

Region Newsletter

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Introduction and Welcome



Welcome to the latest edition of the CIHT North East & Cumbria newsletter, my first as Chairman, and the start of a very busy year for the Region.

I'm very proud to have been appointed as Chair for the next two years and hope that I can continue to build upon the strong base that Tony has left for me, including an ever-growing Membership and increasingly active programme of events. I'm sure that with the support of my Vice-Chair, Nicola Hill, and a very active Committee, we can make this one of our most successful years to date.

Our CPD programme is taking a huge step forward with a targeted set of monthly events which cover all the main subject headings for the TPP, CEng, IEng and EngTech qualifications. Run by experts in their fields, the "Introduction To..." seminar programme will be run throughout the year, at venues across the region and is free to all CIHT members. Read more about this on Page 2, see the current programme on our website and check your emails for the latest updates through our weekly mailshots.

Similarly, we already have a good baseload of events scheduled for the next 12 months, including site visits, technical seminars and social events, organised throughout the Region.

In June, for example, we paid a return visit to the New Wear Crossing in Sunderland to see the progress of the important new bridge, including being about to stand on the recently completed bridge deck (via some rather nerve-testing scaffolding staircases – not good for those with a fear of heights, like me!). We are planning on a third visit to the bridge early next year to witness the completion of a project that some of us have been working on for well over 10 years!

Lastly, as part of my three key 'topics' this year (Promoting Diversity & Integration; Encouraging Education & Knowledge, and; Building our Membership), I would like to encourage everyone to register for our Annual Dinner and Awards, held at the Assembly Rooms in Newcastle on October 19th. The evening aims to celebrate the very best of projects and people in our region, and last year attracted over 180 guests. This year, the dinner, kindly sponsored by Northumbrian Roads, promises to be bigger and better with four awards sponsored by Jacobs, Arup, Farrans and Milestone Transport Planning, and a new format attracting a lot of interest already. Again, more information is available on the website, including details of how to book your place.

I'm very excited to be working in our industry at the moment; there's a lot changing in the world, but the CIHT are at the forefront of directing that change. As such, please do get involved, whether that be in the region's events, the Committee, the YPG programme, or a mentoring / advisory role - This is YOUR region, and we are YOUR Committee. Please do let me know if you have any ideas on future events, or on things we can do better, for you.

Here's to a great 2017/18 session, and I hope to meet you all in person over the next two years

Darran Kitchener

dkitchener@milestonetp.co.uk

Helping Your Organisation

The NE&C Region offers a range of services to assist your organisation. Please [email us](mailto:neandc@ciht.org.uk) for further information about:

Industry recognition – discuss opportunities to host shared learning CPD events, focussing on a project or innovative piece of research you have delivered; we'll help promote it to our membership of over 700 professionals across the Region.

Profile raising – sponsor our programme of events, or one of our annual awards; we'll include your logo on our promotional material, including the national CIHT website

Professional qualifications – all CIHT qualifications adhere to the Engineering Council's UK Standard for Professional Engineering Competence. We can assist with promoting qualifications in your workplace; offer free mentor training to oversee development of junior staff, and provide free advice to your business on supporting your staff

Promoting CIHT membership – we can provide information on promoting membership to your employees, including hosting drop-in surgeries with presentations and/or 1-2-1's

Representing CIHT - become a company champion for CIHT and raise both your business and personal profile across the Region. Go even further and join our Regional Committee!

Contacts

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Newsletter and Communications: jonathan-barlow@live.co.uk

Branch Website: www.ciht.org.uk/neandc

LinkedIn: search for "CIHT North East and Cumbria Region"

Follow CIHT on Twitter: @CIHTUK



@CIHTUK

Your CIHT: News and Upcoming Events

Council & Boards Update

Anthony Robinson (Regional Representative to Council)

CIHT Council is made up mainly of elected ordinary members and regional representatives. They act as the decision making body for the CIHT, delivering the strategy, business plans and outputs on behalf of the membership. Council generally meets four times per year.

June 2017 Meeting

In June, CIHT held its Annual General Meeting and Presidential Inauguration. Outgoing President Steve Rowsell gave an insightful and humorous summary of his year in office, including mentions of his two visits to the Region, at the Annual Dinner & Awards, and for the Presentations Competition, in the spring. A short ceremony then officially handed over the chains of office to his successor, Andreas Markides, who will serve as President of CIHT until June 2018. We look forward to welcoming him to our Dinner in October and other events in the coming months.

