



TO ALL MEMBERS

**The seventeenth annual general meeting of the
Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors**

will be held on

**Wednesday 03 September 2025
Commencing at 9.30am**

**This is a virtual AGM and pre-registration is essential
cices.org/events**

CONTENTS

Agenda

**Proceedings of the sixteenth annual general meeting of the
Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors**

**By order of Council of Management
A Holmes, Honorary Secretary
12 August 2025**

**AGENDA FOR THE SEVENTEENTH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
CHARTERED INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYORS**

1. Notice convening the meeting
2. Apologies
3. Proceedings of the sixteenth AGM of the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors held on 18 September 2024
4. President's address
5. Finance report (verbal) and accounts to 28 February 2025
(approval of accounts)
6. Election of auditors
7. Investiture of the president
8. Appointment of the senior vice-president and vice-president
9. Composition of Council of Management
10. Any other business applicable to an AGM
(with prior approval of the president)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYORS HELD ON 18 SEPTEMBER 2024 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

The President determined the virtual meeting to be quorate and commenced the meeting at 9.35am.

1. Notice convening the meeting

President Batsetswe Motsumi welcomed members to the virtual AGM and read the notice convening the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apology received from Dr Andrew Evans.

3. Minutes of the fifteenth AGM of the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors, held virtually on 20 September 2023 via Microsoft Teams

The record of proceedings of the fifteenth AGM of the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors were ratified as correct by those present at the AGM with no objections.

4. President's address

The President welcomed the 40 members online who had attended the virtual meeting and delivered a verbal address. In particular he drew attention to the following achievements, issues and observations:

- Outlining the presidential theme of Adding Value Through Collaboration.
- CICES is dedicated to enhancing modern support to our current members and those who are interested in joining CICES and the enthusiasm displayed by CEO Simon Hamlyn and the team at Sale in welcoming our commitment to digital transformation.
- The importance of social value and the need to enhance our ability to attract, develop and retain the skills within our profession.
- The CICES strategy directs the institution to become even more equitable, inclusive and diverse in its actions and decisions.
- Members continue to support higher education in supporting new and existing geospatial engineering and commercial management courses. This is just another way of CICES adding value to the profession and society and I am specifically grateful to our chairs of all CICES regions for enabling this.

- To add value in what we do, it was important to carry out a thorough review of our relationships with fellow professional bodies and partner organisations at home and abroad to ensure that they are relevant and help us achieve our objectives.
- During this year of collaboration CICES has managed to reaffirm its existing relationships by entering into many targeted Memorandum of Understanding as well as develop new value adding ones.
- Approved development schemes have been totally reviewed during the year to focus on a structured plan of supporting our employer organisations.
- CICES continued to support the profession by hosting deeply educational lectures such as Manchester Lecture, Cambridge Lecture and CICES Commercial Management Conference as well taking part at Digital Construction Week and GeoBusiness.
- Special gratitude to CICES HQ staff who continue to serve the institution with distinction and passion by supporting our regions to deliver a programme of seminars/webinars and social events on a variety of topics and subjects which help our mission of continuous learning and improvement. Our regular publications continue to offer excellent learning materials for our members.
- Highlighting the work done by our team at HQ in protecting the CICES brand by providing hints, tips and guidance on how to use and enjoy our brand.
- Acknowledging the continuity provided by our past president Dr Andrew (Andy) Evans. Our members will know that Andy is passionate about the role of the civil engineering surveyor in addressing climate change challenges. He has been instrumental in developing policy and work in sustainability area as we aspire to meet the UK Net Zero targets. I urge everyone to watch out for the release of Sustainability and the Civil Engineering Surveyor Paper in Q4 2024.
- I am grateful for the opportunity to help shape our great institution as your president. As my tenure draws to a close, I look forwards to continuing to serve our members in a different capacity.

5. Finance report

Treasurer, Chris Birchall presented the finance report. Key points included:

- Thanking CEO Simon Hamlyn, all the CICES staff, and SURCO Directors and staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.
- The institution registers consolidated accounts (accounts which include both CICES turnover and that of its trading company, SURCO).

