



ceca

Working for Infrastructure

Civil Engineering Contractors Association North West Ltd

Annual Review & Report 2020-2021

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CECA North West Chairman 2019/2020 Mr Oliver Tolputt

Director, CT Construction Ltd

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020



2019-20, my first year as Chairman of CECA North West Ltd, was one of almost unparalleled turbulence in our industry. The sad demise of two highly respected member companies were an indication of how difficult times are. Yet 2020-21 has proved even more challenging, as we have had to adapt to new ways of working, both on site and in the office.

Even before the COVID-19 virus, there were delays in work coming to market, and that has been compounded by further pressures that contractors are faced with, from the impact of reverse charge VAT and IR35, to the difficulties in securing professional indemnity insurance (PII) renewal and the reduction in the red diesel rebate. Taken together with the familiar cocktail of unsustainable margins, late payments, zero value frameworks and all risk contracts, it is hardly surprising that civil engineering is in a parlous state.

We are all aware of the difficulties in recruiting and retaining staff, but these conditions make it less and less easy. And our members are doing plenty to address that. In the North West alone, CECA NW members carried out 302 visits to schools and colleges over the last year, meeting 50,762 students. But we cannot be expected to do all of that if conditions for delivering the projects that the public demands are made increasingly onerous.

The message needs to be made, loud and clear, that if more firms who have taken the trouble to invest in those high quality practices one would expect from contractors are allowed to fail, then the only firms left for clients to use will be those without the accreditations and practices that keep our industry safe, innovative and effective. I shall be pushing hard to make sure CECA continues to get that message across, and am pleased to report that we are campaigning hard on reforming frameworks, and are alerting clients to the cost implications of PII inflation.

Adapting to online working has seen us move from seminars to webinars, and the commercial & legal training programme delivered by Geraldine Fleming of Driver Trett has attracted record numbers. We shall be running these this year, until face-to-face meetings can take place safely. A new legal helpline service for members is also being launched this year. While our Executive Committee meetings remain virtual, for the time being, we are actively planning CECA NW's flagship events for 2021. It is disappointing that we have been forced to postpone our CECA North by NW dinner in May, but hope to proceed with our Golf Day in July, and the Awards dinner in Manchester in October, if it is safe to do so. We also have a programme in place for CECA NW Foundations, the group for people new to the industry, comprising webinars and a social event in the summer.

Although contact with clients has also been difficult, CECA NW continues to work closely with Sellafeld (especially with regard to its IAC framework), Highways England, Network Rail NW & Central, Transport for the North and Northern Powerhouse Rail, to name just a few. Within CECA NW, we are also implementing a number of operational changes both to introduce greater efficiencies, and to offer members an enhanced level of service. That will see a new team-based approach that will come into effect in summer 2021, with Alison Shea and Joe Fitzgibbon joining Chris Jackson and Jacqueline Vail, and with Guy Lawson taking a new part-time role. I firmly believe that the new arrangements will significantly enhance what we currently offer.

Throughout my two years as Chairman of CECA NW, I have been fortunate to receive the support of my fellow directors and the CECA NW Executive Committee. Their commitment to the association has been instrumental in enabling us to deliver more and more activities throughout the year to benefit both SME and major contractor members.

Your participation is essential to ensure we remain member-focused. After all, CECA NW is your Association and we rely on members to let us know what CECA's priorities should be. I would urge you to contact me or our director, Guy Lawson, with suggestions for us to implement on your behalf.

Thank you for your continued support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Oliver Tolputt'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Oliver Tolputt
Chairman, CECA North West



What did CECA North West do over the past year?