Prior to the AGM, a usual Council meeting took place, and included a lively debate on the challenges of Brexit to the industry over the next few years. Speakers included John Parkinson, from DfT, and James Bryce, Director of Strategic Workforce Planning at Arcadis. Both prioritised areas around people and skills, standards & legislation, devolution and research & development as key anchors for the industry as negotiations on Brexit continue.

In particular, James Bryce's presentation on the skills gap and the changing nature of work highlighted particularly where both CIHT and industry needs to catch up, not only to meet the ever growing demand for engineers, consultants and contractors, but also the 'productivity gap'. New employment models are also emerging that see graduates and early career professionals being much more flexible when moving between employers and skillsets.

September 2017 Meeting

Council in September marks the start of a new session of activities, as new members were welcomed, and work priorities set for the year ahead. As with the previous year, Council's main objectives are to deliver on the Strategic Plan, which runs to the year 2021.

This meeting welcomed the recent winner of the Wolfson Economics Prize, Gergely Raccuja to present his topic 'Miles Better: simple and fair charging'. His take on the road pricing debate involves scrapping fuel and vehicle excise duty in favour of charging through a new payment system run jointly by the DVLA and major insurers, based on distance travelled, the environmental footprint of the vehicle used. As expected, the excellent presentation was followed by a lively debate on its feasibility, the conclusion being to generally support the idea, but with further research required to address issues raised and refine the details. With car tax revenues in steady decline, it's importance will only become ever more pressing.

Launching An Introduction To....Series

CIHT North East & Cumbria has teamed up with the local branch of the Transport Planning Society to bring an innovative and exciting series of technical seminars and events over the coming 12 months.

Our *Introduction To* series will cover a multitude of core technical competencies in a convenient 'bitesize' format, lasting no more than an hour over a lunchtime period. It's our response to the current skills shortage in the industry, both regionally and nationally, and the growing clamour for professional accreditation from clients and those following a structured career path.

The traditional engineering routes are well established and lead to recognised accreditation such as CEng, IEng and EngTech. Of no less importance is the Transport Planning Professional (TPP) qualification, launched nearly ten years ago, and steadily growing in popularity as an equivalent type accreditation for transport planners.

For those starting out their careers, the Transport Planning Society also established the Professional Development Scheme (PDS) around the same time as TPP. The PDS is a structured training programme designed to equip transport planners with the broad range of knowledge and experience that will equip them for a rewarding career within the industry and also enable a direct transition into working towards TPP.

The range of topics has been chosen to cover the core technical competencies required to complete either PDS training or professional accreditation, and seminars are planned which will cover topics in engineering, transport and development planning.

Our objective is that each seminar, or combination of seminars, will go some way to completing the Knowledge level of competency for that technical subject, in whichever professional route is being followed. Where a subject area is covered by more than one seminar, we have grouped these together, where best possible, so they can be attended over a short period of time in one 'chunk'.

All seminars and events are free to attend and will be promoted in advance. Our programme currently extends through to summer 2018 and, inevitably, may be subject to amendment. We will advertise any changes to the programme well in advance.

[Click here](#) to view our current programme in the *Introduction To* series. If you're currently following a training or accreditation path, or are just interested in an individual topic, we urge you to come along and support each event. This is a new initiative so we welcome feedback and comments on the programme as it progresses. Please [email us](#) if you would like any further information.

Your CIHT: News and Support Services

Local Mentoring Service

The CIHT North East and Cumbria region offers a Mentor service to help candidates prepare for their Professional Reviews. Support is available across each of the following qualification routes:

- Transport Planning Professional (TPP);
- Chartered Engineer (CEng);
- Incorporated Engineer (IEng); or
- Engineering Technician (EngTech).

To find out more about working with a Mentor, please either register at www.CIHT.MentorMatch.Me or send us an email at northeastandcumbria@ciht.org.uk.

We arrange mentor/mentee drop in sessions where Professional Review candidates can come along to have their portfolio reviewed, ask questions or simply find out more about the Review process. Keep an eye on the NE&C website and our weekly mailshots for details of the next session.

For those that have completed the CIHT's Mentor Training, you can register as a mentor at www.CIHT.MentorMatch.Me

For those that would like to undertake CIHT's Mentor Training, please contact us at northeastandcumbria@ciht.org.uk for dates of our next Training Sessions.

A review of Local Mentoring



Jonathan Barlow,
Website and Communications
Officer, CIHT (NE&C Branch)

"Having recently moved from the south of England and with no local TPP accredited individuals within my Company, I needed way to continually pursue and ensure the portfolio I've created would not be wasted.

