

CONSTRUCTION LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Tuesday 28 April 2020, 13:30 – 14:30
Via Zoom

Minutes – CLC/NO23/2020/M23

Attendees:

- Andy Mitchell, (Thames Tideway) – co-chair
- Ann Bentley, (Rider Levett Bucknall)
- Chris Carr, (Carr & Carr Builders)
- Mike Chaldecott, (Saint Gobain)
- Fergus Harradence, (BEIS)
- Brian Morrisroe, (AJ Morrisroe & Sons)
- David Pinder, (Baxi)
- Simon Rawlinson, (Arcadis)
- Mark Reynolds, (Mace)
- David Thomas, (Barratt Developments)
- Jennifer Whyte, (Imperial College)

Present by invitation:

- David Hancock, (Infrastructure and Projects Authority)
- Sam Stacey, (UKRI)
- Stuart Young (BEIS)

Apologies:

- Vincent Clancy, (Turner & Townsend)
- Nick Smallwood, (Infrastructure and Projects Authority)

Secretariat

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

1. Andy ran through the recent documents produced and Covid19 Task Force work:

- Safe Site Shutdown note;
- Site Operating Procedures 1,2 and 3;
- Builders Merchants Operating Procedure P;
- Written to the Prime Minister with a series of asks;
- PM Letter;
- Job Retention guidance note;
- Accessing the finance packaging note;
- Working on a report on how finance packages are landing;
- Product availability note;
- Contractual best practice guide;

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 - Wrote to the industry 'play nicely' letter;
 - Cost planning review;
 - Construction industry recovery plan. Split into 3 stages of 0-6 months, 6-12 months and the 12 months and beyond.
2. CLC website has been getting greatly increased traffic. April compared to March has seen users grow from 26,000 to 107,000 and sessions have grown from 31,000 to 150,000. The SOP guidance (versions 1-3) has had over 175,000 page views.
3. Buoyed by the level of collaboration. This should be harnessed after all this is over and not let fade.
4. Andy asked for CLC reflections on the work that has been done and what further work could be done,
- SOP appreciated but accept not everyone could be involved in the drafting due to time constraints;
 - Welcome the communications emails which are then publicised further by members;
 - Nice to see no one is taking the credit and they are happy for it to go out under the CLC banner;
 - Impressed with the contracts work with the cooperation between private practice, public sector etc;
 - PfV work being done by the CIH - they have been asked to accelerate it as it is seen a way of assessing value for government in investments;
 - Roadmapping and longer-term recovery beyond Covid. Jennifer would be happy to get involved in those conversations;
 - Updates from Stuart Young and Peter at BEIS and the Ministerial calls are very useful;
 - Barriers that will stall the general construction industry – a few asks:
 - Clarity of message – clearer, louder support from HMG needed for construction;
 - Productivity regain for sites – how we could do more to get it back;
 - Housing – stalled and spasmodic, how to get people access to the house and getting the second-hand market;
 - Tradesmen – how they get access into residential to do RM&I.
 - UKRI focussing on rest of the recovery by accelerating the platform work for solutions ready to go when the industry picks up

again. Costs (looking at £15-20m extra) are associated with accelerating the core work of the sector deal or Transforming Construction plan and discussions are taking place with the IPA and BEIS;

- Also in discussions for additional money into how sites are operated more effectively with the current restrictions and accelerating planning permission;
- There has been a step forward with the CLC being recognised now more than ever as an umbrella organisation for the construction industry by government. CLC should push on BEIS, Cabinet Office, MHCLG to talk to the CLC AS representatives of large parts of the industry;
- Tier 1 contractors now getting on board the idea of the CLC leading. ICG also need to be encouraged to engage as well;
- GCB would like a big say in getting net zero into the recovery plan. Net Zero is on the back burner but we need to get to grips with the built environment – new build and retrofit and getting workers into people’s homes.
- An outdoor working spaces group was convened with the BEIS Secretary of State;
- An indoor working group was also convened, Brian Berry is involved in this if the council wishes to get involved.
- Productivity opportunities should not be missed. Next 3 months is the time to capitalise on output and productivity and stimulate discussion on offsite.

Action: Members to provide Andy with their views on how the CLC core parts of CLC pre-Covid work back online.

Action: Members to reflect on the involvement of the Task Force going forward - separate or with the Advisory Group or part of the CLC?

Action: Recovery plan and contract guidance note to be circulated which can be built on by members. *Completed.*

Action: 2- 3 hour meeting to be arranged in the next week or two. Gavin/Peter.