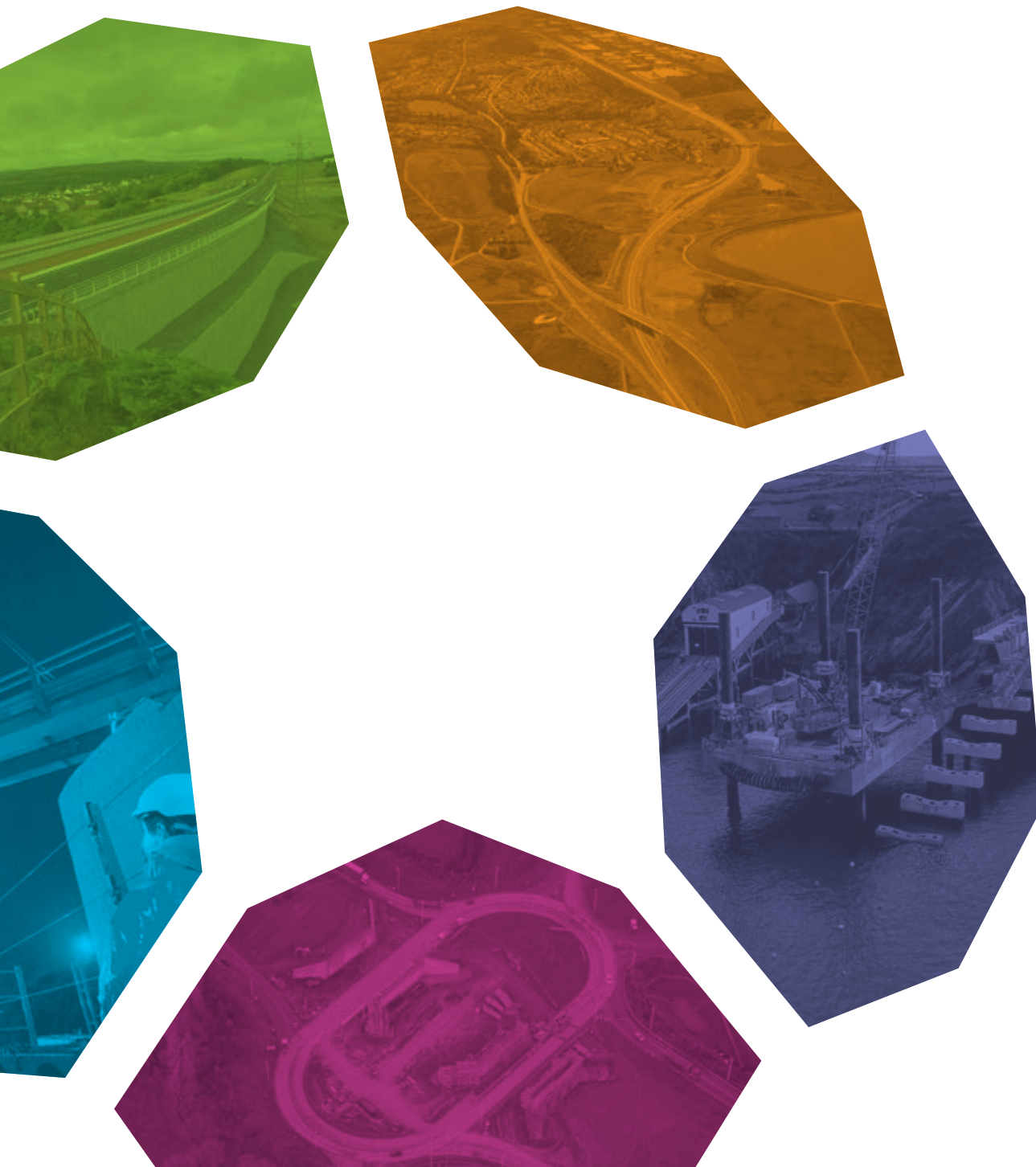


Priorities for the future

2016/17



Who are CECA Wales?

