



**TO ALL MEMBERS**

**The 18th annual general meeting of the  
Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors**

**will be held on**

**Wednesday 02 September 2026  
Commencing at 9.30am**

**This is a virtual AGM and pre-registration is essential  
[cices.org/events](https://cices.org/events)**

## **CONTENTS**

### **Agenda**

**Proceedings of the 17th annual general meeting of the  
Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors**

**By order of Council of Management  
A Holmes, Honorary Secretary  
27 July 2026**

**AGENDA FOR THE 18TH  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE  
CHARTERED INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYORS**

1. Notice convening the meeting
2. Apologies
3. Proceedings of the 17th AGM of the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors held on 03 September 2025
4. President's address (verbal)
5. Finance report and accounts to 28 February 2026  
(approval of accounts)
6. Election of auditors
7. Investiture of the president
8. Appointment of the senior vice-president and vice-president
9. Composition of Council of Management
10. Any other business applicable to an AGM  
(with prior approval of the president)

# **PROCEEDINGS OF THE 17TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYORS HELD ON 03 SEPTEMBER 2025 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

The president determined the virtual meeting to be quorate and commenced the meeting at 9.30am.

## **1. Notice convening the meeting**

Senior vice president Alex Pearsall welcomed members to the virtual AGM and read the notice convening the meeting.

## **2. Apologies**

Apology received from Bernice Cowton, Marek Suchocki and Alison Watson.

## **3. Minutes of the 16th AGM of the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors, held virtually on 18 September 2024 via Microsoft Teams**

The record of proceedings of the 16th AGM of the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors was confirmed as correct; proposed by Elliot Allman and seconded by Chris Birchall.

## **4. President's address**

The vice president, Alex Pearsall, welcomed the 46 members online who had attended the virtual meeting and delivered a summary address on behalf of president Alison Watson. In particular, the following achievements, issues and observations were highlighted:

- Outlining the presidential theme of Making Space for Education.
- Sincere thanks to staff at HQ for their dedication, professionalism and support throughout my presidential year.
- Our regional structure remains a vital link between the Institution and our members and it was a pleasure to meet them, especially in person. Special thanks to the Northern Ireland and Ireland committee who made my short visit to Belfast an unforgettable one at Royal Hillsborough and also to Scottish colleagues who didn't let a storm get in the way of a great Burns Supper.
- Applauded all regional chairs and committees, who continue to deliver programmes of technical, professional and social events, both in person and online.
- Established the Education Panel under EPD&M and recruited an education

outreach manager, Rachel Hames, which will hopefully be able to support us as an institution, to drive in education and make a difference in that space.

- To raise awareness and encourage and support employers to recruit apprentices for the Level 3 geospatial survey technician.
- Thanked Lucy Powers and Richard Maltby for their roles in leading the geospatial apprentice trailblazer group and Skills England's Nicky Jordan for work on the standard's development.
- Attended the inaugural Geo:Influence event by TSA, RICS and CICES as a day of inspiration and momentum within the geospatial sector, focusing specifically on education and skills development.
- Contributed to the GeoWorld Summit 2024 as an advisory board member, panel chair and opening keynote speaker.
- Met Alex Voss, Victor Khoo and George Wall principally to discuss the future of surveying in Singapore.
- Presidential visit to the Hong Kong region in March.
- Visited the University of Macau and to Hong Kong Polytechnic.
- Represented CICES with CEO Simon Hamlyn at the FIG Working Week in Brisbane.
- Aligning with RICS in the joint recognition of Chartered Engineering Surveyor status.

## **5. Finance report**

Treasurer Chris Birchall presented the finance report. Key points included:

- Thanking CEO Simon Hamlyn, all the CICES staff, SURCO directors and staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.
- The institution registers consolidated accounts (accounts which include both CICES turnover and that of its trading company, SURCO).
- SURCO's main income is from advertising and training. There is a lack of uncertainty around income from these sources but the financial model which we have in place limits our exposure to risk.
- In this digital age raising money from advertising is challenging but the SURCO team and in particular Guy Helliker continue to produce outstanding amounts of revenue for CICES for which we are extremely grateful.
- Commercial and geospatial training is limited however BK SURCO has again made a significant contribution to SURCO's income. Thanks were given to John Battersby and all staff at JV BK SURCO for their incredible work during the year.

