



NI REPORT



RICS NI's Year in Review

May 2022 to April 2023 -
Read about the year past and our year ahead.

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RICS NI CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION: Sharon McClements MRICS

Welcome everyone to this first edition of the RICS NI year in review.

Building confidence and trust with the regional members is paramount to the work of the dedicated RICS NI Board and staff. By doing so, it enables a better understanding of what is important to our regional members and how RICS NI can add value to their professional role.

This report provides a summary of the key membership engagement activities, regional training events, regional celebrations and awards and finally documents all our government engagement and advocacy throughout the year. Always striving to ensure our professional expertise is considered and exerted.

So, looking back on the 12 months from May 2022 – April 2023, it is important to highlight how dedicated, membership focused, and outward reaching the RICS NI Board and staff are. We will continue to add value to regional membership, enhance the profile of the profession and influence policy and practice.

I hope you enjoy reading this year in review and we hope to continue this every year with a hard copy and an online copy. We would like to when producing this again include more from individual members and member organisations, so, please do feel free to reach out to us. We look forward to working with you in 2023 and further enhance a sense of community within the regional membership.

RICS NI MATRICS CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION: Mark Johnston MRICS

2022 seen the resurgence of Matrics in Northern Ireland with several professional and social events and schools and university visits. Our launch event was held in Zen restaurant Belfast and was a business lunch, we had around 16 young surveyors in attendance and went well. This was followed by an RICS NI Matrics day at the Races in June, where we attended the Down Royal Annual Summer Festival. This was the largest event to date with c. 50 young professionals in attendance with support from 4 major sponsors. We have also held 2 CPD webinars towards the end of the year with our 'Back to basics' series which included topics on GDPR and accounts, this seen an audience c. 60 on each webinar with surveyors from across the UK and Northern Ireland joining online.

On Friday 10th of February RIC SNI Matrics had its first event of 2023 a 'Scavenger Hunt' around Belfast, this saw, c.60 young professionals get together in teams of 2-4 from across Belfast to go around the city following the clues led out for them and ended with Pizza, drinks, and networking. We held a raffle in aid of our RICS NI Charity of the Year Air Ambulance Northern Ireland and we raised over £250 with some fantastic raffle prizes donated.

We have more to come in 2023, it will see us back to Down Royal for the Summer festival on June 23rd and lots more networking/social gatherings for our young professionals. We also plan to host an APC “Mock-Mock” where we will have a run a live mock APC final interview assessment, candidates can attend and ask questions after watching the interview.

Our next CPD event is on the 9th of March online and will have Matthew Morris FRICS who is a Land Steward for the Duchy of Cornwall, he will give an insight into his day-to-day role as a rural surveyor, and you can book to attend on our online academy (OLA).

RICS NI BOARD

The RICS NI Board meet either in person or online every 2 months to discuss market insight and any upcoming opportunities and challenges for the profession locally, some of which include.

- The reopening of a Northern Ireland office which is still ongoing.
- How to boost the visibility of the profession
- Suggested CPD topics from members/stakeholders (one every month) etc.
- How to ensure that RICS members are equipped to meet the sustainability challenges which lie ahead.
- All upcoming regionally specific events incl. Lunch & Learns x 2, Welcome to the Profession Ceremonies, RICS NI Student Award, Chairperson’s Summer Soiree, Annual Conference,

We recently had the pleasure of having the RICS West Midlands Regional Chair, Tom Bell MRICS and West Midlands Market Engagement Lead, Helen O’Brien joined us at a F2F board meeting in January to give some regional market insight and to discuss how their board operates and share their engagement with members and what that looks like in their region. We hope to carry this good work on in the other regions.

If you have any questions, feedback, or just want to inform the board of any issues happening within the profession, please email northernirelandchair@rics.org

RICS NI Regional Chair

Dr Sharon McClements PhD. MRICS SFHEA, PGCHPEP, BSc Hons
Chartered Quantity Surveyor, Senior fellow of the Higher Education Academy



Sharon is a non-executive board member and current Chair of the RICS Northern Ireland. She lectures at Ulster University in a range of Built Environment programmes and supervises PhD researchers in areas of infrastructure and BIM. She has presented her research at international conferences and has secured funding grants for her research and consultancy. Sharon’s external appointments including,

Expert Advisor for the Ministerial Advisory Group for Architecture and Built Environment, External Examiner, PhD examiner, reviewer for international academic journals. Sharon also chairs APC panels for both quantity surveying and project management pathways. Sharon is also an Expert Author on the Infrastructure Framework and Risks for RICS.

RICS NI Regional Board Member

Martin Doherty MRICS, Programme Delivery Manager, Belfast City Council

I'm a Chartered Quantity Surveyor with over 25 years' experience in the construction industry with private and public sector experience. I've been involved with RICS in Northern Ireland now for over 15 years, initially with RICS Matrics, as an APC Assessor/Chairman, as a member of local Construction professional group, and now on the Northern Ireland Regional Board.



