



Join our groups and make a difference

Our Groups support and connect companies of all sizes. We are bringing the built environment sector together to connect and build new relationships, share best practice and discuss the issues critical to your business and our industry.

By joining our groups, you shape and guide ACE's activity and what we campaign on. Your priorities are ours. You will play a part in ACE's interactions with policymakers – putting our industry at the forefront of political discussions and creating conditions where your business can thrive.

Together, we're tackling business challenges, uncovering new opportunities and creating new solutions to improve the competitiveness of our sector locally and internationally.

acenet.co.uk



Join our groups to:

Showcase your work and achievements

Elevate your reputation and market presence.

Get exclusive access to insights

Stay ahead of trends and innovations with access to best practices and case studies.

Build a strong network

Connect with peers, fellow experts, potential partners, and decision-makers, fostering collaboration and business growth.

Benefit from thought leadership and have your voice heard

Contribute to thought-provoking discussions and research initiatives that influence policy and industry practices.



Advocacy groups



To join our groups or to
find out more please email
membership@acenet.co.uk

Places

Our living environments are transforming.

Our members are building the towns and cities fit for the future. Places that are accessible, productive, inclusive, and connected promote biodiversity and enhance our well-being.

The Places Group is critical to exploring new ideas and sharing knowledge and experience around regeneration, planning and the built environment.

Recent topics include:

- Levelling up
- Regional skills
- Placemaking measurement
- Sustainable and Climate resilient solution
- Public and private sector investment

Chair: **Peter Hogg** of **Arcadis**
Meeting frequency: **Bi-monthly**



People

In an increasingly competitive marketplace for talent, how will our industry respond to the skills challenges we face?

Our industry needs new skills and capabilities as we meet the challenges of an increasingly digital sector while delivering society's ambitions around social value, productivity, regional development and sustainability/ climate change.

Focusing on creating a positive and future-focused image for our sector, this group explores how businesses can best futureproof their workforce and secure an ongoing talent pipeline.

Recent topics include:

- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Sector image
- Future skills
- Industry insights: recruitment and retention

Chair: **Lara Potter** of **Arcadis**

Meeting frequency: **Bi-monthly**

Procurement

Our industry's long-term health relies on a robust and visible project pipeline.

This group works to enhance project transparency and adapt to changing client expectations in procurement methods.

By joining this group, you will drive practical improvements in procurement. You will also learn to navigate potential pitfalls, safeguarding your consultancy and clients from potential challenges.

Recent topics include:

- Processes and efficiencies
- Procurement pitfalls, safeguarding your consultancy and clients from potential challenges.
- Attracting clients

Chair: **Neil Humphrey** of **Waterman**

Meeting frequency: **Bi-monthly**



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Transport

Transport is fundamental to our local and national ambitions for regional development.

Increased connectivity unleashes economic growth and recovery — mobility changes how and where people choose to live and work.

Recent topics include:

- Trends and innovations in transportation engineering
- Research initiatives
- Social value
- Transport design
- Access to funding

Chair: **Graham Pointer** of **WSP**
Meeting frequency: **Bi-monthly**



Climate change

Our members are at the forefront of developing holistic, innovative and sustainable solutions to reduce the impact of climate change and increase liveability.

This group offers an open invitation to those working in environmental technology and services from the Environmental Industries Commission (EIC).

The group champions a practical approach to climate change, sustainability and society's journey to net zero. It shapes ACE's interactions with policymakers, provides evidence-based thought leadership, and is pivotal in ensuring our industry is seen as part of the solution to our climate crisis.

Recent topics include:

- Strategies to address climate-related challenges and sustainable practices.
- Environmental responsible development
- Risk management

Chair: **Kim Yates** of **Mott Macdonald**

Meeting frequency: **Bi-monthly**

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Operational groups

Legal and commercial forum


The forum examines legal, commercial, liability, risk and insurance issues that our members face and helps shape ACE's support to members in these areas.

Alongside this activity the forum monitors issues around professional indemnity insurance, legal and contractual developments and produces in-depth expert guidance for our members to deal with these issues.

Unlike other ACE forums and groups, this group welcomes and invites organisations from outside ACE membership, including specialist legal firms. This ensures their invaluable insight and expertise can inform discussions from the outset and helps the group to pre-empt and proactively address legal and risk issues of concern to the entire industry.

Chair: **Tim Loveridge** of **BWB**

Meeting frequency: **Quarterly**

A photograph showing three women in a professional setting, likely a meeting or collaborative workspace. They are seated around a large, light-colored wooden table. Two women are facing each other, looking at their laptops. A third woman is in the foreground, seen from behind, looking at a document. The table is cluttered with various items including laptops, smartphones, a blue folder, a pen, and a small potted plant. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

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Emerging professionals

Formed to help the emerging generation of consultants and engineers working in the natural and built environments, ACE Emerging Professionals provides networking and career development opportunities across the UK.

Members of this group come from a broad range of consultancy and engineering disciplines, including: civil, structural, mechanical and electrical engineers, lawyers, architects, accountants, project managers, and cost consultants. Emerging professionals are ambitious, enthusiastic and keen to share their experiences with their peers.

Members range from those at the start of their careers to more experienced professionals, up to around 35 years old.

Emerging Professionals have the opportunity to establish a strong networking base, develop new skills, influence industry-leading research and reports, and hear from inspiring and influential thought-leaders.

Chair: **Wojciech Szewczak** of **Ramboll**
Meeting frequency: **Quarterly**

ACE Emerging Professionals is currently sponsored by Mott MacDonald




HR forum

Our Human resources forum shares best practice and tackle the major HR issues affecting our industry such as equality and diversity, training and safeguarding, attracting and retaining people and addressing the sector's skills gap.

The forum offers an opportunity to partner with likeminded HR practitioners to share industry insight, knowledge and experience while providing the practical support. By being part of this group, you will be kept up to date with legislation. Members also have the space to debate its relevance and the impact on their own business.

The HR Forum welcomes attendees from ACE's sister organisation, the Environmental Industries Commission (EIC).

Chair: **Helen Salt** of **Curtins**
Meeting frequency: **Quarterly**



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Health and safety forum

This forum shares updates to legislation and regulations to help your business stay compliant and on the front foot.

As part of the forum's remit, it shares in-depth and helpful expert guidance for our members.

Some of the topics discussed include: health and safety in design and construction, as well as the implementation of construction (design and management) regulations and mental health and wellbeing.

Chair: **Laura Hague** of **Mott MacDonald**
Meeting frequency: **Quarterly**

National and regional groups

Our national and regional groups form a body of unrivalled knowledge and act as trusted advisers locally.

In Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales they are trusted by key clients and representatives in Holyrood, Stormont and Cardiff.

Each group makes the case loud and clear that infrastructure is a key economic driver realise local and regional potential.



Make the most of your ACE membership

Join our groups

You can join one group or as many as you like.
Groups are only open to members of ACE unless
otherwise specified.

To join our groups or to find out more, please send details of
the group/s you're interested in, together with your name and
company details to: **membership@acenet.co.uk**

Our membership team will get back to you within 2 working
days to confirm details. We look forward to seeing you soon.



Association for Consultancy and Engineering

acenet.co.uk

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