

ConsultA

ACEI Newsletter - 22 October 2020

Information and Advice for ACEI Members

ACEI Work Arrangements

The ACEI office is temporarily closed. Email info@acei.ie with queries or contact sarah.ingle@acei.ie.

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 Feature in Business Post Infrastructure Report 25 Oct

Members are encouraged to look out for an ACEI feature in a *Business Post* infrastructure report, to be published this Sunday 25th October. President Conor McCarthy and Secretary General Sarah Ingle outline ACEI's views on infrastructure along with an opinion of Budget 2021.

ACEI welcomes the many budget provisions providing capital funding investment and looks forward to its member firms contributing to the innovative and sustainable development of Ireland's built environment in the coming months and years.

ACEI Leadership Course 2020

ACEI is pleased to announce that a virtual, bespoke [Leadership Course](#), for ACEI member firm employees is open for registrations. This highly valued course has been specifically designed, and updated in 2020, for suitably qualified engineers and others working in the consulting engineering industry. The course covers many aspects of business and management under a number of key pillars / themes. The integral modules are designed to prepare participants for leadership and assist them in progression towards senior management.

A further objective of this 3 day CPD training is to meet one of the requirements of the ACEI Registered Professional Consulting Engineer (RConsEI) title, to complete a recognised business course. RConsEI application details are available on the [ACEI Website](#).

Bookings for the 2020 Leadership Course are now being accepted. Register early as a limited number of places are available.

2020 State of Ireland Report

The Engineers Ireland 2020 State of Ireland Report: [Engineering a green and digital recovery](#) was published last week, the tenth annual publication examining the state of critical sectors of Ireland's built environment. The report proposes a future driven by investments in infrastructure, technology and education. ACEI was pleased to contribute to this report via Secretary General, Sarah Ingle's membership of the report advisory group.

CIF Construction Safety Week and Safety Summit

The [CIF Construction Safety Week](#) is currently taking place during 19 – 23 October. Members are encouraged to hold an event to demonstrate their work in this area and showcase Safety & Health initiatives. A [CIF Health & Safety Summit](#) is also planned for 26th November 2020.

2020 Review of National Development Plan

As ACEI members are aware, the National Planning Framework (NPF) sets out the vision and strategy for Ireland's development to 2040 and the National Development Plan (NDP) provides investment to enable and implement the strategy. Recently, the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (DPER) published a [report highlighting achievements](#) to date under the plan as well as looking forward to what is still to come. Further information on the planned developments [region-by-region](#) are also available for review.

Climate Change Council 2020 Review

The [Climate Change Advisory Council](#) is an independent advisory body tasked with assessing and advising on how Ireland is making the transition to a low carbon, climate resilient and environmentally sustainable economy by 2050. It was established under the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015. Chaired by Professor John Fitzgerald, the Council works to provide contributions in critiquing, informing and shaping Ireland's response to climate change. Its [Annual Report 2020](#) is now available for review.

EU Recovery and Resilience Facility

The European Commission's [Recovery and Resilience Facility](#) is making available €672.5 billion in loans and grants to support reforms and investments undertaken by EU member states. The aim of the Facility is to mitigate the economic and social impact of the pandemic and make European economies and societies more sustainable, resilient and better prepared for the challenges and opportunities of green and digital transitions.

Renovate Europe Day

[Renovate Europe Day](#) is taking place on 27 October 2020. This objective of this event is to provide further regulatory impetus and guidance on how EU recovery funds can be channelled into buildings. [Registration](#) is free, and the 90 minute event includes a video interview with the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Eamon Ryan.

Recent Good News

- John Walsh and Mark Ennis of TU Dublin have been shortlisted for an IDI Design Award for designing the [Agile Desk](#). The project started as an [Enterprise Ireland Innovation Voucher](#) and is now sold throughout Europe. The desk was mainly designed for education purposes and is also very suited for remote working.
- Planning permission was recently awarded by Cork City Council for a new €140m development at the old Port of Cork site. When completed it will include Ireland's [tallest building](#), 140m in height, the Tower at Custom House Quay.
- An article in [Silicon Republic](#) outlines the growth of data centres in Ireland and the positive role they play in the country's economy. Enterprise Ireland estimates that annual Irish firm exports are around €2bn in the data centre market across all suppliers.

Make Working from Home more Joyful

Now that the country has moved to Level 5 restrictions, ACEI member firms along with others will be considerably reducing staff numbers in their offices to comply with government requirements. For those working from home, a recent post in [ideas.ted.com](#) outlines nine things that you can do to make this [a more joyful experience](#). These include: paying attention to movement; using productively the time previously spent on commuting and including greenery where possible in workspaces.

One Way to Calm an Anxious Mind

Rick Hanson suggests that an important way of [addressing anxiety](#) is to take a close look at the present moment, where you can see that probably you are basically doing alright. You are breathing, your heart is beating, your mind is working. Things may be far from perfect, but you're okay.

He notes that: *'When our mind goes into the future, we worry and plan. When our mind goes into the past, we resent and regret ... Settling into this basic sense of okayness is a powerful way to build well-being and resources in your brain and being, and it's a way of taking a stand for the truth.'*