My first 15 years in the industry was as partner with chartered quantity surveyors, Terry Doherty Partnership. I have subsequently spent the last 10 years in local government with Belfast City Council with responsibility and accountability for leading and managing teams in the delivery of projects and programmes.

I am passionate for surveying as a profession, and the opportunities that it can create but also influence across several different industry sectors. I find therefore that being a board member gives me an opportunity to network and influence the direction of the RICS and promote the profession especially for the next generation of surveyors.

RICS NI Regional Board Member

**Ronan O'Hara BSc MSc MBA FRICS, CEO Crown Estate Scotland & RICS
UK & Ireland World Regional Board Member**

As a Chartered Surveyor, I have been privileged to lead major investment programmes, manage, and maintain priceless historic estates, deliver digital transformation, and drive innovation and growth through some of the UK's largest and most progressive public sector organisations.



I was drawn to the surveying profession because it allows me to combine my interest in business, property, people, and the natural environment, in a way that no other profession can. And I have to say, I have not been disappointed. I am particularly interested in promoting the value and benefit of non-cognate routes to membership, diversity equality and inclusion, and sustainable development.

Working with the Board provides an opportunity to inspire the next generation, advance sustainable practices across the UK and Ireland, and promote an amazing profession that combines investment, property, land, construction, finance, law, data analytics and sustainability – all with a view to delivering financial and non-financial value to both our customers and wider society.

RICS NI Regional Board Member**Andrea Forsythe MRICS, Principal Quantity Surveyor, Northern Ireland Civil Service**

I have always been an active member in the RICS. I was MATRICS chairman for two years, an APC Doctor and attended construction group meetings. As a female in this profession, I have always felt a responsibility to promote the profession to females, who are still disproportionately under-represented in Quantity Surveying. Although being a female in a male dominated profession has had its challenges over the years, I absolutely love Quantity Surveying and would highly recommend to anyone who is considering it as a career choice.

It was this passion for diversity that drove me to joining the RICS NI Board, I felt that the RICS Board would be a great resource and platform.

RICS NI Board Member**Carolyn Brady BSc (Hons) MRICS, Partner, Rider Levett Bucknall**

I've always had a strong passion for the surveying industry and am a keen advocate of the profession. I currently undertake several voluntary roles within industry including acting as a STEM Ambassador, APC Counsellor, and Mentor. I'm also an APC Assessor on the RICS Building Surveying Pathway and have assessed for various regions throughout the UK. In 2020, I was privileged to be nominated and shortlisted for 'Mentor of the Year' in the Young Surveyor of the Year Awards.

Being a member of the RICS Northern Ireland Regional Board allows me to fulfil further goals in promoting the profession, specifically Building Surveying. It's incredibly rewarding knowing that I can help inspire the next generation of surveyors, whilst contributing to the ongoing success of the RICS within the local region.

RICS NI Regional Board Member**Brian Reid Bsc, MBA, FRICS, FCMI, CMgr, Regional Development Director, e.surv Chartered Surveyors**

I have always had a passion for Residential Surveying and am privileged to be the Regional Development Director of the largest firm of residential surveyors in the UK. Other industry commitments include Board Member and Company Secretary of NB Housing and Valuation member of the Northern Ireland Valuation Tribunal.

Joining RICS NI Regional Board has provided the opportunity to promote the profession and residential surveying within the province and encourage others to consider a career, in an often-overlooked field where the rewards and job satisfaction can outweigh the perceived

glamour of other disciplines. Residential Surveying- meeting the challenges and opportunities ahead.

RICS NI Regional Board Member

Noel M Mathers MRICS FCIOB MAPM, Senior QS, Hawthorne Consulting
NM Mathers MRICS FCIOB MAPM



Being a member of the RICS Northern Ireland regional board allows me to be part of future decision making that directly affects RICS members in Northern Ireland. I also have the opportunity to engage with other board members and get a feel for the pulse of construction generally. I will be embracing a new role in the future as a STEM Ambassador, helping to guide young people in their career as a surveyor.

As an RICS APC Assessor and mentor I can assist trainees as they progress to becoming chartered.

RICS NI Regional Board Member & Chair of the RICS NI Matrics Committee

Mark Johnston, MRICS, Chartered Surveyor, O'Connor Kennedy Turtle (OKT)



I am the current Regional Chair of the RICS Matrics for Northern Ireland. Matrics allows me to be actively involved within the future of surveying within Northern Ireland and the wider UK. Through Matrics I have been able to become a STEM Ambassador and carry out various schools and university visits to promote the profession. Since becoming a member, I also trained as an APC Councillor and assessor for the RICS Commercial Property pathway. Being a member of the RICS Northern Ireland Regional gives me the opportunity me make a difference within the surveying profession within Northern Ireland.

RICS NI Regional Board Member

Garrett O'Hare MRICS, Managing Director, Bradley NI



Garrett is currently Managing Director of Bradley NI Chartered Surveyors and Estate Agents with offices in Newry, Warrenpoint, Rostrevor and Belfast. A Chartered Surveyor, MBA graduate and Fellow of the Chartered Management Institute, Garrett has a proven track record of accomplishments in business management, strategic planning, business development and growth.

