was with huge disappointment that we were forced to postpone the 2020 awards. The shortlist is of a high quality and we thank those who have entered and our sponsors for their patience and continued support during these trying times. The awards are now to be an online event on 4th December 2020.

I am delighted to say that our relationship with CE National and with other CE regions continues to grow. Our National Chief Operating Officer, Alison Nicholl, has been working hard to secure an influential position for us on the national stage and in the last twelve months secured our place as official Adoption Partners for the Construction Innovation Hub in their efforts to positively disrupt the UK construction industry. We are involved currently in the roll out of the • • across the South West region.

I cannot mention our CE network without paying tribute to my Welsh counterpart, Milica Kitson, who retired in August 2020. I have worked alongside Milica since the of 1998 and have always found her to be totally committed to the principles of Constructing Excellence and an inspirational leader. She will be a difficult act to follow in our neighbouring region of Wales.

Finally I'm delighted to say that we have a new web site, thanks to Brace Consulting and Emma Hannam, and a new PR company in DCA PR both of which we are confident will raise the profile of CESW and increase the value we are able to offer our members.

Now more than ever we need a strong and successful CESW to ensure the post COVID-19 construction industry is not the same one in which we went in. Together we can ensure a collaborative culture, integrated supply chains and lean processes. CE is the movement to deliver this important agenda and I thank you all for your time, dedication and determination as we learn and share knowledge to implement the positive change we all crave.

CESW Board

The CESW Board on our new website at
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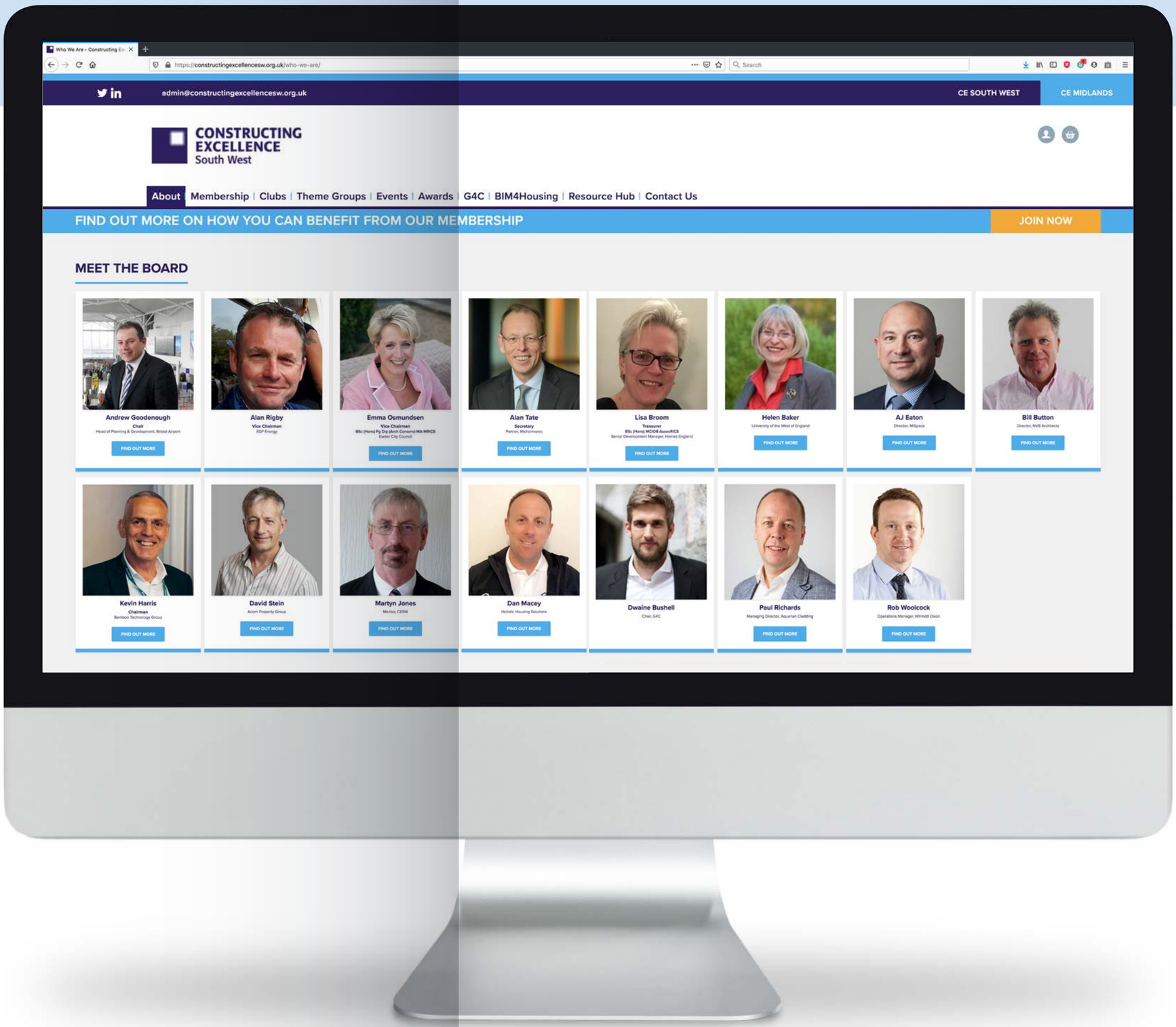