- SURCO's main income is from advertising and training. There is a lack of uncertainty around income from these sources but the financial model which we have in place limits our exposure to risk.
- In this digital age raising money from advertising is challenging but the SURCO team and in particular Guy Helliker continue to produce outstanding amounts of revenue for CICES for which we are extremely grateful.
- Commercial and geospatial training is limited however BK SURCO has again made a significant contribution to SURCO's income. Thanks were given to John Battersby and all staff at JV BK SURCO for their incredible work during the year.
- Although training is limited it is important that relevant training is available and reminded members that SURCO has an ongoing agreement with Built Intelligence www.builtintelligence.com whereby members can obtain a discount for online commercial courses.
- SURCO has made a small loss of £12,000 which is much better than the approximate £40,000 loss budgeted. It's not vital that SURCO makes a profit and its staff are an integral part of the institution which is beneficial to the running of the organisation and its worth to CICES is considerably more than appears in figures on the balance sheet.
- In the second year of its five-year strategic plan CICES had budgeted for a significant overspend, however excluding trading activities it is anticipated the CICES will show a small surplus of approximate £1,000 after an allowance of approximately £30,000 for depreciation.
- The overall deficit/loss of the two companies combined is therefore a loss/deficit of £11,000 (including a SURCO loss of £12,000).
- Having shown a significant surplus over the previous 12 years, to show a small loss now is easily manageable, and we are operating well within the budgeted overspend for this stage of the strategic plan.
- Looking ahead, we have managed to deal with the economic pressures on the industry.
- Our main income is of course from subscriptions and to date we haven't suffered a significant reduction in membership and a drive to increase members is part of our strategic plan.
- We are now in the third year of our new strategic plan, for which Council of Management has agreed a five-year budgetary plan, involving significant additional expenditure year on year. Despite the possible financial pressures which we might face we are strong financially, and we remain bullish and committed to delivering the plan.

- We wish to provide the best service we can to our members and we will be spending money to improve our database and website over the coming year, but rest assured, we will continue to monitor the situation closely, and take whatever actions are necessary to maintain the financial stability of the institution.

The accounts were not ready to be approved and would be available at a later date.

6. Election of the auditors

Thanks were passed to Murray Smith Accountants. Moffatts Accountants were proposed as the new auditors at the previous Council of Management meeting and ratified at the AGM by those members present.

7. Investiture of the President

The President advised that his term had now ended and Alison Watson was inaugurated as the new President. The formal presentation of the presidency will take place at the annual dinner on Friday 20 September at King's College, Cambridge University.

8. Appointment of the Senior Vice President and Vice President

Alexandra Pearsall was appointed Senior Vice President and Marek Suchocki was appointed Vice President.

9. Composition of Council of Management

The President thanked those Council of Management members who had given their time so generously and were now stepping down; John Fraser, Rob Hubbard, Michael McIlhatton, Byron Tyson and Adrienne Yarwood.

The President reminded members that in accordance with our Royal Charter and Bye-laws, our Council of Management is composed of the President, Immediate Past President, Senior Vice President and Vice President and up to a maximum of 14 elected members. There are four vacancies to be filled at the AGM today and four nominations received. It was also noted that there is a requirement within regulations (52) that those members of the Council who are elected are done so on the basis that at least one third of the members thereof (excluding the President) shall be either Geospatial Engineering Surveyors or Commercial Managers.

Following the ballot, the six individuals who have been elected on to Council of Management, based on number of votes achieved and compliance with regulation 52 were:

- Mark Coates
- Bernice Cowton
- Dr Andrew Evans
- Jim McCluskey
- Simon Navin
- Genna Rourke

On behalf of the institution, the President congratulated those who had been elected as new members.

Those who had put their names forward to become members of Council of Management but were unsuccessful were encouraged to re-apply next year and thanked for the continued commitment to the institution. The President and CEO would write to those who had been unsuccessful to arrange a meeting to see how their enthusiasm can be taken up in other areas where they may get involved.