Garrett has extensive charity and voluntary sector Board and governance experience following appointments with The Prince's Trust, Giving Northern Ireland, The USPCA and as Commodore of the Carlingford Lough Yacht Club. Garrett is particularly interested in

assisting with the growth of the surveying profession, with a strong focus on inclusion and diversity.

RICS NI Regional Board Member

Oran Cleary MRICS, Associate Director, Infrastructure, Turner & Townsend



Oran is a Chartered Quantity Surveyor with experience working on a range of high-profile infrastructure projects in the UK, Ireland, and Canada. Oran has been active in supporting the next generation of Quantity Surveyors through the APC process, acting as an APC Assessor, Counsellor, and mentor for APC candidates on the RICS Quantity Surveying pathway.

Joining the RICS NI Regional Board has provided the opportunity to promote the Quantity Surveying profession as well as play a key role in developing and implementing RICS initiatives within the region which support members and the wider industry.

RICS NI Regional Board Member

Chris Kenton FRICS, Product Innovation Surveyor, e.surv Chartered Surveyors



Chris works as a Product Innovation Surveyor with e.surv Chartered Surveyors with responsibility for Home Surveys. In addition to this work, Chris is also involved in the development of professional valuation and sustainability products. Chris's work therefore covers a multitude of areas. Having worked in private practice in both England and Northern Ireland over the last 30 years, Chris has a considerable wealth of experience ranging across both residential and commercial valuation and the survey of residential property, with particular emphasis on historic and significant buildings.

A Fellow of the RICS and a Valuation Member of the Northern Ireland Valuation Tribunal, Chris has also served as an occasional Guest Lecturer for Ulster University on Level 2 Survey Reports and Building Pathology. In addition to this, Chris sits as an APC Assessor and Chair and is currently working with the RICS to improve the APC Assessment process for Northern Ireland.

Chris also chairs the RICS NI Housing & Residential Insight Group. In his limited spare time, Chris likes to play guitar and indulge his passion for landscape photography.

RICS NI Regional Board Member
Andrew Cunningham BSc (Hons) MRICS MIHEEM, Head of Estates
Development Services
Southern Health & Social Care Trust



Having qualified as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor in a busy Construction Consultancy, within the private sector, I diversified into Project Management and gained a broad range of experience across the Education, Healthcare, Commercial, Judicial and Residential Sectors of the Construction Industry

In my current role as Head of Estates Development Services for the Southern Health & Social Care Trust, I have responsibility for the delivery of Construction Projects, Minor Works, Term Service Contracts, and Energy, Sustainability & Waste

Joining the RICS NI Regional Board is an opportunity to promote the Construction Healthcare Division and champion our Professional Disciplines which provide so much expertise in this sector."

The Year in Review May 2022 to April 2023: MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

Overview

Spring 2022 saw the movement from regulation to guidance of COVID restrictions in which RICS began to engage in person with the membership throughout Northern Ireland. In May, Market Engagement Lead, Lisa O'Connor came in to post with a view to strengthen the market in Northern Ireland through interacting with RICS NI members and having open and honest conversation on how to deal with the sector specific challenges facing the region. Lisa is also making it a priority to help drive engagement and satisfaction levels with members through more face to face (F2F) engagement/updates/networking events, creating local member groups, CPD Webinars and much more. A huge part of Lisa's job role is to work alongside and in partnership with the regional board on key issues that face the surveying profession in Northern Ireland.

Highlights of 2022

RICS NI Consultation Roadshows



This autumn RICS NI hosted three consultation roadshow events across Northern Ireland and invited our members along to give their feedback and engage with board and staff members, the areas we went to were Armagh, Belfast, and Derry~Londonderry. The rationale behind the events was to introduce staff in the region directly to the members and facilitate open, honest, and transparent discussions to build trust and re-engage with them.

Updates were delivered on Bichard and Northern Ireland Public Affairs, and a series of questions were put to the members interactively. Topics covered included:

- What support and guidance could RICS offer members in the region?
- What CPD topics would members like delivered in the region?
- What other stakeholder events members in the region would like?
- What other ways can RICS NI improve engagement with members in the region?
- How can RICS NI give back to members in the region?
- What does Pride in the Profession look like to NI members?

We received some great feedback and had some genuine frank conversations with those who attended, all the feedback has been forwarded to the RICS NI Regional Board and they will be working their way through all of it.

RICS NI Chairperson's Summer Soirée



RICS NI invited all its members to an informal social gathering held at the Cultra Manor, Co Down in July where attendees were able to come along to meet some of the regional board members and receive updates from our Interim Chief Executive, Richard Collins and RICS NI Chair, Dr Sharon McClements MRICS, we also provided some drinks and amazing food topped and tailed with networking with other like-

minded professionals in the historic building and surrounding gardens. Members who attended gave some great feedback including that it was great to get back to a F2F event and enjoy the drinks and finger food at this celebration of summer event.

