

CHAIRMAN'S SECOND QUARTER REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2018

Danny O'Brien, Chairman, CECA NW

I am pleased to provide the following report of the second 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 Opus Utility Solutions Ltd, who have joined CECA NW, and we are in discussions with three other potential members.

We have also held meetings with Sellafield Ltd and West Cumbria Mining, and have a further Sellafield Ltd meeting is lined up, as well as others planned with Inovyn, Network Rail, United Utilities, Cumbria County Council and Homes England. Please let us know if there are other organisations you would like us to arrange a meeting with.

Our annual awards dinner takes place on 12 October at the Midland Hotel, Manchester – we have received an excellent number of entries for the awards, and look forward to an excellent evening.

CECA NW Foundations, the group established for people new to the industry, has arranged a seminar and social evening on 15 November in Manchester, with presentations on collaborative working and procurement & marketing. They will also be manning the CECA stand at the CITB conference in Manchester.

Over the summer, we released the new CECA NW video, promoting careers in civil engineering, featuring a range of recent projects, as well as two former winners of the CECA NW Young Professional of the Year award. We have also worked with NW Construction Training Services (NCTS), and a range of partner organisations, to submit a bid to CITB's Construction Skills Fund, to establish a skills hub in south Warrington.

Training and development comprises both the HKA legal breakfast seminars, and the management development programme for engineers and supervisors. A seminar on HR and taxation has been arranged for the autumn, jointly with CECA Wales.

Our recently appointed PR consultants have started to secure media coverage, aimed at improving the image of civil engineering in the North West, and you can expect to see more CECA NW coverage in the months ahead.

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.