On behalf of the institution, the President congratulated those who had been elected as new members. The new Council of Management comprises:

Alison Watson	President
Batsetswe Motsumi	Immediate Past President
Alexandra Pearsall	Senior Vice President
Marek Suchocki	Vice President
Chris Birchall	
Mark Coates	
Bernice Cowton	
Dr Andrew Evans	
Laxman Ghimire	
Peter Hallsworth	
Lewis Jefferson	
Jim McCluskey	
Simon Navin	
Genna Rourke	
Daniel Sum	

Afsheen Ul-Haq
Russell Welsh
Mark White

10. Any other business applicable to an AGM (with prior approval of the President)

No other business.

The meeting closed at 10.05am.

**PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS TO THE SEVENTEENTH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
CHARTERED INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYORS**

It is with great pleasure, as your President, that I present this report to the seventeenth annual general meeting of CICES, reflecting on the past 12 months in the life of our institution.

When I began my term in September 2024, my presidential theme 'Make Space for Education' was intended as more than a message. It was a call to embed education as a central and sustained priority for our profession. Over the course of this year, I have been encouraged by the willingness of our members, trustees, staff and partners to support this vision and ensure that CICES continues to strengthen its role in developing the next generation of civil engineering surveyors.

Membership, staff and regional engagement

I wish to record my sincere thanks to our staff at HQ for their dedication, professionalism and support throughout my presidential year. The commitment of the team underpins all that we do and I have greatly valued their assistance in enabling the presidential role to be carried out effectively.

Our regional structure remains a vital link between the institution and our members and it was a pleasure to meet them, especially in person. Special thanks to the Northern Ireland and Ireland committee who made my short visit to Belfast an unforgettable one at Royal Hillsborough and also to Scottish colleagues who didn't let a storm get in the way of a great Burns Supper.

I applaud all our regional chairs and committees, who continue to deliver programmes of technical, professional and social events, both in person and online. These activities maintain close member engagement and ensure that our work is relevant and responsive to regional needs. Further, they epitomise the friendly spirit of the institution and the desire to make a difference to the profession.

CICES and education

It must be recognised that, while CICES has long engaged in valuable outreach, these efforts risked being seen as piecemeal without an overarching plan. Back in May 2023, I convened and chaired the first CICES industry roundtable, bringing together senior stakeholders to address skills shortages, professional recognition and standards in civil engineering surveying. This forum generated a series of actions including the development of an accredited geospatial qualification, a client guide and wider industry collaboration.

In response, as I stepped in the shoes of President, the Education Panel was established under the Education, Professional Development and Membership Committee to provide dedicated focus on education strategy under the chair of CICES Development Manager, Dominic Lane. With a remit to align learning pathways with industry needs, strengthen partnerships with education providers and address the profession's critical talent shortages proactively, the panel represents a significant step towards securing the future pipeline of skilled civil engineering surveyors and ensuring our initiatives have lasting impact. Agenda items have included a joined up campaign with The Survey Association to raise awareness and encourage and support employers to recruit apprentices for the Level 3 Geospatial Survey Technician. Future plans include a roundtable event with universities and key employers to align industry requirements for commercial management and degree/degree apprenticeship courses. Following an introduction to the highly successful work of Balfour Beatty and Northumbria University, Northumbria's Susan Dawson has agreed to support this development. Thank you especially to Jim McCluskey, Alison Powell, Charlotte Edwards, Kevin Webber and Mike Rogers for their support.

Perhaps the most pressing of all is the refocus on surveying as a critical profession and the development of recognised pathways into it. I have written many an article, spoken at events, both in person and online, at home and overseas. I have used the institution's journal, *Civil Engineering Surveyor*, to highlight the importance of early engagement and clear pathways into