After logging on, I could search for a mentor who had a similar background and was based locally.

Because of this service, the help of my Mentor and through continued perseverance I'm aiming to achieve TPP accreditation by the end of 2017."

Cross Promoting our Events

We've made great inroads in recent months to jointly promote events and other initiatives with our sister institutions. Alongside the local representations of ICE, RTPI, TPS and CIC, we're developing a network that maximises the promotional abilities of each, and allows members access to technical events, such as Introduction To series, and informal social occasions, that wouldn't be possible in isolation.

Some recent examples are shown below. Going forward we'll develop these networks, including through the Young professionals Network, and add others, to improve the offer still further



Joint Institution Calendar Available

As well as our NE&C pages on the CIHT website, there are also alternative ways to find out about technical events and social activities organised by ourselves and our partner Institutions.

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) North East area is a focal point for CIHT (NE&C) and sister Institutions to promote their seminars and activity programs. Their website is a useful tool to see the whole range of events going on the Region from all participating organisations, and broaden your professional knowledge, adding to your Continuing Professional Development logs.

The website acts as a joint calendar for all participating Institutions including CIHT, and can be added to a number of different email calendars, including Outlook.

Visit the website at www.cicne.co.uk to see the latest calendar of events and further about CIC itself.

North East & Cumbria AGM 2017

In May, the Region held its Annual General Meeting at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Newcastle upon Tyne.

Over 30 people attended from across all sectors in the highways and transportation industry to assess the previous twelve months and reflect on a solid programme of events and activities. Outgoing Chair Anthony Robinson thanked the Committee for their support during the 2016/17 session, citing particular achievements such as:

- Site visits to the New Wear Crossing,
- Hosting the inaugural TRICS national conference,
- Professional qualifications workshops, and of course;
- The 2016 Annual Dinner.



Outgoing Chair Anthony Robinson gives his final speech

Following Anthony's farewell speech and a talk by Sally Devine from Britannia Walk emphasizing the importance of corporate partners both locally and nationally, the Chairmanship was officially handed across to Darran Kitchener for two years at the helm of the North East and Cumbria Region. During his initial speech Darran thanked Anthony for his excellent work on behalf of the Region, before outlining the key themes for the next two years. These are as follows;

- Promote **Diversity** and **Integration** – work more with other Regions, Institutions, public and private bodies, and also within the NE&C Region;
- Encourage **Education** and **Knowledge** sharing – within the CIHT, wider Engineering community and from a 'grass-roots' level;
- **Build** our membership – both from the YPG and also by encouraging additional 'experienced' members from our industries.

The Region's forward programme will be based around the key themes, translating these into deliverables such as a further visit to the New Wear Crossing and the *Introduction To* series of skills seminars based around core technical competencies required for CIHT professional qualifications such as CEng and TPP, to name but a few.

In order to achieve these, Darran called upon fellow professionals working in highways and transportation to play a role in making the CIHT North East & Cumbria Region really stand out.

The following Members were also elected onto the NE&C Committee at the AGM:

- Vice Chair; Nicola Hill
- Treasurer; Malcolm Smith
- Secretary; John Barrell

Other members of the Committee were selected in the days and weeks following the AGM, and more details of the new Committee structure can be found on pages 5 and 6. We hope to provide effective leadership and deliver a great program of events over the next 12 months. But we are always seeking fresh faces and ideas, so if you want to get involved on our Committee we want to hear from you. Please email us at northeastandcumbria@ciht.org.uk for further information. Here's to an exciting 2017/18!



Anthony Robinson hands over the reigns to Darran Kitchener (left); the new Chair and his two predecessors, Anthony Robinson and Phil Freestone

North East & Cumbria New Committee Structure (1)

Phil Freestone (Past Chair)

Since the new North East and Cumbria region was formed back in 2015/16, the Executive Group has been working hard to establish a new committee structure that will better support its members across the expanded region.

The first stage in this process was the establishment of five liaison groups, who were all tasked with developing and delivering their own action plans. Given the geographic scale of the new region, it was deemed appropriate to begin by establishing three sub-regional groups, splitting the region into three geographic areas, namely:

- Northumbria Sub Group – covering Tyne and Wear, Durham and Northumberland
- Teesside Sub Group – covering Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees
- Cumbria Sub Group – covering the county of Cumbria and geography of the former Northern Branch

The three liaison groups are responsible for CIHT operations in their respective area, tasked with developing their own programmes of events, engaging with members and raising the profile of CIHT.