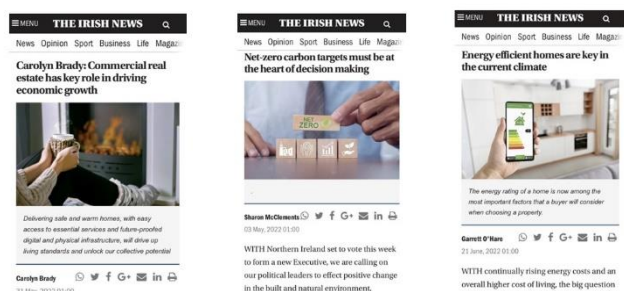
RICS NI Stay Informed

In September RICS held a Stay Informed Session at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Belfast, which allowed members to hear from the RICS NI Chair, Dr Sharon McClements MRICS, RICS Interim Chief Executive, Richard Collins, Lionheart and were given some local updates on a broad range of matters relating to the profession including all our local media coverage.

RICS NI Belfast Telegraph Interview



RICS NI Monthly Irish News Column



RICS NI Insight Groups

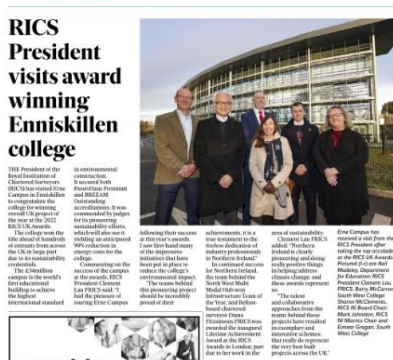
RICS NI insight groups met throughout the year, covering four main themes, Housing & Residential, High St Regeneration & Commercial, Sustainable Construction & Infrastructure, and Land & Rural, which feed into external stakeholder engagement and shape RICS public affairs activity locally.

RICS NI Member One to ones

Through the staff partnership RICS NI met on a one-to-one with members virtually and in-person in 2022, connecting member insight with external stakeholders, supporting members in their professional journey, and maximising opportunities for engagement across RICS.

Outgoing President Clement Lau FRICS visit to NI

We had a visit planned for the RICS President, Clement Lau FRICS to come to NI to attend our Summer Soirée but unfortunately due to Covid 19 this wasn't be, but Clement was keen to get back to see the NI members before the end of his presidency. So, as we put together a visit to NI for the president in Dec, we thought a visit to see the RICS 'Project of the Year' Erne Campus, South West College would be perfect, and we would invite our RICS NI Board and RICS NI Matrics Committee along.



RICS NI Awards Winners

We would like to say a heartfelt thanks to all of those who submitted their projects to the RICS Awards and a massive congratulations to all the regional winners:

- Commercial Development Category; Winner - Merchant Square, Dublin
- Community Development Category; Winner – An Chroi Community Hub, Belfast
- Heritage Category; Winner – The School House, Methodist College, Belfast
- Public Sector Project Category; Winner – Erne Campus, South West College, Enniskillen
- Refurbishment/Revitalisation Project Category; Winner – Merchant Square, Dublin
- Residential Project Category; Winner – The Banks, Helen's Bay

RICS NI Awards Winners



RICS NI Awards Winners



We were also absolutely delighted to be the region to win 'Project of the Year' Award and one of our wonderful NI Members was honoured with the 'Lifetime Achievement' Award. Huge congratulations to both Erne Campus, South West College and Diana Fitzsimons FRICS.

RICS NI Project of the Year 2022

Enniskillen: South West College named UK Project of the Year



RICS Awards Winner - Lifetime Achievement Award



RICS NI Charity of the Year Named as Air Ambulance NI

At our regional board meeting in September, we discussed having a regional charity for 2023 and with a majority vote we went with Air Ambulance NI as they do amazing work in the community providing outstanding critical care where and when it's needed most. And after meeting and speaking with them we found out that it costs £2 million a year to keep the charity operational, I think we made a great choice.

So, when you get the chance, please donate to the this amazing cause, we have donation page and you can just scan the QR to donate



Schools and University Visits

We have visited a lot of schools and universities over the year, speaking and delivering presentations to students, parents, and teachers on the built environment. Looking at why they should choose a career in surveying and what the benefits are.



FREE CPD Webinars Delivered over the Year

We have had some amazing webinars with some really engaging speakers including members and non-members from Northern Ireland (NI) delivering to our NI Members over the year. Topics/themes included:

- Social Value in Procurement, Quigg Golden Ltd
- Mediation as a means of Dispute Resolution for the Future, Joe Kelly BSc MRICS
- Quantity Surveying & Northern Ireland Public Procurement, CPD
- Net Zero and Sustainable Procurement in the Construction Industry, Turner & Townsend
- Surveying Homes with Home Heating Oil, SSS Alleviate
- Social Value in Procurement, RLB (Rider Levett Bucknall)
- Northern Ireland Case Law Update, Quigg Golden Ltd
- Drafting Heads of Terms, A & L Goodbody

RICS NI Valuation – Lunch and Learn (half day event in Newry)

In April we had our very first F2F ‘Lunch and Learn’ event in Custom House, Newry, we had some great speakers on topics such as ‘RICS Red Book Valuation Compliance’ and ‘The Role of Valuation in Financial Accounting’. There was also the opportunity to ask questions of the speakers and concluded with lunch and networking.



