

CHAIRMAN'S FIRST QUARTER REPORT, JULY 2018

Danny O'Brien, Chairman, CECA NW

I am pleased to provide the following report of the first quarter, in my second year as Chairman of CECA NW, together with details of plans for the rest of the year. I am grateful for the support I continue to receive from my fellow CECA NW directors as well as the Executive Committee and the NW membership, in delivering a programme to continue to meet members' needs and aspirations.

I am delighted to welcome Chartrange Ltd, who have joined CECA NW. I would also like to congratulate DXI Regeneration Ltd for winning CECA's Inspiring Change award, in connection with the site visit it arranged for Southport Brownies.

The first quarter of 2018 has seen CECA NW host a rail-focused supply chain conference in Manchester, with presentations from Merseytravel, Transport for Greater Manchester, Department for Transport and Network Rail.

Further north, we were delighted to hold the inaugural dinner for CECA North by NW, attended by 40 contractors in Penrith.

In April, CECA NW Foundations attracted a packed house, including many students from local colleges, at its seminar on new technology and ecology in civil engineering.

Client liaison meetings are being arranged for the autumn with West Cumbria Mining, United Utilities, Electricity NW, among others, but please let us know if there are other organisations you would like us to arrange a meeting with.

Training and development comprises both the HKA legal breakfast seminars, and the management development programme for engineers and supervisors, with possibly a mock trial in the autumn. A seminar on HR and taxation is also being arranged for the autumn.

We have recently appointed PR consultants to run a campaign to improve the image of civil engineering in the North West, and you can expect to see more CECA NW coverage in the months ahead.

The CECA NW Golf Day returned to Leigh Golf Club in June, and my congratulations to Mark Hudson and Geoterra who won both cups. The annual awards dinner takes place at the Midland Hotel, Manchester on 12 October 2018, with Quentin Willson as the guest speaker – we are now taking bookings for what will be a splendid evening. The awards are now open, so please send your entries in to Guy Lawson by Friday 7 September 2018 (or contact him for an entry form).

Financially, we are in good shape, and have a robust business plan for 2018, as we continue to report an increase in turnover year on year. I hope you will agree that we are continuing to make progress, but we are always looking to improve what CECA offers to our members even further. I would stress, however, that CECA NW is **your** Association and, rather than second guess what your business needs are, I would urge you to contact CECA NW Director, Guy Lawson or myself, with any suggestions for us to implement on your behalf.

Danny O'Brien, Chairman, CECA NW, July 2018
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