The remaining two sub groups both operate across the entire NE&C region. The first of these is the Young Professionals sub-group (YPG). Since its establishment in 2013, the YPG has evolved into a very successful forum, delivering its own programme of technical events, careers events and networking events throughout the year, often working closely with similar groups from our sister institutions. The YPG provide a key forum of support for both students and early career professionals.

The fifth sub-group, again covering the entire NE&C region, is the Academia and Research group. Building upon a tradition of close working relationships with local universities, the group has been formalised, with the universities of Newcastle, Teesside and Northumbria all represented on the committee. The group facilitates closer working relationships between the Universities and Colleges, and provides us with an enviable programme of seminars detailing the latest research from the UK and beyond.

The second stage in the development of the new committee structure was to formalise other key working groups, to ensure that all elements of the regional action plan is delivered successfully and to a high standard. This includes the development of key support teams including:

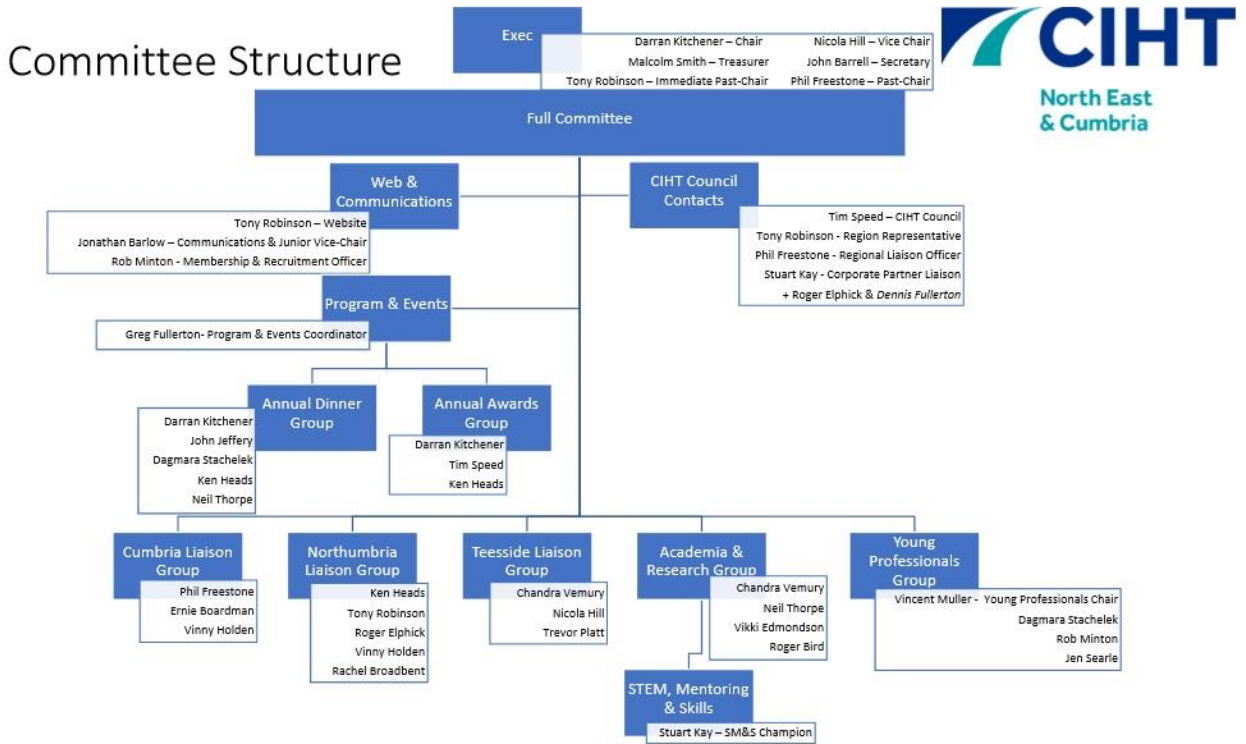
- Website and Communications to ensure high quality and regular communication with our membership;
- Programme and Events to provide support in the organisation and delivery of events across the region
- STEM, Mentoring and Skills group which promotes education and development from those of school-age all the way through to achieving your professional qualifications
- Annual Dinner group tasked with the delivery of the keynote event of the CIHT NE&C programme
- Awards sub-groups who are responsible for arranging the programme of awards throughout the year, including both the CIHT NE&C annual awards and local university awards

All those elected onto the North East and Cumbria committee are assigned to one of the above working groups and play a key role in meeting the objectives of that group, and the region as a whole.

