

CECA MIDLANDS BUSINESS PLAN 2024

Working for Infrastructure



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The Midlands region is the fastest growing outside of the capital, with HS2 phase 1, the Midlands Rail hub Developments, the Wolverhampton redevelopment, Staffordshire Interchange, Midlands Metro, Smithfield, A47 and major housing developments, vast opportunities exist for our sector and many major projects are sustained for five or more years.

CECA is the lead strategic body for the civil engineering sector both nationally and within the Midlands region, and we are strategically positioned to influence national and local governments on the current political agendas that impact the sector.

Whilst CECA National sits close to Westminster, at local level, activities support National's overarching priorities with a tangible service delivery reflecting the local landscape and bringing measurable return on investment through a programme of training, networking events and partnership engagement.

The whole organisation's key priorities are:

- **Health, Safety & Wellbeing – Creating a Safer Workplace**
- **Client Policy and Workload - Creating Work Opportunities**
- **Skills and Training – Creating a Skilled Workforce**
- **Sustainability and Social Value- Creating a better environment for all**
- **Careers and Recruitment - Creating a Talent Pipeline.**

This document explains the planned activities by the Midlands office which reflect and support the key priorities. This plan does not preclude additional activity reacting to regional demands as the year unfolds, it is a working document designed to be updated and amended as required.

There are currently **78 members of CECA Midlands** and we have key regional relationships with clients such as National Highways, Severn Trent, WMCA and HS2. Construction and particularly civil engineering is a key driver for the economy and is recognised as such in the Skills for Jobs White Paper, as well as evidenced in the annual CITB CSN reports.

This plan details our work set out for 2024 and will be updated annually; the training and development schedule will form the bulk of activities along with client liaison, member recruitment and day to day business support, but in addition there are other key objectives with involve working with partners to address local issues. CECA Midlands intends to support the Foundation Group to promote Social Value wider and CECA Midlands will also play a key role in the development of the CITB infrastructure plan to address the issues of skill shortages and lack of training provision in the region.



CECA MIDLANDS PRIORITIES 2024/2025

The activities and services planned for 2024/2025 align to the CECA National strategic priorities and are delivered to member regionally in a tangible manner to bring return on investment. A key theme running throughout the activities will be working with other stakeholders in a collaborative manner to bring additional impact and intervention.



Health, Safety and Wellbeing – Creating a Safer Workplace

CECA MIDLANDS STRATEGY

- *Inform members and influence decision makers on Health, Safety and Wellbeing legislation and guidance.*
- *Represent members with HSE including engagement with Working Well Together, BESA, National HSE Group and other bodies.*
- *Represent members and promote best practice with clients.*
- *Circulate relevant Health and Safety information and promote best practice to support all elements of HSE wellbeing to all members.*
- *Offer at least one subsidised Mental Health First Aid training and Suicide Awareness Training session per annum.*



CECA MIDLANDS PRIORITIES 2024/2025



Client, Policy and Workload - Creating Work Opportunities

CECA MIDLANDS STRATEGY

- *Engage/ Lobby/influence with Westminster (support the London office with these endeavours) and other public sector bodies on infrastructure investment.*
- *Engage/Lobby/influence with Local Governments and politicians to influence policy development, decision making and to support local contractors in relation to infrastructure and civil engineering across the Midlands.*
- *Engage with clients to develop mutually beneficial partnerships and to promote upcoming procurement opportunities for members.*
- *Offer at least two Client Liaison events and a update in on changes to procurement law.*
- *Deliver a schedule of contractual and tendering workshops.*



Skills and Training - Creating a Skilled Workforce

CECA MIDLANDS STRATEGY

- *Represent members' interests with CITB, IfATE, WMCA and card schemes to ensure members have access to relevant and localised training.*
- *Deliver a robust training schedule reflecting the surveyed needs of members (surveyed November 2023).*
- *Maintain partnerships with local stakeholders and work with WMCA and LEPs to support bids to address skills shortages.*
- *Continue to develop the Foundations Group and support the development of relevant toolkits.*
- *Work with organisations such as the Supply Chain Sustainability S-school to support Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion within the industry.*

CECA MIDLANDS PRIORITIES 2024/2025



Sustainability and Social Value - Creating a Better Environment For All

CECA MIDLANDS STRATEGY

- *The UK Government has committed to becoming net zero by 2050. CECA will represent members' interests with relevant organisations and share advice, guidance and training to support members on their zero carbon journey.*
- *To deliver carbon literacy and decarbonisation workshops for members.*



People - Creating a Talent Pipeline

CECA MIDLANDS STRATEGY

- *Develop a mutually beneficial relationship with both West Midlands Construction College Heads and the West Midlands Combined Universities to source new talent into the industry.*
- *Work in partnership with others to promote the civil engineering sector as the career of choice to potential new entrants – including (but not exclusive to) school leavers.*





Working for Infrastructure

REGIONS & DEVOLVED NATIONS

CECA members are supported by a network of six regional offices across England, a national office in Westminster, and offices in the devolved nations of Scotland and Wales.

CECA's regions and devolved nations are:

- CECA **Scotland**
- CECA **North West**
- CECA **North East**
- CECA **Yorkshire & The Humber**
- CECA **Wales**
- CECA **Midlands**
- CECA **Southern**
- CECA **South West**



CECA MIDLANDS MEMBERSHIP



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Working for Infrastructure

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