



ACEI MEMBER NEWSLETTER - NOVEMBER 2023 Edition

A note from the Secretary General



Dear Colleague,

It's been a very productive month or so for the ACEI and its committees. Over the past month, we have met with key stakeholders including the OGP, Dublin City Council, the HSE among others. It is a testament to our Executive Body and committees the volume of issues the ACEI is able to resolve on behalf of the entire sector in any given month.

I outline some of the progress in this regard below:

- This month, the ACEI actively dissuaded several county councils from instituting requirements on consulting engineering firms above and beyond BCAR in relation to certificates of completion. These requirements would have placed a significant legal onus on certified assigners to sign off on areas outside their remit under BCAR. The legal and insurance implications on the ability of consulting engineers to operate would have profound negative impacts on the sector. The ACEI again advises its members to flag any overly onerous requirements above those generally accepted in the sector to the ACEI before signing any document or entering into any agreement.
- The ACEI has met with the HSE to discuss a proposed framework system featuring a 'cascade' format that would effectively mean single participant frameworks for large 'health' projects across 10 regions. In addition, the framework's criteria would When the ACEI became aware of this proposed framework in June it immediately flagged its concerns to the HSE initially through a position paper, followed by a meeting with a significant cohort of members and finally through several follow-up correspondence. The HSE are continuing to adapt the system and the ACEI continues to input. The details of the final framework design are unknown but will be significantly more favourable to the sector than originally proposed.

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2024 for projects over €100 million. In the past few months, the ACEI has engaged with the OGP and the Construction Sector Group on this milestone. Our BIM committee has developed a position paper with a view to providing clarity for both Government clients and the sector on the specific information management requirements to underpin the uptake of BIM across the sector. This week the ACEI also met with the OGP and other industry stakeholders. The ACEI continues to influence Government's policy on its digitalisation, procurement and sustainability policies pertaining to construction.

- The ACEI's Stakeholder/Client engagement programme continues strongly with recent webinars with Dublin City Council and Uisce Eireann. Information on these events is available in the member area on the [ACEI website](#). The following local authorities are confirmed will address ACEI membership in the first quarter of 2024: Cork County Council, Limerick CC, the Land Development Agency, the House Finance Agency and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown CC. The ACEI and its committees are also scheduling meetings with TII, ESB and other key stakeholders in the coming months. If you are interested in attending any of these events, check out the [ACEI website](#).
- Finally, the ACEI is positioning consulting engineering as critical to Ireland's efforts to achieve its climate change targets. As you're aware, the ACEI took the Pledge to Net Zero and has committed to helping its members achieve the commitments outlined in the pledge. The Sustainability Committee recently hosted a highly attended webinar featuring the two authors of PAS 2080. The presentation is available in the member area of the ACEI website. In addition, the committee produced a tool to help companies measure their scope three commitments which can be accessed [here](#).

We continue to grow in influence because of the quality engagement of our members with our committees, events and contribution to policy debates. I'd like to thank you all for your efforts in supporting the ACEI. The most important contribution you can make to our ongoing efforts to improve the business environment for consulting engineers is to complete the [NCC survey](#) as we endeavour to have net contributory clause included in Public sector contracts.

Regards,
Shane Dempsey, Secretary General

ACEI LEADERSHIP COURSE CLASS OF 2023 COMPLETE!



Leadership Course Class of 2023

ACEI ASSOCIATION OF
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
OF IRELAND

This month saw nearly 60 participants complete the prestigious ACEI leadership programme. Completing the course is an important step in the career for Consulting Engineers; participants can now begin the process of securing RCon status within the ACEI.

Those interested in progressing their careers, enhancing their skills and commanding more value in the market, should check the ACEI website [here](#) for more information.

The three day course featuring 12 speakers – all leading experts and industry practitioners included the ACEI's next two incoming Presidents; Tim Murnane from Punch Consulting and Anne Marie Conibear from JBB. The three day programme focused on expanding the business skills of young consulting engineers with a view to improving their ability to 'get work, do work and get paid for the work!'

Every year, we host lots of best in class learning and development programmes in addition to skills-based and information events and webinars. If you're interested in developing your skills and getting involved in the important work the ACEI does, please contact Shane on shane.dempsey@acei.ie

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Get ready for a night of celebration and recognition at the ACEI Engineering Excellence Awards! It's our pleasure to invite you to save the date for this prestigious event where we come together to honor outstanding achievements and innovation in the field of engineering.

Visit our website to submit your project & future leader nominations before the deadline.

Date: 22nd March

Venue: Intercontinental Hotel, Dublin

[SUBMIT NOW](#)

ACEI ASSOCIATION OF
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
OF IRELAND



[The Association for Consultancy and Engineering \(ACE\)](#) and the Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland (ACEI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which sets out a clear intent to support the continuous professional development of the engineering professionals of the future and attract more people into the sector, while promoting diversity and inclusion.

The two organisations will work together to foster a strong connection between their members and support shared learning within the worlds of infrastructure across the UK and Ireland.

[LEARN MORE](#)



UPDATE YOUR MEMBER PROFILE



[acei.ie](https://www.acei.ie)

An email to members will be circulated shortly to your ACEI company admin contact to update your membership pages as we countdown to our 2024 Members Directory, please ensure that you update your profile by December 8th.

Please note the information on the website as of the 1st January 2024 will be what's included in the 2024 Directory. Unfortunately, we will be unable to amend or update details after this date due to print deadlines.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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MEMBER PROFILE



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We are excited to introduce our spotlight section for members, this edition features [Nicholas O'Dwyer](#).

Their exceptional project, comprises a 4km piped replacement of the Callowhill Tunnel, an 80 megalitre/day treatment plant and an 80 megalitre storage reservoir supplying 200,000 consumers. It had numerous stakeholders and interest groups coupled with critical interfaces including SAC's and Grade A dams. Planning permission was a significant risk which led to its division into three independent projects. The consultant prepared a detailed Stakeholder Engagement Plan and assigned a senior resource to manage same. A highly complex and critical project which would not have enjoyed the ultimate success that it did without expert engineering project management.

Read more at their website at the link below, if you'd like to be featured in a future edition of ConsultA as a spotlight member, get in touch with Louise at info@acei.ie

[READ MORE](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

EVENTS SCHEDULE

6
DEC

IHBA NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING

📍 IHBA National Committee Meeting
Wednesday, 6th of December. Via Teams

11
DEC

CORK BRANCH EXECUTIVE BODY

📍 Cork City

13
DEC

IRISH CONSTRUCTION LAW CONFERENCE

📍 Online

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To stay ahead in the ever-evolving construction and engineering landscape, make sure to visit our website regularly and see what webinars, events and updates we have for you.

We have a slew of exciting events lined up for next year. Check our website regularly for the latest events planned.

[SEE ALL UPCOMING EVENTS](#)

ACEI Contact Details

You can contact the Secretariat by visiting us in person, calling us at 01-6425588, or emailing us at info@acei.ie.

Don't forget you can keep up to date with all the latest activity and share your thoughts on our social channels – [LinkedIn](#) and [Twitter](#)

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