ACEI
ASSOCIATION OF
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
OF IRELAND

ConsultA

ACEI Newsletter - 28 May 2020

Information and Advice for ACEI Members

Covid-19 Updates

- *ACEI*
- *EFCA*
- *FIDIC*

Online Resources

- *HSE*
- *Revenue*
- *Institute of Public Health*
- *Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection*
- *Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government*
- *Health & Safety Authority*
- *World Health Organisation*
- *Centre for Disease Control*
- *Health Protection Surveillance Centre*
- *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade*

ACEI Working Arrangements

The ACEI office is temporarily closed while the Secretariat is working remotely. Calls are being diverted and email is monitored at info@acei.ie. ACEI Secretary General Sarah Ingle also welcomes member feedback and queries to sarah.ingle@acei.ie.

ACEI Communications and Website

The ACEI Website continues to be updated with current information. To assist in the dissemination of ACEI news and other materials, members are encouraged to connect with and follow the ACEI on LinkedIn.

Conor McCarthy Elected ACEI President

At the recent Annual General Meeting on 22 May, ACEI members elected the 2020/2021 Executive Board including new President, Conor McCarthy. Conor is a Director and Partner at Jennings O'Donovan & Partners Consulting Engineers and has more than 38 years' experience working in consulting engineering in Ireland.

ACEI congratulates Conor as he takes up this important role at a difficult time. During his term of office, Conor's three main objectives will be to: encourage significant investment in housing, public facilities and infrastructure; support and promote balanced regional growth; and high-light the necessity of ensuring employee wellbeing.

Conor's election as ACEI President has been widely promoted in the Irish media and other fora including the Irish Independent, the Irish Examiner, Donegal News, Building Ireland, the Irish Building Magazine, Highland Radio and Euronews.

Irish Independent
Irish Examiner
Donegal News
Building Ireland
Irish Building Magazine
Highland Radio
Euronews

Irish Independent

Irish Examiner

The membership of the new ACEI Executive Board including biographies can be viewed on the ACEI website. Congratulations to all.

Ethos Provides Workplace Building Services Considerations

ACEI member firm, Ethos Engineering has published a helpful one page document that outlines key aspects of building services to consider before returning to offices and other workplaces. Ventilation systems and lifts in particular are key items to examine and improve at this time.

ACE Webinars on Future for Built Environment

The Association for Consultancy and Engineering, (ACE UK) has set up a new webinar series *'Coming out of Covid'*. As in Ireland, the coronavirus crisis in the UK has affected every business sector. The aim of this new series is to examine what is next for the built environment sector as recent restrictions lessen over the coming weeks and months.

Potential developments to be addressed include: increased remote working, economic challenges, health and safety concerns, reduced project pipelines and changes to work patterns. The only certain thing is that the sector will be a very different working environment in the future. The first webinar is planned for 11am on Friday 29 May, register soon to confirm your place.

Payment Disputes and Adjudication

Beale & Co has published an article on payment disputes and adjudication in relation to Covid-19. Included in this informative piece are matters that should be considered before commencing a formal payment dispute resolution process. A particular focus is on adjudication in Ireland under the 2013 Construction Contracts Act.

Eaton Webinar Data Centre Transformation

ACEI members are invited to register for an Eaton webinar on 2 June: *Transform your data centre* - Technology & trends impacting data centre strategy. Key topics include: Data centre Technology & Trends; Data centre design & strategy; Make your data centre ready for energy transition; How to make your data centre function as a system; Importance of cybersecurity in data centres.

Recent Good News

- Seven off-shore wind farm projects have been expedited as part of the government's aim to increase significantly renewable energy generation over the next ten years.

- Ireland has recently moved to 12th place in the EY Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI). For the first time since 2016, the United States leads the index.

- In response to the current crisis, the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht has published information on the supports available to the arts sector. Included in a new booklet are application details for a number of financial and other initiatives, to assist those working in culture and the arts.

- This week the Government announced that Technological University (TU) status has been awarded to the TU Consortium made up of the Institute of Technology Tralee, and the Cork Institute of Technology. The new Munster Technological University (MTU) will be officially established on 1 January 2021, becoming the second TU in Ireland, the first outside Dublin.

- Dublin Zoo and its partner in sustainability, Airtricity, have launched the *Eco Explorers Club.* This exciting development is a new digital resource to help inspire and educate young children on the wonders of the natural world.

- Non-EEA nationals who have entered Ireland but have not yet attended their first registration appointment, can now apply by email to request a letter confirming their permission to remain in the country. This letter will act as an Irish residence permit card.

Intellectual Humility and Intelligence

A recent BBC Reel video examines the importance of intellectual humility, i.e. understanding and admitting when we might get things wrong. It seems that people are becoming more convinced of their own beliefs and less willing to consider other viewpoints. The presenters argue that this is detrimental to intelligence, and that having intellectual humility could actually make us smarter.