

CHAIRMAN'S FOURTH QUARTER REPORT, JUNE 2022

Adam Onyett, Chairman, CECA NW

I am pleased to provide the following report of the first quarter, in my second year as Chair of CECA NW, together with details of plans for the rest of the year. I am grateful to my fellow members of the CECA NW Executive Committee for electing me Chair for a second year.

In May, we held the CECA North by NW Dinner in Penrith, for the first time since 2019. I was delighted that over 60 guests attended, including Chair of Cumbria LEP, Lord Inglewood and senior representatives from Cumbria's business community.

Following the last CECA NW Executive Committee which ran concurrently with the CECA NW Foundations Summit meeting, it is especially encouraging that the latter has put in place a team to develop its networking events. My congratulations go to the Chair, Alexandra Higginbottom, and the team that comprises Matt Groome, Nick Murray, Joe Slee, Elliott Soodeen and Natasha Temple. Their next event is due to take place in July at Haydock Park races.

The last quarter has seen a further update of the education toolkit by Jacqueline Vail to create a resource for members, especially those required by clients to liaise with schools and colleges. With the recently released DfT pipeline data, Chris Jackson is updating the CECA NW pipeline of forthcoming contracts and frameworks,

Geraldine Fleming, who runs our commercial & legal training, ran an NEC seminar in Penrith on 12 May 2022, prior to the CECA North by NW dinner. We have also held a webinar on Marketing & Communications on 8 June, and a workshop on social media on 21 June. We are currently developing a programme of sessions for the remainder of the year.

Efforts continue to make clients aware of the many pressures faced by contractors, especially regarding disproportionate levels of PII cover required. That, together, with onerous procurement processes, zero value frameworks and the negative impact of open tendering will continue to be communicated to MPs, and regional elected members and officers.

CECA NW's 2022 flyer, showcasing projects by members is about to go to print, and will be issued to clients and influential third parties.

The annual CECA NW/CICES Golf Day will take place at Leigh Golf Club on 30 June, and the annual awards dinner will take place at The Midland Hotel, Manchester on 7 October.

The new CECA NW team is here to assist you: Alison Shea looks after regional operations; Jacqueline Vail is our first point of contact with the NW's five Local Economic Partnerships (LEPs) and looks after liaison with schools, colleges and universities; Joe Fitzgibbon leads on support for SMEs and mentoring; Chris Jackson continues to lead on transport initiatives and research into the pipeline of workloads; and Guy Lawson looks after supporting members with tenders, market intelligence and public affairs.

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 the CECA NW team with suggestions for us to implement on your behalf.

Thank you for your continued support.

Adam Onyett, Chairman, CECA NW, June 2022.
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