We would like to run similar ‘Lunch and Learns’ on this topic and others, if you would like to put a topic/theme forward and know of any speakers who would like to speak or deliver a presentation, please get in touch.



RICS NI Surveyors ran in the Mash Direct Belfast City Marathon on 30th April 2023



We had 2 amazing relay teams consisting of chartered surveyors and non-chartered surveyors who ran in the Belfast City Marathon this year. They each ran a leg of the marathon starting at Stormont Estate and finishing at Ormeau Park. Together they all raised an amazing amount of money for AANI.

Please support the runners by donating to our charity of the year Air Ambulance NI using the QR code above.

RICS NI host Under Grad Student Research Award

RICS NI will be searching for future talent in the profession. The aim of this event is to showcase to the industry, stakeholders, and policy makers of the advancement in expert knowledge aligned to the surveying profession, to demonstrate RICS's eminent leadership role with the built environment and wider society.

The Winner of this prestigious award will be presented with a cheque for £500 from RICS NI. This event will be hosted at Ulster University on 22 June at 2pm.

A LOOK BACK ON 2022: GOVERNMENT ENGAGEMENT AND ADVOCACY

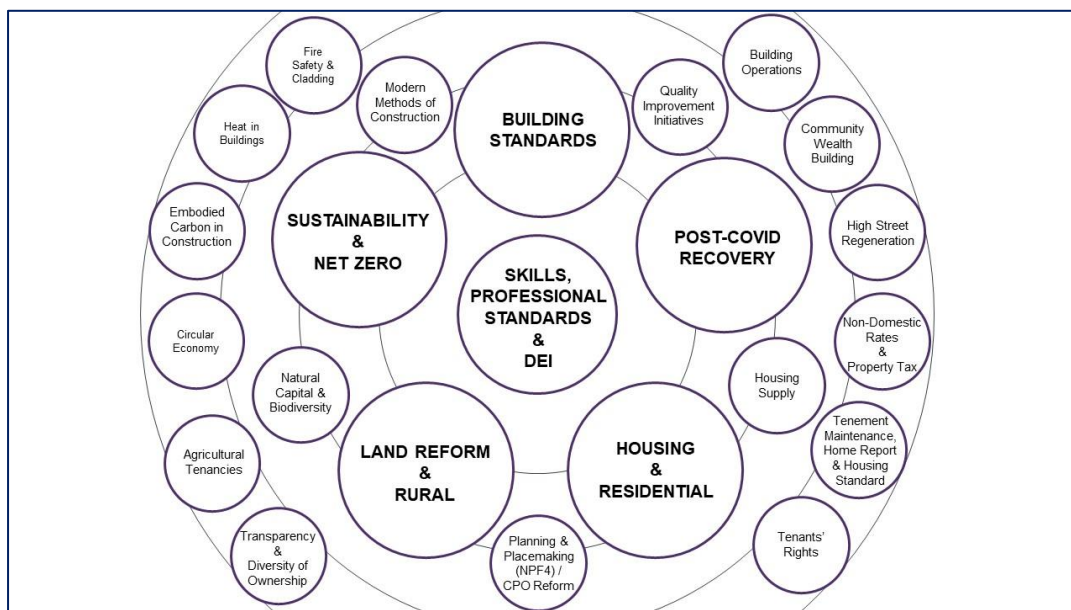
Overview

The public affairs team plays a key role within RICS to protect the interest of members and ensure the profession continues to exert influence over the sector, and the wider economy. It sets out to:

- Shape built environment policy in the public interest and in the interest of RICS members.
- Establish RICS as the go-to organisation for expertise on built environment matters among policy makers.
- Build understanding and awareness of the profession and promote RICS members with key stakeholders.

In addition to these broad policy objectives, a key element of the role in Northern Ireland specifically has been to re-establish a strong RICS presence among policymakers and their officials, and to rebuild a strong, mutually beneficial relationship with members across Northern Ireland.

A snapshot of the core policy areas RICS is engaged with in Northern Ireland can be found below.



Highlights

Supporting government and market stakeholders in decarbonisation

The RICS Sustainability Suite of standards, which comprises the International Cost Management Standard (3rd Edition), Whole Life Carbon Assessment and Built Environment Carbon Database have been promoted to government departments, health trusts, education providers, housing associations and other organisations interested in decarbonisation. RICS has organised roundtable discussions with government and market

stakeholders to develop awareness of the challenges of decarbonisation as well as the opportunities and RICS is delighted to have secured the adoption of these standards in delivering non-domestic public buildings and domestic properties.

High Street Regeneration

RICS engaged with the Department of Finance to encourage landlords and tenants to work together and resolve any disputes over rent payments, and RICS members contributed market insight into the recent revaluation exercise undertaken on non-domestic properties in Northern Ireland.

