

Constructing Change

Our work with the Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland (ACEI)

This year will see the launch of Griffiths & Armour's latest publication, 'Constructing Change – Evolving the Status Quo or Time to Reset'. The document follows extensive engagement with our clients and other interested parties over the past 18-months and examines key challenges facing the construction, insurance and legal sectors, whilst also recognising the opportunity to deliver real change.

One call to action within the document is the need for more active and vibrant institutional voices, working together to represent the interests of construction professionals. The importance of that, at this particular moment, cannot be overstated and we believe one example of the value of strong advocacy is evidenced through our own 40+ year collaboration with ACEI on issues including:

- The Capital Works Management Framework and Conditions of Engagement for Consultancy Services;
- The introduction and revisions to the Safety, Health & Welfare at work (Construction) Regulations;
- Requirements for PI insurance on Public Sector projects through engagement with the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform;
- The drafting and roll-out of the Building Control (Amendment) Regulations;
- The review of PI guidance by the Office of Government Procurement resulting in the introduction of liability caps;
- Discussions with insurers and the Department of Finance (working group on insurance reform) regarding challenges and competition within the insurance market;
- Continuous engagement with individual Government Departments and Semi-State organisations on procurement and liability concerns;
- The ongoing campaign for the introduction of proportionate liability.

Whilst such activities can often go under the radar, they are critical in a world where the margins are consistently challenged. Our experience is that ACEI have consistently been at the forefront of raising awareness in pursuit of meaningful and positive change over many years. They have established significant trust with policymakers and procurement authorities and have worked effectively with other industry bodies to deliver a fairer trading environment for their members.

With the construction sector facing many challenges and opportunities, the importance of maintaining and expanding such representation is critical. The strength of that representation has always depended upon the support of firms and individuals, many of whom devote considerable time to participating on committees, sub-committees and industry groups.

With that in mind, we fully support the Association's drive to grow membership and provide an even stronger voice for Consulting Engineers into the future.

For our part, we will continue to devote considerable time and resource to assisting ACEI in the delivery of an equitable environment for their members. As outlined in our forthcoming publication, we believe that such collaboration is an essential element in securing the best outcomes for society as a whole, whilst ensuring that our clients' interests are properly represented. We look forward to continuing the positive collaboration and building on the good work done to date.

Graeme Tinney
CEO, Griffiths & Armour Europe DAC

 [griffithsandarmour.com](https://www.griffithsandarmour.com)

Griffiths & Armour

ACEI ASSOCIATION OF
CONSULTING ENGINEERS
OF IRELAND