We believe that by creating this new committee structure we will be able to better engage with our members, provide a higher quality service to them, and maximise the profile of the CIHT across the North East and Cumbria region.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the committee, please contact northeastandcumbria@ciht.org.uk

North East & Cumbria New Committee Structure (2)



2017-2019 North East & Cumbria Committee Structure

NE&C visits the A19 Silverlink 'Triple Decker' scheme

During June the North East and Cumbria visited another of largest and most prominent projects in the North East; the A19/A1058 (Silverlink) Improvement Scheme.

The £75 million scheme aims to reduce collisions and improve journey times along the A19, as well as facilitate economic growth into the adjacent Silverlink Retail Park and nearby Cobalt Business Park.

Hosted by James Keogh, the Project Manager of Sisk/Lagan JV, attendees were treated to a comprehensive overview of the Roundabout scheme and the technical challenges that are being solved in order to construct a scheme of this magnitude to the exacting standards of Highways England. Important to the work that they currently undertake is Health and Safety and these requirements were also presented to the members as they conveyed the importance of site safety and good working practices.



James Keogh of Sisk/Lagan JV outlining the Project to members of the NE&C Region

Following this talk, members were then invited to view the progress of the scheme with James who also discussed the practicalities of delivering this scheme whilst ensuring that traffic flow, in excess of 37,000 vehicles per day, continues throughout the life of the scheme which is expected to be completed in Spring 2019.

This project also boasted the largest turnout of any recent event with over 30 individuals from both the public and private sectors attending to see how the scheme is progressing.

Reflecting on the event, Darran Kitchener Chairman of the North East & Cumbria Region remarked *"It's not often that third parties are able to have access to one of the highest profile and complex highways schemes in the area, as a result it was a privilege to be invited to the A19 to see what Highways England and their delivery partners are constructing. I was astounded as to the complexity. I'm sure that my and I can't wait to see what the next two years brings in this truly ambitious project!"*

The CIHT would like to place on record it's thanks with Sisk/Lagan JV and to the individual officers who donated their time to promote their scheme to us. We hope that the scheme continues to progress smoothly and we can't wait to see how it looks in 2018.

For information on future events please visit the [North East and Cumbria website](#);



The A19 under construction at Silverlink (left) and members of the NE&C Region on site viewing the Project's development (right)

CIHT Bulletin: Reviews of Recent Events

Annual Golf Competition

Allan Short

A day in late June that threatened rain but turned out fine saw seven competitors in this year's regional competition returning again to Prudhoe Golf Course. This course proves to be popular with its variety of testing holes but offset by yardage that favours those that don't hit those tremendous drives we see in the Majors!

The game is played Stableford with full handicap allowance. The second and third holes proved to be tricky with only two players scoring any points. Only Nick Clennett managed a four point hole on the par five 9th, but despite this he finished well off the pace.

John Atkinson retained the guest trophy with 31 points and Gary Clarke won the member's trophy with a magnificent 32 points. Both the nearest the pins on the 11th and 15th were snapped up by John Barrell, in both cases being the only person to land a ball on the green!!

We look forward to returning to Prudhoe next summer so block out the date in your diary for another fine day's golf.

Allan Short has since retired his position as Golf Secretary, handing the baton over to Nick Clennett. The NE&C Committee and Region as a whole extend its thanks to Allan for his hard work and enthusiasm over the years in organising the Annual Golf Competition.



Winners of the Annual Golf Competition at Prudhoe

Return to the New Wear Crossing

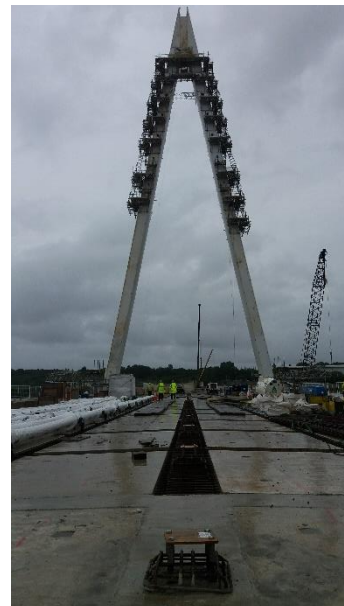
Jonathan Barlow

On a rainy afternoon in June the North East and Cumbria Branch travelled to Sunderland for a second visit to the New Wear Crossing.

Whilst the weather was somewhat different to June 2016 it didn't dampen the spirits of those who attended. The highlight of the visit involved walking onto the bridge deck to see just how far this project has come, and continues to do so as the structure is pulled across the River Wear.