Cladding and Fire Safety

Over the past year RICS has worked closely with officials delivering the Building Safety Programme NI which is reviewing building safety in Northern Ireland in response to Dame Hackitt's Interim and Final Report for Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government. RICS is contributing technical expertise and insight and is informing the recommendations which will be made in the final report.

Delivering better buildings for people

Queen's University Belfast, the Education Authority, and a range of other organisations in Northern Ireland are working with RICS on trialling the International Building Operation Standard (IBOS) and the forthcoming new self-assessment tool. The standard has been promoted at several roundtable discussions and directly with estate managers across the public sector.

Housing Leadership

RICS engaged with officials developing the draft Housing Supply Strategy and subsequently contributed to the formation of the strategy by providing member expertise and market insight. RICS called for a specific outcome which relates to housing in the Programme for Government as a mechanism to bring focus and drive momentum to the issue of housing supply. RICS also noted that current procurement strategies did not make the most of professional services and led to a race to the bottom in quality.

RICS addressed the Law Society of Northern Ireland's Annual Conveyancing Conference 2022 to communicate the role of the chartered building surveyor in dealing with the purchase, lease, and disposal of residential property. RICS is currently working with the Law Society and NAEA on an update to the voluntary memorandum of understanding designed to clarify roles between surveyors, solicitors, and agents.

Calls to Action for Stormont to level up communities across the UK

Ahead of last year's regional elections, RICS published eight [calls to action](#) (which can be found at rics.org under News & Insights) for public authorities to level up and transform communities across the UK, including a specific manifesto for Northern Ireland. It includes

recognising the role of investment and professional stewardship and embedding net zero and social value at the heart of decision making.

RICS has promoted member insight to the Belfast Chamber of Commerce who are exploring city centre revitalisation. The Chamber have engaged with RICS and are keen to collaborate more closely on issues relating to high street regeneration and commercial development. We also promoted RICS' [Commercial Real Estate Impact Report](#) among partner organisations and policy makers, emphasising its role in revitalising our towns and city centres.

Land Reform & Rural

RICS is engaged across government departments on land matters including DEFRA in relation to land management, natural capital and the rural economy, DfT regarding compulsory purchase of land and BEIS and DCMS on the expansion of the communications infrastructure and the implications of land use for both landlords and tenants. Closer to home, RICS is working with DfI Rivers Agency on issues relating to flooding and HED on better understanding the carbon picture of their heritage buildings.

Supporting a housing market which works for Northern Ireland

RICS regularly engages with other professional bodies to contribute member insight and technical expertise into matters relating to the housing market. RICS contributed a member judge for the Chartered Institute of Housing Awards 2022 and meets CIH regularly to share insight and collaborate on areas of mutual interest. RICS and the Northern Ireland Federation of Housing Associations worked closely together to build housing associations awareness of the decarbonisation challenge and the need for retrofitting of domestic properties to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions.

Skills & DEI

In March, RICS in Northern Ireland was delighted to deliver a member-led event which coincided with International Women's Day and Women's History Month. The event considered entry into the profession, career progression and the challenges and opportunities of more flexible working. The panel was chaired by Sharon McClements and comprised senior figures from academia, private practice, and the public sector to give greater prominence to female surveyors and the audience included chartered surveyors and students on accredited courses.

Adoptions

A core objective of the Public Affairs team is to secure the adoption of RICS standards, policies and thought leadership by key decision makers in our global markets. Such adoptions demonstrate trust, recognition, and awareness of RICS leadership, while offering solutions to government and market priorities, and securing future demand for the profession.

Over the past year, RICS has worked alongside policy makers in Northern Ireland to integrate key standards and thought leadership. Such standards include:



Sustainability Suite, made up of the [Whole Life Carbon Assessment](#), [International Cost Management Standard 3 \(ICMS3\)](#), and the [Built Environment Carbon Database](#). We have worked in collaboration with government departments to embed sustainability and RICS standards into their guidance do delivering net zero non-domestic public buildings. RICS has also engaged with housing providers to help them deliver more sustainable domestic property for their current and future tenants. The Education Authority is sharing data on embodied carbon as they establish a baseline for their schools and broader estate.

International Building Operations Standard

Queen's University Belfast, the Education Authority, and the NI Courts and Tribunal Service are working with RICS on adopting the [International Building Operation Standard \(IBOS\)](#) and the new RICS self-assessment tool into their building performance and measurement approaches.

RICS Public Sector Asset Management Guidance Note is promoted as part of the Strategic Investment Board's advice to public sector clients on asset management.

Other: In addition to the flagship standards above, we were delighted to work with the Head of the NI Civil Service to promote the profession and its expertise in issues relating primarily to building safety and carbon measurement, but also in other areas too. The meeting with the Head of the NI Civil Service has been helpful in showcasing the work our members do across Northern Ireland and led to RICS being appointed to the Expert Panel for the Building Safety Programme (NI).