LeadersMeets

A year ago in the Annual Review for 2019 we were pleased to write that we had entered into a Learning Partnership with CESW in meeting its aim of providing 'a platform to stimulate, debate, and derive for industry wide improvement'. •

Our mission was (and remains) to promote, encourage, and facilitate 'conversations that matter' where adults can learn through the sharing of their thoughts, ideas and experiences through short, pertinent, and focused discussions, interviews and interactive webinars.

We believed that such a dynamic approach that maximises the use of modern technology would mean that members would not need to leave their place of work to be able to access each of the regular 'conversations that matter' and could sign in from anywhere via use of their smart phone tablet, phone or laptop. Significantly this would increase the opportunity to learn whilst reducing travel that in turn would lower CO^2 emissions whilst also increasing time that could be more effectively spent in improved productivity.

Additionally, members who were unable to join in one of the 'conversations that matter' and thus miss out on the learning opportunity would be able to watch or listen again by visiting our website at a place and time of their convenience.

Bold aspirations but how did we do?

Whilst the old 'naval proverb' that 'it's an ill wind that bloweth no many any good' is often a true maxim, the opportunity presented by the unfortunate COVID-19 lockdown in March 2020 was one that needed to be grasped.

Through the initiative of Andrew Carpenter and the LeadersMeets team, we very quickly established twice weekly 'conversations that matter', set up for midday on a Tuesday and a Friday. They soon became a CE fixture running from late March through to July for not just CESW members but significantly also members from CE Wales, CE Midlands, CE North East and the Structural Timber Association.

In the period from March to July some 2,100 people registered and attended one or more of the 'conversations that matter' – indeed many attended multiple sessions with one person totalling seventeen. These events have proved highly popular, with attendance averaging some 55 people per session. However, significantly as many people again, if not more, have headed to , to watch/listen to the recording as well as view the presentations.

