

CONSTRUCTION LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Thursday 14 March 2019, 14:00 – 16:30
Conference Centre
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

MINUTES – CLC/N017/2019/M17

Attendees:

- Andy Mitchell, (Thames Tideway) – co-chair
- Ann Bentley, (Rider Levett Bucknall)
- Chris Carr, (Carr & Carr Builders)
- Mike Chaldecott, (Saint Gobain)
- Vincent Clancy, (Turner & Townsend)
- Fergus Harradence, (BEIS)3
- Simon Rawlinson, (Arcadis)
- David Pinder, (Baxi)
- Mark Reynolds, (Mace)
- Jennifer Whyte, (Imperial College)

Present by invitation:

- Barry Blackwell, (BEIS)
- Gregor Craig, (Skanska)
- David Hancock, (Infrastructure and Projects Authority)
- Sam Stacey, (UKRI)

Apologies:

- Richard Harrington, (BEIS Construction Minister) – co-chair
- Niall Mackenzie, (BEIS)
- Brian Morrisroe, (AJ Morrisroe & Sons)
- Stephen Stone, (Crest Nicholson)
- Matthew Vickerstaff, (Infrastructure and Projects Authority)

Secretariat

- Gavin Fraser, (BEIS)
- Peter Payne, (BEIS)

1 Welcomes and Introductions

1.1 Andy welcomed the two new members of the CLC, Chris Carr and Jennifer Whyte. **N.B. Their biographies are available on the CLC website here [link]**

1.2 He also welcomed Sam Stacey who was attending to give an update on the Construction Innovation Hub as well as Gregor Craig who is giving a presentation on mental health in construction.

2 Presentation and discussion on mental health in the Construction Sector (N.B. Gregor's slides can be found here [link])

2.1 Gregor highlighted construction's poor record at tackling mental health issues and highlighted a number of aspects of the working environment in the construction sector which can exacerbate mental health problems for example, pensions anxiety, working away from home, fatigue, recent CSCS card changes and changes to 'grandfather rights' which mean that workers may have to gain new qualifications relatively late in their careers.

2.2 He noted that the sector is now getting to grips with the severity of the problem and talked through some of the initiatives which Skanska have developed over recent years – such as appointing mental health ambassadors and holding 'stand up' meetings where staff are encouraged to bring forward their concerns.

2.3 Gregor's view is that awareness and understanding of mental health issues must be integral to the sector's leadership culture and encouraged the CLC to take a more active stand on this issue.

2.4 CLC Board committed to consider what further action it might take to support the mental health and wellbeing agenda.

3 Government update

3.1 Fergus Harradence provided an update on the Brexit process and the various possible outcomes.

3.2 There was agreement that the CLC would continue to monitor the situation closely, and determine whether further updates to the [guidance already issued](#) by the CLC are required.

3.3 David Hancock updated the board on the creation of the Smarter Infrastructure workstream which brings together the five departments

(Education, Justice, Defence, Transport and Health) subject to the 'presumption in favour of offsite' (announced at Budget 2017). They met recently at the Construction Innovation Hub to discuss how that presumption will be taken forward.

3.4 The IPA also recently issued a [call for evidence](#) seeking input on a new approach to building based around design for manufacture and assembly (DfMA). The call for evidence closed in mid-February and they are currently working through the responses received with a Government response expected by the end of April. The IPA has also produced a [Benchmarking Best Practice report](#) which is now available on the CLC site.

3.5 David also noted that the Government Commercial Function have published the [Outsourcing Playbook](#) which outlines a series of key new policies for making outsourcing decisions and contracting outside suppliers for the delivery of public services.

4 CLC Resourcing and Governance

4.1 There was general agreement around the revised model / structure for the CLC and that we now need to progress with implementing it ahead of the 'One Year On' review in July.

4.2 It was also agreed that the revised model / structure needs to be supported by a clear and simple narrative setting out the CLC's role and what it wants to achieve.

4.3 It was also agreed that we need a clear and simple message setting out what the CLC is delivering / will deliver.

5 CLC interaction with Industry Safety Steering Group

4.4 The CLC has received a letter from Dame Judith Hackitt, chair of the Industry Safety Steering Group, setting out the role she would like the CLC to play in supporting her work.

4.5 The CLC will consider Dame Judith's letter and respond in due course.

6 Updates from the Construction Innovation Hub

4.6 Sam Stacey provided an update on plans for the £170m allocated through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, and how it will be matched by up to £250m from industry.

4.7 Sam was clear that the CLC had a role to play in 'corralling' this funding across the sector and getting a critical mass of organisations to work together.

4.8 Sam also confirmed that UKRI have engaged Frontier Economics to monitor and evaluate the £170m spend, who are now in the process of producing an evaluation and monitoring framework for the Transforming Construction Programme as a whole.

5 Discussion of Sector Deal 'One Year On' Report

5.1 The CLC is committed to publish a 'One Year On' report highlighting progress in implementing the Sector Deal on / around the 5th July.

5.2 The Secretariat will be in touch with work stream leads to discuss plans for developing this in due course.

7 AOB & Close

7.1 To prevent overruns, it was agreed that future meetings will be extended to 3 hours.

7.2 The next meeting will take place on 30 May 2019, 14:00-17:00 in the BEIS Conference Centre.

7.3 Meetings for the remainder of the year are:

- 03 July
- 26 September
- 07 November