WAYS TO ENGAGE WITH RICS NI

RICS NI Regional Webpage

We are currently working on our regional page and hopefully once it is ready our NI Member will have a one stop shop for all their regional needs. Members will be able to use it to interact and engage with their Regional Market Engagement Lead, Lisa O'Connor and Senior Public Affairs Officer, Emmet McDonough-Brown and have access to lots of resources and documents including signing up to our regional RICS NI Plan Ahead Newsletter Visit: [RICS in Northern Ireland](#) in rics.org

RICS NI LinkedIn – we will be creating our RICS NI page very soon, in the meantime if you want to keep up to date with events, news etc. follow me Lisa O'Connor

myRICS Community

An online member to member engagement platform, led and directed by you the member. A space where you can connect with like-minded peers locally and globally, engage in discussions about relevant topics within the surveying profession and ask questions, submit suggestions, and express your opinion. <https://www.rics.org/networking/rics-communities/myrics-community>

We have now launched our myRICS Community App, making it easier to engage and connect with other members on the move, you can download app now for apple and android:

Download the Connected Community app

App for Appstore – <http://bitly.ws/AV9G>

App on Google Play – <http://bitly.ws/AV9e>



RICS NI Matrics Committee

The RICS NI Matrics Committee are doing amazing work for the young professionals, they run CPD webinars, and host social and networking events which include 'A Day at the Races' at Down Royal Summer Festival, business lunches and much more. They also run APC workshops including mock interviews to help our Northern Ireland Candidates to reach their full potential and become Chartered through successfully passing their Final Interview Assessment.

Deliver a CPD Webinar

Our online CPD Webinars are among the most popular and attended of our online offerings for members, one of our online sessions had over 1100 booked to attend. We are always on the look for regionally specific webinars, if you have a theme/topics you think would interest the RICS NI Members and you would like to host a CPD Webinar, then please get in touch with some information including a title. CPD webinars last for 1 hour which consists of 45 presentation and 15 min Q&A.

RICS NI Insight Groups

RICS NI insight groups meet throughout the year, covering four main themes, Housing & Residential, High St Regeneration & Commercial, Sustainable Construction & Infrastructure, and Land & Rural. We really need some more members to be part of these insight groups so if you would like to join one, please email.

Be a Northern Ireland Assessor

Use your wealth of knowledge and expertise to ensure the calibre of newly qualified is to the highest standard by becoming an assessor. Give something back to the profession, collaborate and network with other volunteers, to ultimately shape and uphold our standards at RICS by vetting and welcoming new members.

The benefits to being an assessor: Not only is it rewarding and enjoyable but you will enhance your professional competence by keeping up to date with RICS new standards and

processes. You will learn new skills and knowledge, have access to exclusive training and support materials, be part of a global network of volunteers and you can obtain additional formal and informal CPD hours.

NI candidates are being disadvantaged when it comes to final interview assessments with a lot of them only being able to have 2 person panels or their dates having to be rescheduled several times due to lack of availability from the small pool of assessors that we have, so we urgently need more NI members to put themselves forward and complete the assessor training. More information can be found by visiting [rics.org https://www.rics.org/surveyor-careers/career-development/become-an-assessor](https://www.rics.org/surveyor-careers/career-development/become-an-assessor)