Darran Kitchener, who led the event on behalf of the NE&C commented *"despite the weather it was fantastic to see how Sunderland City Council and their partners Farrans Construction and Victor Buyck Steel Construction JV have come since we visited last year. This is one of the most exciting Civil Engineering projects in the Region and I cannot wait to see what another year brings!"*

Construction is scheduled to last until 2019 and will unlock. To follow its progress, please [visit the official website](#).



CIHT members walking across the NWC bridge deck

CIHT Bulletin: Reviews of Recent Events

An Introduction To... Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems

Darran Kitchener

The first of the Region's "An Introduction To..." seminar series events kicked off on the 16th August with a talk from CIHT Corporate Partner, ACO. Delivered by two of the company's Senior Managers, the attendees not only heard about the difference systems on offer, but also why climate change is altering the way designers are thinking about surface water and run-off from developments.

In addition, ACO discussed the benefits of designing SUDS over conventional systems, including examples of previous schemes delivered by ACO and the cost savings that can be achieved, both in initial capital costs and for the ongoing maintenance of the drainage systems.

For each of the attendees, the well-received CPD-certified seminar has offered a true introduction to the subject, allowing for an outline understanding which can be used as an evidence base for professional qualifications such as TPP, CEng, IEng and EngTech.

Further information on our "Introduction To..." series, including the latest programme, can be found on our website



Rebuilding the A591 in Cumbria

Phil Freestone

The late summer regional NE&C Committee meeting was held at the Hallmark Hotel in Carlisle on 21st September 2017. It marked the Region's first formal committee meeting to be held in the area since the formation of the Teesside, Northumbria and Cumbria local groups.

The event began with a membership drop-in session, offering attendees an opportunity to meet the committee and enquire on all aspects of membership, including advice on professional qualifications.

This was followed by an open committee meeting, providing those in attendance with an overview of the recent and upcoming activities of the region. Phil Freestone and Darran Kitchener highlighted plans for further events to be held in Cumbria, and invited members to participate in the development of the programme.

The committee meeting was followed by a technical seminar on the rebuilding of the A591, a key route through the Lake District National Park. Dave Pluse, Director at WSP, provided an engaging overview of the successful rebuild following the catastrophic damage caused by Storm Desmond in December 2015. David project managed the scheme on behalf of Highways England, and provided a thorough insight of how his team overcame the challenges in the reconstruction, and the innovation in future-proofing the resilience of the route, successfully completing the scheme in spring 2016 ahead of the crucial peak tourist season.

The event was well attended with representatives of Kier, Highways England, WSP and AECOM present. The seminar marked the second CIHT NE&C event in Cumbria in recent months, following March's successful road safety seminar held in Penrith. Please keep checking the events programme for upcoming technical seminars, networking events and socials to be held in Cumbria.

If you would like to assist with developing our programme of events in Cumbria or for further information, please [email us](#).



Participants at the A591 Cumbria event (L&R)

Membership

Membership of the CIHT North East & Cumbria Region continues to grow steadily, with almost 730 registered members, as of the end of September 2017.

Three-quarters of the membership are located in the Northumbria sub-area – made up of Tyne and Wear, Durham and Northumberland. Almost 15% of the membership are based in Cumbria, with a further 10% represented in Teesside. Both the Teesside and Cumbria sub-groups have action plans to increase the membership in their respective sub-areas and we look forward to welcoming new members in the coming months.