the profession, from championing the Level 3 Geospatial Survey Technician apprenticeship as an inclusive, skills-focused entry route, to promoting project-based learning that connects young people with real-world surveying. My aim has been to show that awareness must be coupled with action and that collaboration is key to our success. I must applaud the constant efforts of Lucy Powers and Richard Maltby for their roles in leading the Geospatial Apprentice Trailblazer Group and thank Skills England's Nicky Jordan for keeping us all on track in the standard's development. On the back of this, one of the most significant strategic initiatives I have supported during my presidency is the development of a standardised national curriculum for geospatial surveying, coupled with a dedicated teacher training programme. The aim is to address the urgent shortage of qualified educators and the inconsistent delivery of the Level 3 Geospatial Survey Technician Apprenticeship. This dual approach will see experienced survey professionals retrained as fully qualified FE teachers while also creating a complete suite of teaching resources, including lesson plans, schemes of work, real-world case studies and digital integration, all aligned with CICES competencies and industry standards. Without a consistent, high-quality teaching model, the profession risks an erosion of skills, reduced employer confidence and a weakened talent pipeline. It is my belief that the programme will not only ensure that learners receive industry-ready training wherever they study, but it will also professionalise geospatial teaching itself, embedding quality and consistency from the outset.

Finally, I'm delighted to see the recruitment of a dedicated Education Outreach Manager which will, for the first time, give the Institution a full-time, professional presence in the education space. This appointment is a strategic necessity if CICES is to remain relevant, visible and influential in addressing skills shortages, attracting diverse talent and building a long-term membership pipeline. The post will bring structure and cohesion to our outreach, strengthen relationships with schools, colleges, universities and training providers, and ensure that education is embedded in our qualifications, apprenticeships and professional pathways. Crucially, it will allow CICES to move from fragmented, volunteer-led activity to a sustained, strategic programme that secures the profession's future. I remain committed to supporting the CICES as this important role takes shape.

I'm pleased to offer grateful thanks to Olly Viney at The Survey Association and James Kavanagh at RICS for their commitment in developing the client guide 'Do You Need A Survey' which is now released and open for public

commentary and further contribution. The guide aims to help commissioning clients understand the value of engaging professionally qualified surveyors by providing clear, practical guidance to improve procurement decisions, reinforce professional standards and promote the role of surveyors in project success.

Institutional initiatives and advocacy

During my year in office, it's been an honour to attend and contribute to a variety of events, not least the 2024 CICES annual dinner at King's College, Cambridge last September, all of which reinforce our mission of continuous learning and improvement. At the Manchester Lecture in February, hosted jointly with CECA North West, I helped set the tone for discussions on building a bold future for our profession. In May, I joined industry leaders at the Cambridge Lecture, held at the British Antarctic Survey, to emphasise the role of education-led innovation in strengthening the surveying talent pipeline. Most recently, at the Commercial Management Conference in London, I highlighted the critical link between professional training, education and the commercial acumen essential to project success, ensuring that skills development was recognised as a strategic priority. I presented alongside CICES member Adam Baz to acknowledge the varied entry points to a career in surveying. His inspirational story is also featured in the journal. Special thanks to Mark Hudson, Tim Over and Jim McCluskey for their excellent organisation of these three important events.

I attended the inaugural Geo:Influence event was launched by TSA, RICS and CICES as a day of inspiration and momentum within the geospatial sector, focusing specifically on education and skills development. The event, organised under the Survey Liaison Group at Dudley College, brought together influential figures from the profession to generate discussion and drive action for addressing talent gaps and elevating professional standards in geospatial surveying.

I also represented CICES at the June 2024 Geobusiness event joined by CICES council member Simon Navin and Sandy Powell alongside Dr. Claire Evans (Bloxham School) and Hazel Hendley (Ordnance Survey) to debate how industry and education can collaborate more effectively to close skills gaps. The panel discussion focused on improving diversity, equity and inclusion and exploring ways to inspire and support the next generation of geospatial professionals through strategic outreach and accessible pathways.

I've had the honour of visiting the Royal School of Military Engineering on several occasions. These visits reinforced my admiration for the work of the 'Sappers', whose surveying expertise is applied in some of the most challenging environments around the world. I've been proud to present certificates to Class One Royal Engineers who had successfully completed the CICES-accredited Military Engineering (Surveyor Engineering) course. The course equips them with advanced technical skills that are critical to military operations, from infrastructure planning to rapid construction in hostile or disaster-hit locations, and also highly transferable to civilian practice. Recognising their achievements was a privilege and a reminder of the deep connection between our profession's standards and the demands of military service.