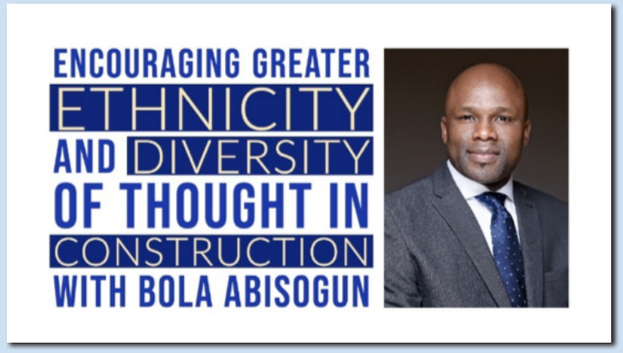
A month break was taken in August and with a return to work anticipated it was decided to return in September onwards with just one a week 'conversations that matter' at midday on a Friday. Additionally on the last Friday of each month a 'State of the Nation' session with a panel member from each of the four CE members was introduced. In the time since restarting, the popularity has grown with a further 400 people having registered.

This should be no surprise, for in a world that is facing a major pivot in where and how work will be affected, short, pertinent, and relevant peer-to-peer learning can play a vital role. Many people have recognised the crucial need to keep their knowledge and skills up to date. To meet this need this partnership has added other additional online sessions such as specialist topic workshops, AGMs, Summits and soon the 2020 Awards ceremonies.

With more and more businesses moving towards making remote / homeworking the norm and 2021 being described as the year of 'digital transformation', there are huge implications for leaders.

Learning has never been more important if leaders are to grasp and maximise upon the rapid cultural and behavioural change that COVID-19 has brought in its wake. Transformation and transition will become the norm over the coming decade and to support the need for continual professional development any attendee on one or more of our hosted events will soon be able to sign up to download a Certificate of Attendance to evidence their ongoing learning.

At LeadersMeets we are looking to build on what we have jointly achieved in the partnership with Constructing Excellence in the past year by enhancing how and what we offer as technology advances. Importantly we look forward to working with you the members who attend and make the events we host successful in the coming year. To continually seek to improve what we do please give us at LeadersMeets.com your feedback.



Marcoms

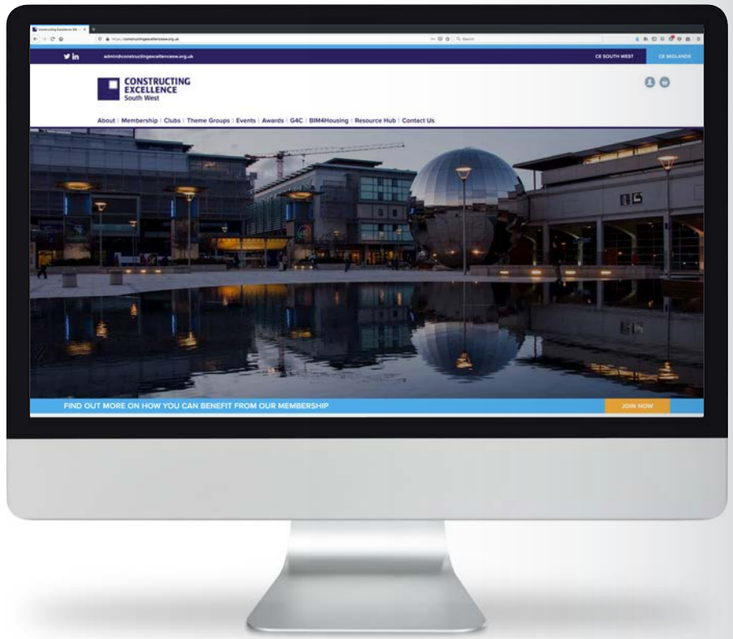
The most significant change in our events and activities this year is of course the impact of lockdown, leading to a move online. During the period we had huge support for our online webinars, workshops and Theme Group meetings and it has kept us busy both promoting these on LinkedIn and Twitter, in our weekly e-shots and then with the necessary follow-ups.

Both our LinkedIn and Twitter pages have seen a good boost in followers and engagement this year and we hope the trend will continue. If you do not do it already, please do remember to 'Like', 'Share' and 'Comment' as much as possible on our social media posts. It is hugely helpful in promoting the CESW brand and getting the word out about what CESW has to offer.