Provided weekly information on all aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic, from furloughing to Site Operating Procedures



Assisted in the development of the Construction Talent Retention Scheme



Launched a NW jobs board for members and jobseekers



Circulated three videos, dealing with issues facing contractors during the pandemic



Launched a campaign to make clients aware of the cost implications of PII renewal inflation



Launched a campaign to support the Integrated Rail Plan



Arranged eight commercial & legal seminars, attended by more than 850 CECA NW members



Assisted twelve member companies with PQQs and tenders



Updated the invaluable Routes to Market research, providing members with intelligence on national and regional clients



Developed a Virtual Work Experience toolkit, in conjunction with the NW LEPs



Arranged meetings for members with Transport for the North and Northern Powerhouse Rail



Arranged the Sellafield IAC framework meeting, and 'speed dating' follow up



Supported Network Rail NW&C on its supply chain engagement programme Staged seminars on PII renewal with Lockton Insurance, and on IR35 with tax consultant, Liz Bridge



Produced a weekly newsletter containing industry news and lists of current tenders.



The CECA North West Executive Committee As At 31 March 2021

Oliver Tolputt, CT Construction Ltd

Adam Onyett, D Morgan plc

Tommy Cubby, Cubby Construction

Michael Matthews, Eric Wright Civil Engineering & CECA
NW Foundations

Colin Abbott, AMCO Giffen (alternate: Ian Purdham)

Elizabeth Bell, Galliford Try

Diane Bourne, Eric Wright Civil Engineering Ltd
(alternate: Chris Snow)

David Evans, Colin Briscoe Construction Ltd

Howard Chamberlain, Cheetham Hill Construction Ltd
(alternate: Dan Peattie)

Mark Conway, Morgan Sindall

Matt Edwards, George Cox & Sons Ltd

Keith Gardner, Skanska UK Plc

Matt Greenhalgh, Taziker Industrial

Richard Hague, Osborne

Eunan Higgins, Balfour Beatty

Paul Kelly, Volker Stevin

Mike McAndrew, Tarmac

Neil McLeod, A E Yates Ltd (alternate: Adele Carroll)

Danny O'Brien, J Murphy & Sons Ltd (alternate: John
Murphy)

William Pye, William Pye Ltd

Gill Steele, NW Contractors' Training Group

Paul Williams, BAM Nuttall

ATTENDED FROM CECA NW: Chris Jackson, Guy Lawson





Members of CECA North West Based In The Region

APK	CT Construction	Taziker Industrial
A E Yates	Cubby Construction	V J Donegan
ACS Construction	D Morgan	William Pye
Bethell Construction	Eric Wright Civil Engineering	
Chartrange	George Cox & Sons	
Cheetham Hill Construction	Kaberry Construction	
Civil & Remediation	PP O'Connor	
Colin Briscoe Construction	Story Contracting	

Members of CECA North West Operating In The Region

Aggregate Industries	Galliford Try	Pod-Trak
Balfour Beatty Civil Engineering	Graham	Priority Construction
BAM Nuttall	Hanson	Renew
Barhale	Hargreaves	Sir Robert McAlpine
Beaver Bridges	Hochtief	Sisk
Buckingham Group	I & H Brown	Skanska
Clancy	Interserve	Tarmac
Cleantech Civils	J Murphy & Sons	Vinci
Colas	J N Bentley	Volker Stevin
Concrete Repairs	Jones Bros (Ruthin)	
Costain	Keltbray	
Diamond Drilling	Kier	
Dyer & Butler	Morgan Sindall	
Eiffage	NRS	
Farrans	Osborne	

Associate Members of CECA North West

BDB Special Projects
Corderoy
Crouch Waterfall
DXI Regeneration
Eric Wright Water

Winners of the CECA North West Awards 2020



Project up to £1 million winner:

Southbay: New Brighton Aids to Navigation Replacement

The initial proposed design retained the existing tripod arrangement of installing 3no. tubular steel piles. However, due to a restricted budget, and the need to install the piles within a tidal environment, Southbay Civil Engineering Limited together with the council successfully developed an alternative design. This design involved replacing the tripod arrangement with a single 508mm diameter, concrete filled monopile. In delivering the project, significant planning was required in relation to the transportation of materials to the required locations.



Project between £1-5 million winner:

Colin Briscoe Construction: Heysham Port – Essential Brexit Readiness Works

With a sudden and challenging deadline for Brexit readiness, Peel Ports required a Principal Contractor who could achieve a shortened mobilisation period, to construct the expansion of its two lane entrance and HGV stacking and parking provision. This would require ongoing fast track procurement and supply chain arrangements. Furthermore, there would be no compromising a safe and compliant delivery under CDM2015 and unhindered access and business as usual for the port.

