

## CHAIRMAN'S SECOND QUARTER REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2019

### Oliver Tolputt, Chairman, CECA NW

I am pleased to provide the following report of the second quarter, in my first year as Chairman of CECA NW, together with details of plans for the rest of the year. I am grateful for the support I have received 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 would like to extend a warm welcome to CECA NW to our latest associate member, George Corderoy, and we are progressing expressions of interest from 4 other companies.

The 2019 CECA NW video and flyer have been produced and are now available. Also, the CECA NW Routes to Market data is now available on the members' section of the website, with details of all clients operating in the region, and their forthcoming frameworks and projects.

The CECA NW Foundations group is planning an autumn seminar with University of Salford – further details shortly. The group provides a network for people new to the industry, but all are welcome, of any age and experience, and I would urge members to make colleagues aware of it and encourage them to attend.

This was the first year the CECA NW Golf Day has been run in conjunction with CICES, and a larger number of teams competed (36 players players), with congratulations to Will Hughes for winning the Mark Fairclough Cup, and to Lowbury Construction for winning the CECA NW team trophy.

The CECA NW annual awards dinner in October is progressing well (with 270 guests, as against 250 at the same point in 2018), and we are pleased to announce that Barry White, CEO of TfN, Natalie Webster of Homes England and Steve Bassett of the Environment Agency will be attending as guests of honour.

We have held a members' meeting with STAR Procurement (re the GM Streetscene Alliance) and meetings are being planned with Homes England & Warrington Borough Council (to pilot CECA's new Housing Infrastructure Group), Highways England and United Utilities/Costain (as Managed Service Provider). More are being planned, but please let us know of any organisations you would like us to arrange meetings with.

We ran four legal seminars in the first half of the year, and a session with Liz Bridge on reverse charge VAT. We will be running 4 legal seminars with Geraldine Fleming in the period up to December, covering liquidated damages, NEC4, and supply contracts. We are considering topics for 2020, and all suggestions are most welcome.

I am pleased to report that our Schools & Colleges Co-ordinator has made contact with all CECA NW member companies, both to establish just how much work is being done by our members across the region with schools and colleges, and to identify how best CECA NW can provide assistance.

Financially, we are in good shape, and have a robust business plan for 2019. 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.