The Civil Engineering Contractors Association (CECA) Wales represents 60 of Wales' largest and smallest civil engineering contracting businesses with a cumulative annual turnover in excess of £1bn and employing over 6,000 people. These businesses play a huge part in supporting communities across Wales and make a significant contribution to the economic prosperity of our nation. Our members are also major providers of training and apprenticeship opportunities.

On a more fundamental level it is our members who will build the infrastructure that our nation needs to prosper.

What does this plan do?

This plan sets out the priorities for CECA Wales over the next 12 months, how it will further the interests of civil engineering contracting businesses and how it will support a more prosperous Wales through better infrastructure.

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Chairman

“Value”, “vision” and “long term strategy” are all words that are thrown about quite often in a political context, however, when it comes to the future of infrastructure in Wales, they are absolutely key. Ahead of the recent National Assembly election, CECA Wales called on the next Welsh Government to make infrastructure a priority and make a clear commitment to create a vision for infrastructure in Wales. The creation of a new Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills and a National Infrastructure Commission for Wales are certainly steps in the right direction.

However, if we are to improve our economy in Wales then we need infrastructure fit for the 21st Century. To achieve this we need a clear vision of what infrastructure we need to develop our economy and grow our communities. We need to be clear why we need it and what value it will bring to us, as a nation, in the long term. Without this vision our approach will continue to be fragmented, piecemeal and rife with arguments and indecision. We need the whole nation to “buy in” to this vision but with this in place we can get on with developing a programme of “joined up” projects, identify the investment opportunities to fund it and make sure that we have the people and skills to deliver it. All these things become much easier to achieve with a vision for economic prosperity in place and this needs to be a priority for the new commission.

With the Welsh Government offering clear leadership, teamed with a body which will hopefully provide a vision, a focus and strategic direction for the sector in Wales, this is a golden opportunity to make Wales a more prosperous place to be.

Peter Crabtree,
Chairman CECA Wales

Director

As the Chairman of CECA Wales has stated we believe that the provision of infrastructure is the essential foundation to the development of our economy. However, for this to happen in Wales we need:

- A clear economic vision and strategy for Wales
- A long term programme of infrastructure projects
- A long term investment strategy to fund an infrastructure programme
- A skills strategy to support delivery and ensure that Wales grows its own talent pool

As the Director of CECA Wales my key priority will be to work with politicians and decision makers, with construction clients, with other businesses and construction sector stakeholders and, of course, our members, to make sure that this becomes a reality.

These are challenging and changing times but, to quote a popular Welsh football saying, we can achieve anything if we are “Together, Stronger”.

Ed Evans, Director,
CECA Wales

The key priorities for CECA Wales over the next 12 months

Promote the value of infrastructure to the Welsh economy and seek increased investment

- Support the Welsh Government in developing a National Infrastructure Commission for Wales
- Ensuring the construction sector is a key consideration in the development of an investment strategy for infrastructure
- Report on the value of infrastructure investment to the economy of Wales

Streamline procurement making the process of bidding for work more efficient and effective

- Work with construction clients to ensure that bidding costs for contractors are minimised whilst maximising value for money for clients
- Report on bidding costs for contractors and the broader industry

Attract a diverse and talented workforce to support the sector

- Work with industry partners and stakeholders to promote careers in construction for all
- Increase engagement with younger members

Ensure that our workforce is trained and developed to the highest standards

- Develop a CECA Wales training and development programme for members
- Work with government and training providers to develop consistent qualification standards and career pathways for the civil engineering sector

Secure the health, safety and wellbeing of our workforce

- Identify and promote good industry practices
- Report on the health, safety and wellbeing of the workforce in Wales

How do we make this happen in Wales?

Positive change will not happen through one organisation alone. To achieve the changes that we need we will actively work with others to drive these and other priorities forward. We will:

- Support governments, politicians and other decision makers by providing the views of the sector and fact-based evidence on specific issues
- Work with key clients to deliver greater value by sharing information and developing good practices
- Work in partnership with other stakeholders to drive forward common issues