- Although training is limited, it is important that relevant training is available and members are reminded that SURCO has an ongoing agreement with Built Intelligence ([builtintelligence.com](https://builtintelligence.com)) whereby members can obtain a discount for online commercial courses.
- SURCO has made a small loss of £23,000 which is much better than the loss budgeted. It is not vital that SURCO makes a profit and its staff are an integral part of the institution which is beneficial to the running of the organisation and its worth to CICES is considerably more than appears in figures on the balance sheet.
- In the third year of its five-year strategic plan CICES had budgeted for a significant overspend, however excluding trading activities CICES showed a loss of £79,000 after an allowance of approximately £31,000 for depreciation.
- The overall deficit/loss of the two companies combined is therefore a loss/deficit of £102,000 (including a SURCO loss of £23,000).
- We had budgeted for losses in support of the strategic plan, so it was inevitable that we would show a loss. We are still operating well within the budgeted figures and the staff at HQ can be proud of this achievement.
- Looking ahead, we have managed to deal with the economic pressures on the industry.
- Our main income is, of course, from subscriptions and to date we haven't suffered a significant reduction in membership, however we must be aware of the possibility that it could happen, given the lack of certainty in the industry. A drive to increase members is part of our strategic plan.
- We are now in the fourth year of our new strategic plan, for which Council of Management has agreed a five-year budgetary plan, involving significant additional expenditure year on year. Despite the possible financial pressures which we might face we are strong financially and we remain bullish and committed to delivering the plan.
- We wish to provide the best service we can to our members and we will be spending money to improve our database and website over the coming year but, rest assured, we will continue to monitor the situation closely and take whatever actions are necessary to maintain the financial stability of the institution.

The accounts were not ready to be approved and would be available at a later date.

**Post meeting note: The 2024-2025 accounts are now available on request from CICES, HQ.**

## **6. Election of the auditors**

Due to a delay in the accounts being prepared, a decision regarding electing the auditors was deferred.

## **7. Investiture of the president**

The CEO advised that Alison Watson's term had now ended and Alex Pearsall was inaugurated as the new president. The formal presentation of the presidency will take place at the annual dinner on Friday 26 September at Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield.

## **8. Appointment of the senior vice president and vice president**

Marek Suchocki was appointed senior vice president and Genna Rourke as vice president.

## **9. Composition of Council of Management**

The President thanked those Council of Management members who had given their time so generously and were now stepping down; Laxman Ghimire, Peter Hallsworth, Lewis Jefferson, Batsetswe Motsumi and Russell Welsh.

The honorary secretary Adam Holmes reminded members that in accordance with our Royal Charter and Bye-laws, our Council of Management is composed of the president, immediate past president, senior vice president and vice president and up to a maximum of 14 elected members. There are four vacancies to be filled at the AGM today and four nominations received. It was also noted that there is a requirement within regulations (52) that those members of the council who are elected are done so on the basis that at least one third of the members thereof (excluding the president) shall be either geospatial engineering surveyors or commercial managers.

Following the ballot, the five individuals who have been elected on to Council of Management, based on number of votes achieved and compliance with regulation 52, were:

- Peter Hallsworth
- Sandy Powell
- Michael Rogers
- Russell Welsh
- Michael Wood

On behalf of the institution, the president congratulated those who had been elected as new members.

Those who had put their names forward to become members of Council of Management but were unsuccessful were encouraged to re-apply next year and thanked for the continued commitment to the institution. The president and CEO would write to those who had been unsuccessful to arrange a meeting to see how their enthusiasm can be taken up in other areas where they may get involved.

On behalf of the institution, the president congratulated those who had been elected as new members. The new Council of Management comprises:

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| Alexandra Pearsall | President                |
| Alison Watson      | Immediate past president |
| Marek Suchocki     | Senior vice president    |
| Genna Rourke       | Vice president           |
| Chris Birchall     |                          |
| Mark Coates        |                          |
| Bernice Cowton     |                          |
| Dr Andrew Evans    |                          |
| Peter Hallsworth   |                          |
| Jim McCluskey      |                          |
| Simon Navin        |                          |
| Sandy Powell       |                          |
| Michael Rogers     |                          |
| Daniel Sum         |                          |
| Afsheen Ul-Haq     |                          |
| Russell Welsh      |                          |
| Mark White         |                          |
| Michael Wood       |                          |

#### **10. Any other business applicable to an AGM (with prior approval of the president)**

Chris Preston asked if the membership numbers were increasing. Chris Birchall responded and informed Chris Preston that we seem to be stuck at a level of around 4,000 paying members. CEO Simon Hamlyn informed those at the AGM that the new communication and marketing manager Vicky Brown has produced an excellent membership recruitment and retention plan.

Nick Townsend Smith asked regarding the progress of the Chartered Civil Engineering Surveyor status. CEO Simon Hamlyn updated Nick that CICES is partnering with RICS to offer a new product offering that status and that it will be available shortly.