Our monthly newsletter continues to provide useful information and the feedback received has been most positive, for which we thank you. The regular Thought Leadership piece from Martyn Jones is especially well received and we thank him for imparting of his huge knowledge for the good of our members and supporters.

We now have a series of WhatsApp groups on the following topics for members to join: Climate Action, The Retrofit Agenda, Modern Methods of Construction, Mental Health and Skills & Training for The Future. These WhatsApp groups were initially created by Paul Read of Magna Housing for the use of CCG Theme Group members only but are now open to all CESW members to get involved with conversations on these topics.

The most exciting news this year is the creation of our new website, timed to coincide with the publication of this Annual Review and to be officially launched at the CESW online AGM on 25th November, 2020.



We used Brace Creative web developers, as they already had a good understanding of our organisation from the inside, having created the Gloucestershire Club website. Director Nick Bracey is an active member of the CESW Gloucestershire Club. We can't recommend them highly enough if any member or supporter has a need for their services.

The result is a slicker, more user-friendly website with our events and news featuring more strongly and our Clubs and Theme Groups being easily accessed. Our new website will allow our members to update their company profiles and will give a space for member companies to show job vacancies too. We hope that members will also be inspired to send in Member Blog pieces so that we can continue to shout about the best and brightest ideas, innovations and projects in the South West construction industry.

The team has worked hard on promoting the Awards this year and while we have obviously faced challenges due to COVID-19 restrictions we have a wonderful group of sponsors and an exciting shortlist that we continue to promote on social media.

2020 has been a good year for Marcoms, all things considered, and certainly social media and working online has come into its own even more during lockdown. Now that we've got the hang of Zoom calls and Team meetings, anything is possible!

The COVID-19 pandemic has put the construction sector in the spotlight and the use of off-site construction seems even more relevant. € •'š š , • € ˆ‰ — › €

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CESW Awards Shortlist ANNOUNCED! Huge congratulations to: ƒ›ƒ , Š ˆ Š Š € Š •€ ‚ƒ € € › • , ƒ ™ „œ" •ƒ € —ƒ, ˆ‰ Š

'Sector Response to COVID-19' with Head of Constructing Excellence, Alison Nicholl. CESW Leadersmeets Webinar – Register Now — € ›Š • • €› ‹•›•ˆ— €€ €

Club Reports

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Chair

Like all clubs, the last twelve months has been an interesting and difficult time as we moved from ‘normal’ life to life under lockdown.

Understandably it has been difficult to build on the early enthusiasm, built up since the re-launch in summer 2019, as we have had to cancel events and activities during the second half of the period. However, the regional webinars have given our members the opportunity to maintain their regular access to ‘best practice’. We are ending 2020 with an online Christmas Quiz and hope for a return to more normal operations in Q2 2021.

As ever, we seek more volunteers from across the supply chain, who either live or work in and around Bath, to push the agenda forward in helping CE to implement the Roadmap to Recovery throughout the South West. Our desire to learn and share ‘best practice’, use that knowledge to positively influence change and provide an opportunity to network with forward thinking built environment professionals is as strong as ever.

Please do contact our chair Julia Davenport-Cooper should you wish to receive more information at
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or join direct by visiting:
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Chair

The Bristol Club is at a crossroads in its long and proud history.

Set up in 1999, it soon became the biggest and best club in the UK, with Club Secretary Andrew Carpenter being asked to head up the national UK Club Network of 52 and join the CE Board from 2003-2006. The annual Bristol Club Conference was the highlight of the annual calendar and the Here to Learn Workshops hosted by Martyn Jones provided exceptional opportunities to share ‘best practice’. Those involved at the beginning, Rob Knight, Stewart Pitteway and many others have moved on and the leadership mantle was passed to Kevin Hibbs and now Jamie Siggers. The crossroads has been reached because administrative duties have been passed from the club to the regional centre as people’s time becomes more and more precious. Membership has declined in the last couple of years, emphasised by the difficult conditions in 2020, and so 2021 provides an opportunity to ensure the largest conurbation in the South West has a thriving and influential Best Practice Club. The combination of an enthusiastic Bristol Club Committee, together with administrative services from the centre should see the club return to its former glory, with exciting plans for 2021 and beyond, including an exciting line-up of speakers for the March 2021 Conference, now incorporated into the Regional Summit.