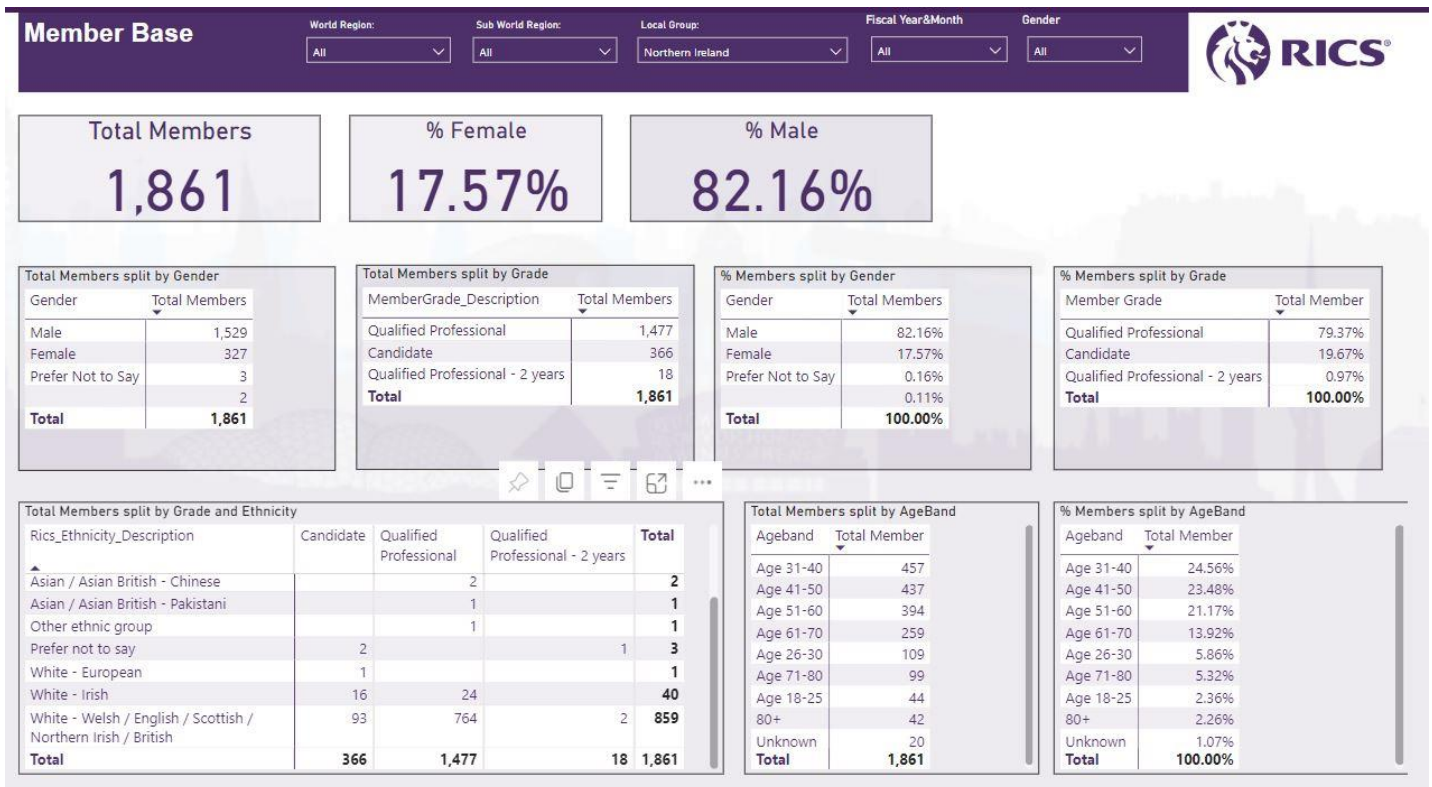
Be a Northern Ireland Counsellor

It can be a rewarding and satisfying role being a counsellor, and all candidates will remember the support that they were given by a trusted and supportive professional. But being a Counsellor brings with it a serious commitment. It is the Counsellor who will finally sign a candidate off before they can be assessed.

All candidates need to appoint a Counsellor at enrolment to guide them through the process and we are extremely low on volunteers in Northern Ireland and need more members to put themselves forward who can offer support to candidates from smaller firms who do not have another chartered surveyor within the company. More information can be found <https://www.rics.org/join-rics/assessments-information/counsellor>

If you are interested in any of the above and want to support or get involved, please reach out via the regional chair's inbox northernirelandchair@rics.org and we can discuss.

RICS NI Member Statistics



A LOOK FORWARD TO 2023: MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

30 June Official Opening of RICS NI Office – 10am – 11.30am

A date for all of our members to come along have a drink, some brunch and see the amazing new RICS NI offices at Custom House. A chance to meet the staff, board, the RICS NI Chair and our CEO Richard Collins and celebrate a space for members to use as they need.

The office is a wonderful place, a space for members to come and work from, have a meeting in, a lunch or breakfast meeting, a cup of coffee with staff or just a place to relax in for an afternoon. Whatever your needs are we can accommodate it. Just get in touch if you would like to come and use the space.

30 June RICS NI Chair's Summer Soiree - 1pm – 4pm

We will be inviting our members and stakeholders to come and join us in our annual celebration of summer at The Merchant Hotel, Rooftop, Belfast. This event will also be used to honour and thank our outgoing regional chair Dr Sharon McClements MRIS and celebrate the amazing journey her leadership has taken the RICS NI and her achievements as her time on our regional board comes to an end. We will be joined by our CEO Richard Collins and will also be announcing and introducing our new RICS Regional Chair.

27 July FREE CPD Webinar – ‘Dilapidations’ – A & L Goodbody

more details on this can be found on our Online Academy (OLA) as part of your CPD member support pack.

5 September RICS NI Annual Conference

We will be hosting a full day conference at Crowne Plaza, Belfast on sustainability and the climate emergency with the working title ‘Green Growth in the New Economy’. Members will have the opportunity to here from RICS on the latest progress on implementing the recommendations from Bichard Review.

Some of the themes being considered include.

1. The Call for Action on Climate Change in the profession
2. Renewable Energy Planning Policy
3. The Path to NetZero
4. What does the future look like?

Break out sessions include:

1. Energy and Sustainability
2. Residential Real Estate
3. Retrofitting
4. Digitalising the Built Environment
5. The Skills Shortage

We have sponsorship packages available which includes:

Sponsorship Package - £1500

- Logo on website/banners
- Company profile on website
- Exhibition booth
- GDPR compliant list of delegate names
- X 2 delegate passes.

If you would like to support, be involved or just want more information on any of the above, please email: northernirelandchair@rics.org

Delivering confidence

We are RICS. Everything we do is designed to effect positive change in the built and natural environments. Through our respected global standards, leading professional progression and our trusted data and insight, we promote and enforce the highest professional standards in the development and management of land, real estate, construction and infrastructure. Our work with others provides a foundation for confident markets, pioneers better places to live and work and is a force for positive social impact.

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