Lauren Holland asked if the new product offering Chartered Civil Engineering Surveyor status is something that members will need to apply for or will it happen automatically. CEO Simon Hamlyn updated Lauren that it is hoped that because CICES competencies are being mapped with those at RICS there will be no exam needed but possibly a letter of good standing. Alex Pearsall stated that CICES is working on an extensive FAQs document so that when the product is launched it will contain most of the questions that members will have at the time.

Chris Preston asked if there has been any uptake in the new data management competency. CEO Simon Hamlyn informed Chris that at the launch of the new competency at Geo Business, seven applications were received and two of those have turned into membership.

The meeting closed at 10.00am.

## **TREASURER'S ADDRESS TO THE 18TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHARTERED INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYORS**

Madam president, fellow members and friends of the institution.

I would like to begin by expressing our gratitude to all the CICES staff and SURCO directors and staff, who work in the head office at Sale. The hard work which our CEO, Simon Hamlyn, and his team do throughout the year is not always visible to the members but I would like to assure them that their fantastic efforts are very much appreciated.

I would remind you that the institution now registers 'consolidated accounts', i.e. accounts which include both CICES turnover and that of our trading company, SURCO.

### **SURCO**

SURCO is the trading arm of the institution and obtains all its income from advertising and training. Given the lack of certainty regarding income from these sources, we have taken care to ensure that we have a financial model in place which protects the institution from exposure to large financial risks. Despite the significant changes in recent years in how companies spend

advertising budgets, particularly the shift to online advertising, the SURCO team, and particularly Guy Helliker, continue to produce astonishing amounts of revenue for the institution.

Commercial training and geospatial training have been very limited again this year, as online training has become more popular. However, BK SURCO (a far east subsidiary of SURCO) continues to buck the trend and has again managed to make a very significant contribution to SURCO income. We are grateful to John Battersby and his staff for their incredible work during this year.

Despite the limited uptake of institution training, we believe that we should still be able to offer good relevant training to our members and we are committed to increasing the level of training activity. We would remind members that we have an ongoing agreement with builtintelligence.com whereby members can obtain a discount for online commercial courses.

In recent years we have taken account of expected losses by SURCO when preparing budget forecasts. This year the accounts show a loss of £49,000 but, given all the circumstances, we consider this to be a good result, of which the staff should be very proud. As I have stated before, it is not vital that SURCO makes a profit and its staff continue to be a vital and integral part of the Institution.

### **Overview of financial statements for year ending February 2025**

March 2025 – February 2026 was the fourth year of our five-year strategic plan and we had budgeted for a significant overspend, in support of the plan.

Excluding the trading activities, the institution showed a loss of £55,000. The overall deficit/loss of the two companies combined is therefore a loss/deficit of £104,000 (including a SURCO loss of £49,000).

As stated above, we had budgeted for losses in support of the strategic plan so it was inevitable that we would show a loss. We are still operating well within the budgeted figures and the staff at HQ we can be proud of this achievement.

### **Looking ahead**

The industry is used to ups and downs and we are continuously facing new financial challenges. It will depend on which sector you work in and whether you consider the industry to be buoyant or not at the moment. On balance, I believe that the industry is in fairly good shape, but companies are finding it difficult to

plan too far ahead because timescales for awarding contracts are increasing due to budgetary constraints.

Our main income is, of course, from subscriptions and we have managed to keep our membership numbers at a fairly constant level over the last few years. The staff in Sale are continuously looking for new ways to attract new members, and to promote the industry in general. This year, by agreement with the RICS, we launched the new professional designation of Chartered Civil Engineering Surveyor. We have already had a number of members who have acquired the CCES status and we are hopeful that there will be many more in the future. Income from SURCO's trading activities continues to be uncertain but, fortunately, the financial model which we have in place for training activities limits our exposure to risk.

We are now in the fifth year of our new strategic plan, for which Council of Management has agreed a five-year budgetary plan, involving significant additional expenditure year on year. We are committed to providing the best service we can to our members, but you may rest assured that we will continue to monitor the situation very closely and take whatever actions are necessary to maintain the financial stability of the institution.

I trust that the accounts are self-explanatory, and thank our auditors, Murray Smith, for their preparation.

I commend the accounts to you and invite your acceptance of them.

Chris Birchall FCInstCES

Treasurer, Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors



Head Office: Dominion House • Sibson Road • Sale • Cheshire • M33 7PP • United Kingdom  
+44 (0)161 972 3100 • [cices.org](http://cices.org)

Registered company no. RC000832 • CICES is a registered educational charity 1131469  
Registered in the United Kingdom • Operating worldwide