Should you wish to be part of this exciting opportunity please contact Jamie Siggers at
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or join direct by visiting:
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‰ ™ Š Chair

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Cornwall Hub had a successful year growing its membership and broadening its reach into the local and regional construction and development industry.

Whilst the COVID-19 pandemic has not allowed us to have face to face meetings or arrange events, we have continued our quarterly Cornwall Hub meetings, including topical presentations to keep our members informed and add value to our meetings.

In our first meeting of the year, still face to face, we heard a presentation from Cornwall Council on the Cornwall Design Guide, which was in consultation at that time and hub members had the opportunity to feed back. We also adopted our governance document setting out our objectives and defining roles and requirements of the committee.

Our committee was confirmed following the meeting and now consists of 10 people, which has greatly helped to enhance the profile of our hub amongst businesses operating in the Cornwall construction and development sectors. A new committee including new chair, deputy chair and secretary was confirmed at the November 2020 meeting, with our new governance process allowing for the committee roles being reviewed on a yearly basis to enable more members to get involved.

In our April meeting (held virtually), we listened to a presentation about Biodiversity Net Gain, and the July meeting included a presentation on the emerging Langarth Garden Village proposals, a 4,500 homes development at the western end of Truro. The hub also contributed to Cornwall-specific consultations on COVID-19 responses and strategies, feeding into policy development and wider strategic discussions.

Members are attending the various theme groups and made use of the CESW organised and supported webinar series. Cornwall Hub also has presence on the CESW Board. Over these routes, our members actively feed into regional and national discussions and bring back knowledge and best practice to Cornwall.

Our membership has grown this year, despite the pandemic, and we have made great progress in enhancing our LinkedIn (’ •’ “ “ €’) and Twitter ( ) presence, using these media to keep contact with our members. This reflects our enhanced focus on members this year. We started a series of member profiles, which are periodically published via our social media, to give members a platform to promote their projects, best practice and work. We also updated our CESW hosted webpage (’ € ’), which lists our members and showcases member profiles that have been prepared to date. Recently we started to trial Member Meets, where members can request one to one introductions to other members, in order to make up for some of the lack of wider networking opportunities.

Overall, Cornwall Hub had a good year despite all the external challenges and we look forward to a successful 2021. If you would like to get involved in the Cornwall Hub please contact us through details set out on our webpage or our social media.

Many of Cornwall’s construction sites resumed to operate after a period of adjusting to new rules related to COVID-19 compliance, providing valuable employment opportunities, including for example projects at the Falmouth Exeter Plus Penryn Campus, Acorn’s Ocean Liner Apartment Development and West Carclaze Garden Village first phase construction.

Cornwall is open for business.

Should you wish to receive more information please do contact our chair Birgit Höntzsch at
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or join direct by visiting:
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Chairman

Following a well-attended online AGM midway through 2020, the club is gearing up to provide its members with a valuable series of events and activities in 2021.

Under the chairmanship of Mike Borkowski and with the assistance of Stephen Homer, Emma Osmundsen, Tanya Loosemore and others, the plan is to collaborate with other Exeter based industry organisations to positively promote the necessary change agenda to ensure the industry that emerges post COVID-19 is not the same as the one that entered it.

Like other clubs, the coronavirus has delayed our progress but not our determination to ensure the South West’s second biggest centre of business has a thriving CE ‘Best Practice’ Club as administrative duties move from the club to the regional centre.

Should you wish to be part of an exciting future please contact Mike Borkowski at
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or join direct by visiting:
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