

26 March 2020

## CECA North West: COVID-19

### COVID-19: WHAT IS CECA DOING FOR OUR NW MEMBERS?

Welcome to this round up of news from CECA North West. For the time being, it will replace the usual weekly digest, but details of tender opportunities and other industry news will be circulated in due course.

I would like to stress that CECA NW is here to support our members during this difficult time. What follows is a digest of current and planned activity.

But, if you have any queries, an issue you want to raise, or we can be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me. Guy Lawson, Director, CECA NW, email: [guy.lawson@ceca.co.uk](mailto:guy.lawson@ceca.co.uk)  
tel: 07703 585027

### Latest briefings, 25 & 26 March 2020

Here are CECA's latest briefings for members, which include:

- Site Operating Procedures
- COVID-19 Corporate Financing Facility - Now open for applications
- CITB - Support for Apprentices
- HS&E App
- CECA Employment Briefing - Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme
- CECA Employment Briefing - Coronavirus
- CECA Training & Development Update

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/CECA-Briefing-Note-Covid-19-CECA-Update-25-March-2020.pdf>

<https://www.ceca.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/CECA-Briefing-Note-Covid-19-CECA-Update-26-March-2020.pdf>

### Meetings, events and training

- All CECA NW meetings until 30 June 2020, including the Executive Committee and AGM, have been cancelled.
- The CECA North by NW dinner, scheduled for 11 June 2020, has been postponed until it is safe to hold it.
- All seminars and training events until 30 June 2020 have been cancelled, but we are working with Geraldine Fleming of Driver Trett to run a series of commercial & legal webinars. I hope to have further details by the end of the week.

## Client Communiqué

CECA has prepared a short briefing paper to update UK infrastructure clients about how the industry is responding to the Covid-19 crisis, and how members of the Civil Engineering Contractors Association want to work with their clients to overcome associated challenges. Copies available upon request.

CECA members have told us of three immediate concerns regarding Covid-19:

- How to ensure the safety of the workforce in relation to potential contagion
- How to manage business issues associated with severe downturn in work
- How to support the UK Government to fight the pandemic

It sets out what CECA and industry are doing to respond and what clients may want to consider.

### Getting the message across - civil engineering delivers critical infrastructure

It has been frustrating to hear debates about 'the construction industry' which fail to distinguish between building and civil engineering. To try to get the message across, CECA has sent to the Construction Leadership Council (at their request) a list of all works and occupations we consider critical. I am expecting that will form industry-wide guidance shortly on what constitutes **critical infrastructure**, together with safe site operating procedures for clients and contractors.

We have also targeted the media, to help them understand the differences between building and civil engineering:

<https://www.placenorthwest.co.uk/news/decisions-on-construction-site-closures-in-firms-hands/>

### New services for members

Once we have clarity of what constitutes **critical infrastructure**, we will start promoting both our **NW Careers** service and our **Contractor Matching** service. For details, see below:

#### ***NW Careers: jobs, vacancies and apprenticeships & work experience***

The CECA NW section of the website now has a Vacancy Board, plus sections for people seeking apprenticeships & work experience and jobs: <https://www.ceca.co.uk/nw-careers/>

The process is simple - for contractors with vacancies, complete the form and return to Jacqueline Vail, and I will circulate it in the newsletter and on social media. For people seeking apprenticeships, work experience and jobs, again, they should complete the form and return to Jacqueline or me and I will circulate the details without their personal information (to comply with GDPR). You may wish to make your subcontractors, plant operators etc aware of the service too.

We currently have four vacancies with CPUK Civils & Remediation: Quantity Surveyor, Assistant Quantity Surveyor, Contracts Manager and Environmental Engineer - please contact Jacqueline Vail for details: [jacquelinevail@ceca.co.uk](mailto:jacquelinevail@ceca.co.uk)

We have one candidate seeking a role in Project Direction or Design. Please contact Guy Lawson for details: [guy.lawson@cecanw.co.uk](mailto:guy.lawson@cecanw.co.uk)

We also have several applicants for work experience/apprenticeships, interested parties should contact Jacqueline Vail: [jacquelinevail@ceca.co.uk](mailto:jacquelinevail@ceca.co.uk)

### ***Contractor matching***

We will be developing this once we have clarity over critical infrastructure, but Chris Jackson of CECA NW will be leading on this, to help set up 'informal JVs' between members supporting each other to balance capacity. More details in due course.

### **Business support**

The Institute of Economic Development has produced useful route map of sources of business support, which will be regularly updated:

[https://ied.co.uk/images/uploads/Covid\\_19\\_Route\\_Map\\_for\\_Business\\_Assistance\\_IED.pdf](https://ied.co.uk/images/uploads/Covid_19_Route_Map_for_Business_Assistance_IED.pdf)