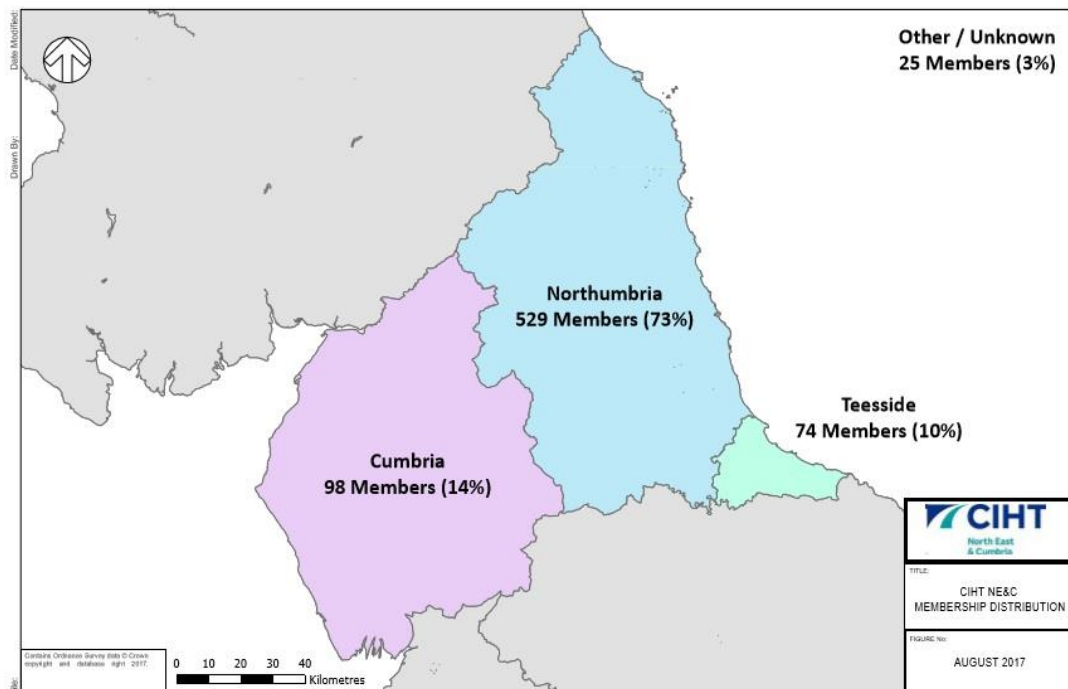
Gender	No of Members
Male	595
Female	131
Total	726

Students make up a significant proportion of our regional membership – almost 35% – reflecting the strong relationships that we have with key Sixth Forms, Colleges and Universities across the region. We do encourage Students to transfer their grade of membership to the relevant Graduate or Associate grade once you have completed your studies. Information on changing your membership grade can be found [here](#).

We have made positive progress on encouraging more women to join CIHT, but there is still lots of work to be done. We will continue to encourage greater participation through our support of initiatives such as Women in Engineering Day and Women in STEM. As always, please encourage your colleagues and new starters to register for CIHT membership. Information about the various membership grades, and the benefits to CIHT membership can be found [here](#).

Area	Members	Member %
Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, Durham	529	73%
Teesside and Darlington	74	10%
Cumbria	98	13%
Other	25	3%
Total	726	100%

Membership Grade	No of Members
Fellow	48
Member	388
Associate	8
Graduate	10
Apprentice	15
Student	257
Total	726



A Day in the Life of...

Greg Fullerton

Director of Traffic Engineering,
Global Partnering Solutions Ltd



Terms of reference

I am one of the business founders and a Director of the Traffic Engineering Section within Global Partnering Solutions. However this is not his only role as he is also heavily involved in both the Business Development side of the business in order to establish GPS in the current marketplace and the day-to-day operational duties to run and make the company a success.

Suitability for the job

I believe I bring substantial hands on experience within the civil engineering field with over 15 years hands on experience that has allowed me to swiftly progress my career through the ranks across both the private and public sectors and ultimately developing my career at a managerial level.

My extensive experience therefore, has resulted in gaining substantial knowledge and understanding relating to Traffic Engineering, Highway Design and Civil Design fields which has allowed me to undertake an integral role on multi million pound contracts.

I am also RoSPA qualified, a Member of the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation and a CSCS Professional and Managers cardholder.

I'm currently working towards a PRINCE2 2 Foundation & Practitioners project management qualification and achieving SoRSA and my CEng status.

Possessing a wealth of experience, I believe I bring in-depth engineering management experience to the business, which is vital to the Design Consultancy and future development of Global Partnering Solutions.

Some of my major project achievements consist of High Street West Phases 1, 2 and 3 City Centre Public Realm Works which was approximately £20 million.

Where based

I am located in our Head Office at Sunderland.
Global Partnering Solutions Ltd, Suite E2, Innovator House, Silverbriar, North East Business & Innovation Centre, Enterprise Park East, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, SR5 2TP

Transport to work

My chosen mode of travel to the office is by car.

Top of In-tray

Outside of my duties at Global Partnering Solutions (GPS), I'm a Committee Member for the North East and Cumbria Branch delivering the Program and Events for the region.

Best aspects of the job

With every project, it is so satisfying to be a contributing factor and to make a positive impact and difference to people's lives and thrive on seeing a project progress from inception to completion. A recent project that I have been involved with over the last 3 years is the regeneration and public realm works in Sunderland City Centre. This has seen the city centre being transformed from a run-down area into a thriving, vibrant high street once again.