Project over £5 million winner:

Eric Wright Civil Engineering: Pooley Bridge - UK's first stainless-steel road bridge project

EWCE were Principal Contractor for D&B of the UK's first stainless-steel road-bridge, described, as the "Jewel in the Crown" of Cumbria's Infrastructure Recovery Programme. The programme has been constrained by EA in-river working permits and necessity to maintain access to Pooley for as long as possible. The compound was in the main village carpark and a replacement built. A temporary road-bridge was provided after the flood. EWCE removed this and a 45m span pedestrian and services bridge installed. Work couldn't commence in-river until June, when flood risk subsided. Rock-armour was placed but bridge construction waited until the tourist season ended. The span was assembled on temporary supports alongside the river and the first concrete pour to form the arch occurred in April. In May, the 320t deck was lifted in-one and placed.



Collaborative Partnership Award winner:

Cubby Construction, The Fraternity, Carlisle

Following appointment as main contractor, Cubby Construction completed extensive 'value engineering' studies over a nine month period, collaborating extensively with design engineers, architects, Church building specialists, archaeologists, and Cathedral client. These extensive talks and protracted negotiation formed strong relationships and understanding from the outset. This process involved brought an initial tender value of £3.28 million, down to £2.43 million - clearly demonstrating the ability and willingness to work proactively and pragmatically to achieve common goals.

Social Value Award winner:

Colas

The project included two new link roads, widened slip-roads, improved crossings, segregated walkways/cycle paths and removal of a 1960's subway, frequently occupied by rough-sleepers. We engaged the services of two locally-based public liaison officers who worked with the local authority and charities to direct these people to support homeless services. We committed to support homeless people on their journey to becoming employed across our Manchester projects (Princess Road, Chorlton 1a/1b, A6 Stockport Road, Great Ancoats Street). This included delivering pre-employment support, including CSCS training for 60 homeless and long-term unemployed people.



CECA NW Young Professional of the Year



Young Professional of the Year Award winner:

Matt Groome, Colas

Matt Groome has quickly established himself as a key player in the success of the Highways England Traffic Management works. He only joined Colas as a Quantity Surveyor in January 2020, but has immediately made an impact. This has been recognised by his leadership team, who are keen for his achievements to be recognised internally and externally. Matt's decision to join Colas was driven by his desire to gain experience and progress with a company known to support career growth. Since January he has commercially managed 60+ schemes worth £10m, and is becoming a major contributor to our commercial team.

CECA NW Lifetime Achievement Award

Lifetime Achievement winner:

Joe Fitzgibbon

One of our most highly respected civil engineers, Joe has been actively involved with CECA from its very inception.

Joe's passion for the industry was seen in his work to attract more young people into civil engineering. He was on the CECA NW Executive Committee progressing to the position of NW Chairman and UK Chairman, representing Major and SME contracting entities on various industry matters and forums.





CECA North West Past Chairs

1996/97	Brian B. Williams	2006/07	Peter Greenhalgh
1997/98	Richard I. Longfellow	2007/08	Neil McLeod
1998/99	Trevor J. Walker	2008/09	Patrick Waldron
1999/00	Ian G. Robinson	2009/11	Diane Bourne
2000/01	Mike J. Carrol	2011/12	Jack Rowley
2001/02	Alan W. Burns	2012/13	Mark Shea
2002/02	James A. Quinn	2013/15	Joseph Fitzgibbon
2002/04	Ian G. Robinson	2015/17	Adrian Taylor
2004/05	Brian Goodacre	2017/19	Danny O'Brien
2005/06	Mike J. Carrol	2019/21	Oliver Tolputt

CECA North West Ltd Directors

Oliver Tolputt (Chairman)

Adam Onyett (Vice Chairman)

Tommy Cubby (Junior Vice Chairman)

Danny O'Brien (Past Chairman)

William Pye

Guy Lawson (Executive Director)



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