

CONFERENCE



QS & Construction Conference

Navigating the future of Quantity Surveying





Type of event

Face to face



CPD Hours

5.5
Formal

Book your place today

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The UK construction sector is grappling with persistent economic uncertainty driven by Brexit and global economic fluctuations. This has made it imperative to address challenges and respond to issues around skills shortages, new sustainability and environmental regulations, technological advancements, and supply chain disruptions.

Don't miss this year's UK&I QS and Construction Conference, where industry experts will shed light on these issues, offering the latest insights into Artificial Intelligence and its impact on Quantity Surveying and assessing implications of the RICS Whole Life Carbon Assessment 2nd Edition and how it can help you manage your carbon budget more effectively. Key sessions will examine how the ongoing skills shortage continues to hinder the industry—what are the barriers to attracting the younger generation? Additionally, delegates will hear how continuous supply chain challenges could jeopardize their brand and market reputation. Understand how you can mitigate these potential risks?

Join us at this year's Conference 2024 for a unique opportunity to network with professionals from across the UK and Ireland and stay updated on the latest industry updates, trends and forecasts. The conference will be held at RICS headquarters in London, offering a full day of interaction with peers and insights from industry experts.



Time zone:

BST

8:30

Registration and refreshments

9:00

Welcome and Chair's opening remarks

Speaker(s): Roger Esson MRICS, Head of Sales UK, Europe & Caspian - Centurion Group

9:10

Keynote address: Keeping up with the anticipated pace of change

The past decade has seen a major shift for construction, bringing about significant change. Legislative reform, particularly around building safety and sustainability, have been major drivers, with businesses now having to adapt to new laws. Other areas have seen huge advancements such as the introduction of digital technologies. The role of data is becoming increasingly important in shaping the sector and influencing future business-decisions. What does 2024 and beyond hold for the construction industry and the role of the Quantity Surveyor?

Speaker(s): Tina Paillet FRICS, President - RICS

9:30

Economic outlook and market forecast

Speaker(s): Simon Rawlinson MRICS, Head of Strategic Research and Insight - Arcadis

10:00

Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Quantity Surveying

From cost estimation to project management, AI-powered tools and algorithms will continue to streamline processes, enhance decision-making, and potentially unlock new possibilities for Quantity Surveyors. How will this innovative, disruptive, technology shape the future of quantity surveying? Does it look to redefine the role of professionals across the construction landscape?

Speaker(s): Donnie MacNicol, Founder & Managing Director - Team Animation Ltd
Ali Mafi, Founder - Timist



Time zone:

BST

10:40

Coffee break

11:10

Industry skills shortage – Can we make construction cool?

The age-old dilemma around the skills shortage has remained stagnant over the recent years, with talent pools continuing to shrink. To couple with the predicament, the drive towards decarbonisation, technology advancements, hybrid working, and an ageing workforce creates a further layer of complexity. Why are we struggling to attract the younger generation? How can we create a compelling case that resonates with tech-savvy youth?

Moderator: Sybil Taunton, Head of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - RICS

Speaker(s): Paul Broadbent FRICS, Associate - LocatED

Mark Farmer, CEO & Founding Director - Cast Consultancy

11:50

Mental health and wellbeing in the construction industry

With pressures ranging from tight contracts and long working hours, to managing complex budgets and the rising costs of supplies, various reports have emerged, stating many in the industry struggle with their mental health. In the past, organisations have focused more on physical injury than on mental health.

Moderator: Tomi Laguda, Membership DEI Manager - RICS

Speaker(s): Stacey Price, Senior Commercial Manager - Laing O'Rourke

Scott Pearshouse MRICS, Senior Quantity Surveyor - SES Prism

Bena Kansara, Support Services Manager - Lionheart

12:30

Lunch



Time zone:

BST

13:30

JCT Contracts 2024 Edition: A new perspective

The JCT 2024 Edition launched in May 2024, offering newly incorporated features, to include the adoption of gender-neutral language, and more flexibility around electronic notices. What are the main changes covered by the JCT 2024 Edition? How can you benefit from these changes at the various stages of your construction project?

Speaker(s): Steven Thompson FRICS, Senior Specialist; Construction - RICS

14:10

Impact of the Procurement Act 2023

The Procurement Act was passed into law in October 2023, following the UK's withdrawal from the European Union. It aims to make public procurement more 'flexible, transparent, efficient and competitive', while delivering value for money and public benefit. How will the Act impact Quantity Surveyors and Project Managers in the tendering procurement process?

Speaker(s): Christopher Brennan, PSL Legal Director - Gowling WLG LLP

14:50

The Golden Thread

This Golden Thread initiative, a subset of the Building Safety Act, is set to become a new doctrine for the QS industry, looking to inspire higher standards in safety and performance. To ensure that specific parties identify, manage, and mitigate building safety risks throughout the building's lifecycle, those responsible must retain a 'golden thread of information', a digital record of crucial building information – From design phase and throughout the building's lifecycle. How can Project Managers and organisations simplify data management, ensure transparency, compliance, and improved project outcomes? Fragmented information channels lead to inefficiencies and compliance risks in construction projects. Can the Golden Thread address these challenges?

Speaker(s): Peter Caplehorn, Chief Executive - Construction Products Association (CPA)
Sally Friswell, Associate Director - Arup



Time zone:

BST

15:30

Coffee Break

16:10

RICS Whole Life Carbon Assessment

Measuring the environmental impact of our infrastructure has become increasingly crucial. The WLCA Standard was first introduced in 2017, for consistent and accurate carbon measurement in the built environment. Its objective, to guarantee that the data we collect on carbon emissions is consistent, accurate, and comparable across different projects and asset classes. The 2nd Edition WLCA, which came into effect in July 2024, builds upon the previous standard, extended to cover all buildings and infrastructure throughout the built environment life cycle. What are the changes to the 2nd Edition, and how will it impact the industry.

Moderator: Amit Patel MRICS, Head of Professional Practice Construction - RICS

Speaker(s): Alan Northen FRICS, Managing Director - Northen Surveying Services

Adam Mactavish, Director - Currie & Brown

16:50

Closing remarks

17:00

End of Conference

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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