Worst aspect

I would have to say, for myself, the worst aspect of the job is when you are unsuccessful in winning a tender or bid. Whilst it is understandable that you can't win every bid, the fact that you have put in so much work into a task, only to be unsuccessful is a 'hard pill to swallow'. Such a situation arose recently where we narrowly missed out by a couple of marks, on a major framework bid that GPS unfortunately just missed out on. However, we still look to take the positive from the feedback given and turn this into a constructive learning experience for the any future project/framework.

What is the most important transport issue today

I feel that the most important transport issue today that needs addressing is the skills shortage gap within the built environment. With the economic growth of the country's major infrastructure projects, I feel more companies need to start introducing apprenticeship schemes to help plug this skills gap. Introducing such schemes will not only benefit both the individual but the engineering industry as a whole so major infrastructure projects can continue to be delivered on time and budget, helping to boost the country's economic growth.

How do you relax

I enjoy playing football and like to head to the gym 3-4 times on a week to unwind. I also like to travel and go snowboarding every year. I believe that a combination of keeping fit and travelling is integral to a work life balance between my career and recreational life.

Ambition

On a personal level I have a number of ambitions.

- I wish to see my career developing towards Chartered membership status within the CIHT.
- I propose to grow Global Partnering Solutions on both a regional and national basis in order to make a difference in the Built Environment industry.
- For the future I intend to introduce an apprentice scheme within GPS and undertake a mentoring role, helping all staff and apprentices' progress towards their professional qualifications.
- This year I also plan on putting forward a submission for the Young Professional of the Year Awards for the CHIT North East & Cumbria region.

I must also get a new photo – this one's quite old and I've now had a haircut!

North East & Cumbria Annual Dinner and Awards 2017

Annual Dinner

Join us for our flagship event in the North East & Cumbria Region's calendar. A night to celebrate the achievements of our industry and catch up with friends and colleagues, with a four-course dinner, guest speakers and to announce the winners of our Annual Awards for 2017. We will also welcome our new CIHT President Andreas Markides to the Region for the first time.

The evening will again be held in the Assembly Rooms, Newcastle Upon Tyne on the Thursday 19th October.

Tickets are priced at £65+VAT per person and can be booked individually or as a table of between 8-12 guests. Individual concessions may available on request.

[Click here](#) for more information, or for bookings please email us at northeastandcumbria@ciht.org.uk



Annual Awards

The Annual Awards celebrate the very best projects and people working in our Region across the highways and transportation sector.

Once again the year saw an excellent range of entries submitted for our four Awards categories including, for the first time this year, an Apprentice Award to celebrate the very best people starting their careers in highways and transportation on an Apprenticeship scheme. Initial judging produced the following shortlist in each Awards category – the winners of each will be announced at our Annual Dinner on 19th October, at the Assembly Rooms, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Apprentice Award – sponsored by Arup

ARUP

Awarded to an individual who has demonstrated excellent progress early within their career, going above and beyond their daily duties to add value to their businesses and assist their colleagues.

Adam Jenson, Jacobs
Jake Pickering, SYSTRA
Keanan Stephenson, Sunderland City Council

Young Professional Award – sponsored by Milestone Transport Planning

MILESTONE
TRANSPORT PLANNING

Awarded to a young person, aged 35 years and under, on 1st September 2017, who has made a significant and exceptional contribution to the development of highways and transportation.

Greg Fullerton, Global Partnering Solutions
Daniel Hutton – Lumsden and Carroll
Rachael Oliver, Sunderland City Council

Sustainable Project Award – sponsored by Jacobs

JACOBS

Awarded to those projects, products, research or policy initiatives delivered by the highways and transportation sector, that demonstrate a positive contribution to sustainable working and living in the North East & Cumbria, or by those working in the region.

A1 Lindisfarne Junction Improvements, South Tyneside Council & Galliford Try
Broadway Cycling and Walking Improvements, North Tyneside Council & Capita
High Street West Phase 1, Sunderland City Council & Lumsden and Carroll

Overall Project of the Year Award

FARRANS

Recognising outstanding research, concepts, innovation, design and excellence within the North East & Cumbria transportation community, with tangible benefits, now or on the future, for those who live, work or visit the region.

A1 in Northumberland Traffic Model, Jacobs
Enterprise Zone Infrastructure, Sunderland City Council & Lumsden and Carroll
High Street West Phase 1, Sunderland City Council & Lumsden and Carroll
Morpeth Northern Bypass, Northumberland County Council & Carillion