International representation

DUBAI

I was honoured to contribute to the excellent inaugural GeoWorld Summit 2024 as an advisory Board member, panel chair and opening keynote Speaker. I continue to provide guidance and will be representing the CICES again in November 2025.

SINGAPORE

Following a LinkedIn appeal for support by member Alex Voss, I met with Alex, Victor Khoo and George Wall principally to discuss the future of surveying in Singapore. We talked about the 'surveyor' brand, the perception of the construction industry (still the most challenging issue globally) and of surveying vs engineering, recruitment and curriculum. The brand is the issue in Singapore where a surveyor is perceived as a 'dirty' job and an 'engineer' is not. Hence, there is a move to adopt the term 'geomatics engineer' to give the profession the respect it needs. We all agreed there needs to be a standardised approach to a universal problem and will be exploring the potential to share surveying qualifications in the future.

HONG KONG AND MACAU

During my visit to the Hong Kong Region from 11-15 March 2025, accompanied by our CEO, Simon Hamlyn, I was privileged to meet members in both Hong Kong and Macau. The programme included formal meetings with the regional chair and committee, site visits to significant infrastructure projects, and opportunities to engage directly with practitioners across geospatial and commercial surveying disciplines. I was honoured to deliver a keynote address

to members of the Hong Kong CICES region, where I spoke on the global surveying skills gap and the urgent need to 'Make Space for Education'. In my remarks, I highlighted that Hong Kong also faces a projected manpower shortage of around 180,000 workers by 2028, with skilled technical roles such as surveyors in greatest. I emphasised the global skills, recruitment and retention issue and that early engagement, teacher support and clear pathways are essential to attracting the next generation. I particularly enjoyed my visit to the University of Macau and to Hong Kong Polytechnic where I was able to meet young undergraduate surveyors and spend time talking to them about their attraction to the profession and their ambitions for the future. My thanks to Andrew Keung, HF Wong, Cordia Yu and Sam Ng and all the wonderful members who made my visit so memorable.

A special mention must go also to the lovely Miranda Lui who sadly passed away on 31 July this year. Miranda served as the chair of the CICES Hong Kong region from 2015 to 2017. Following my visit, she and I met up again at FIG in Brisbane, where she spoke enthusiastically about supporting Brisbane's school children. She was kind, warm and funny and I had been looking forward to seeing her again in Brisbane at the end of August to arrange BIM training for teachers. I know her loss is deeply felt by all our colleagues in Hong Kong and I extend my sincere condolences.

AUSTRALIA

I represented CICES at the FIG Working Week in Brisbane from 6-10 April where I contributed to discussions on sustainability and education. I had the privilege of presenting on behalf of Dr Michele Victoria, chair of the CICES Sustainability Committee, who was unable to attend in person. The committee's white paper, Sustainability and the Civil Engineering Surveyor, is a powerful piece of research that challenges our profession to rethink what we measure, why we measure it and who benefits. The presentation, supported by a short film narrated by Michele, was intended to inform and to inspire action among surveyors worldwide. I emphasised the central role civil engineering surveyors play in achieving global sustainability goals, the extraordinary potential of the geospatial profession to influence climate action and the need to place education at the heart of all sustainability efforts.

Looking Ahead

As I conclude my presidential year, I am confident that the institution is well positioned to advance its strategic objectives, particularly in embedding

education and skills development into the core of our work. The commitment shown by our members, trustees and staff demonstrates that 'Make Space for Education' is a direction of travel that will help secure the profession's future, especially as we align with RICS in the joint recognition of Chartered Civil Engineering Surveyor status.

It has been an honour to serve as your President. I look forward to continuing to support the Institution in the years ahead and to seeing our collective efforts bear fruit as we welcome the next generation of civil engineering surveyors into our profession.

Alison Watson MBE FCInstCES

President, Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors



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