

Date of Reported Meeting: Tuesday 29th March 2018

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 5th June 2018

KEY MATTERS

Reform of the Construction Business Model

A report was given on how the construction industry's current business model is unsustainable according to Build UK's Chair, Mark Castle of Mace. He had addressed the trade association members of Build UK recently and given a strong address on this theme. In the view of the Executive, retention is a major contributor to this issue, as is the fact that risk is currently not priced into tenders and that liabilities are currently allowed to be uncapped. It was agreed that letters would be drafted about retention and the Brexit skills shortage which would then be sent to SECA, CIC, CLC, BEIS and the Infrastructure Procurement Authority. It was also requested that Members ask their employees to send these letters on to their MPs. It was agreed that a briefing note on the issues in the construction industry also be drafted and sent by Members to their MPs as a follow up to the letters.

Executive Committee Formation

It was noted that the Executive committee needed two new members- one to replace Martin Blower who is stepping down and one to expand the committee and help manage the workload. It was decided that John Chick should join due to his leadership of the Learning and Development Forum and that Malcom O'Sullivan would join as a long standing member of the Quarterly Committee FPS. It was agreed that Alasdair Henderson would take over representation with Build UK from Martin Blower.

EFFC Officer

The Executive are still seeking a replacement for Martin who is willing to remain in the role for the next 12 months. All are encouraged to consider putting themselves forward for the role which involves travelling overseas three times a year.

FPS Auditor

The CV of Julie Parnham was considered and approved as potential auditor. However her day rate is higher than that currently paid. It was therefore suggested she shadow Martin Bills on an audit and determine a per audit fee so that we can get something of value.

FPS SI Standards

This issue has been taken up by the Technical committee as a focus for the year. The LDSA had produced some guidance on piling into London clay that highlighted the issue of poor Ground Investigation data. It was agreed that the FPS should focus on defining a standard of what is required from GI. An article from Dinesh Patel at Arup re: GI and the LDSA guide was reviewed.

FPS Accounts – Apprenticeship fund

There is a large surplus in the FPS Apprenticeship fund (£363k) that has accrued over time owing to income outstripping what has been invoiced by Members providing training and facilities to the FPS. Once the Trailblazer is live this fund shall cease to grow and there will be some costs for the current scheme to be incurred. It was agreed that the question of how the fund can be used to best benefit Members and the objectives of the FPS shall be raised with the Members.

Other subjects are to be covered elsewhere on the AGM agenda.