

ConsultA

ACEI Newsletter - 30 September 2021

Information and Advice for ACEI Members

ACEI Work Arrangements

The ACEI office is now open Tuesday, - Thursday during September and October. Email info@acei.ie with any queries or phone 01-6425588.

Covid-19 Updates

- [ACEI](#)
- [EFCA](#)
- [FIDIC](#)

Online Resources

- [HSE](#)
- [Revenue](#)
- [Institute of Public Health](#)
- [Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection](#)
- [Health & Safety Authority](#)
- [World Health Organisation](#)
- [Centre for Disease Control](#)
- [Health Protection Surveillance Centre](#)
- [Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade](#)

ACEI Annual Awards 2021

Congratulations are due to the ACEI Member Firms and their winning projects in the 2021 ACEI Engineering Excellence Awards. The awards were presented by ACEI President 2020-2021, Conor McCarthy, at a recent celebratory lunch. Photos of the event are available on the [news](#) section of the ACEI website. ACEI also congratulates Seamus Doyle, the recipient of the 2021 Future Leader Award.

Further details and photographs of the winning projects can now be viewed on the [awards](#) section of the website. An ACEI awards feature will be published in the Business Post this Sunday 3 October along with an editorial.

ACEI Submission on Budget 2022

An ACEI submission on [Budget 2022](#) was sent to relevant Government Ministers and other officials on 14 September. The submission focuses on three key areas: Capital investment in public infrastructure, climate action and sustainability and the industry skills shortage. At the time of writing, the outcome of the Government's *Review to Renew* programme in relation to the National Development Plan (NDP) was not available. It is expected that this will be published during October.

ACEI DSC / PSDP Refresher Course

There are still places available on the virtual ACEI DSC / PSDP Refresher course taking place on 21 October 2021. It will be delivered during 11am-1pm and 2pm-4pm with an hour break for lunch. The course is directed at those who have previously completed either an ACEI / Engineers Ireland DSC or PSDP course. It provides refreshed, practical guidance for designers on how to comply with their duties under the Safety Health & Welfare at Work legislation. It will also be helpful for those who undertake the role of Project Supervisor Design Process (PSDP) in accordance with the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2013. Booking information and further details are available on the CPD section of the [ACEI Website](#).

ESB New Code of Practice

A new version of the National [Code of Practice](#) for the Customer Interface has now been published. Thanks to ESB Network operations for making this available to members.

Update on PII from the OGP

Following up on a recent communication, it is very good news to note that the Office of Government Procurement (OGP) has plans to introduce caps on liability this year. Many thanks are due to members of the ACEI / Engineers Ireland Risk / PII / Procurement Committee, who along with the Executive and Secretariat, have been lobbying strongly on members' behalf over the last year in relation to PII and related matters.

ACEI understands that PII will be a crucial challenge for many of our member firms in the coming year, and the association will continue to work with the OGP and Government on your behalf. A joint submission to the OGP from ACEI, RIAI and Engineers Ireland in response to the recent [PII update](#) was sent this week.

Irish Water Pre-Construction Meeting Video

Irish Water's Customer Operations Connection & Developer Services has developed a video to support those who are involved in the construction of water services connecting to the Irish Water networks.

The [Pre-Construction Meeting Video](#) provides key information for those involved in the construction of Self lay connections. It outlines Irish Water's requirements and is complementary to the water and wastewater Codes of Practice and Standard Details.

Benefits of Recruiting for Skills instead of Talent

A recent piece by HR Consultant [Suzanne Lucas](#) notes that when 'talent' is used to refer to employees, there is an implication that new recruits already have the knowledge, skills and abilities to undertake a role successfully.

Given the rapidly changing workplace environment this may not be the best strategy, and Lucas therefore recommends that employers should change their evaluation process, and look at not only 'Does this person already know how to do something?' but 'Can she learn it?'. Her view is that those who have the ability to learn new things and are open to growth, are potentially more valuable than those arriving with a defined set of skills.

Recent Good News

- Congratulations to the staff in member firm Fehily Timoney who completed a company wide team step challenge "FT's Step It Up!" during the Summer. The objective was to increase individual activity levels, and over the four weeks of the challenge 28 employees in seven teams walked a total of 8,447,526 steps.
- A great story by Cian Desmond, Head of Innovation in member firm Gavin & Doherty Geosolutions has been included in a new book: *When I Grow Up - Inspiring stories from people working in clean energy*. The book, published by [WindEurope](#) is about people working on clean energy solutions to address climate action.

Capital Expenditure Review 2006 – 2020

Earlier in the year the first set of the Government's spending review papers was published. The subsequent Capital Expenditure Review 2006-2020 is now available on [gov.ie](#). This paper, prepared by IGEES staff in the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, provides an overview of public expenditure developments over the last ten years. It reviews the evolution of spending on a sectoral basis, examining the key expenditure drivers and studying outcomes that were delivered.

The paper also provides a context for the papers published as part of the 2021 Spending Review. The review of expenditure in a number of government departments over the decade will be of interest to ACEI members, as well as the identification of future challenges and related policy considerations.

ACEI Office Opening

As recently advised, the ACEI office in 46 Merrion Square has re-opened on a limited basis. It is now staffed on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday every week until 29 October and will be reviewed at that time.

Committee and other meetings can now be organised again using the office facilities. If you wish to avail of the space for in person meetings or other ACEI purposes, contact Louise at info@acei.ie, or phone 01-6425588. We wish all members a safe and healthy return to workplaces over the coming weeks and months.