****

**TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT October 2021**

**Date of Reported Meeting:** Thursday 9th September 2021

**Date of Next Meeting:** Thursday 4th November 2021

**CIRIA guides**

Coffey have been confirmed as Lead Authors, alongside Cementation, Bauer Technologies and Aarsleff as co-authors, with the project manager as Chris Presdee. The authoring team have completed the outlying draft which has been reviewed with the steering committee. The first draft will be completed by the end of 2021, but there had been some delays on the initial programme due to some changes at CIRIA.

**Committee Chair**

New Committee Chairs and Vice Chairs are being sought, following a lengthy successful tenure by Mark Pennington of BBGE. The new Chair and Vice Chairs will be expected to remain in position for a two-year tenure, with the Vice Chair succeeding into the role of Chair.

**Eurocode Updates**

* **Revision of EN1997-3 Clause 6 – Pile Design**

The enquiry draft will go out for national comment in October, through BSI, and it is at this point at which the FPS should become engaged to ensure that changes requested previously have been made, and an independent pair of eyes will need to review the draft. There have been changes to the way the GI report is specified and the project team, and other project groups have offered far less specification of what should be in the GI report, including some fundamental principles which it is perceived by FPS to have been watered down, and will need to be addressed when the enquiry period is open.

**Guidance on Minimum SI Requirements / Improving Ground Investigation Data**

It is hoped the committee will be able to work together to create clear concise guidance about the minimum SI requirements for piling works to tie in with the Eurocode. Draft guidance has been circulated and feedback is awaited.

**LABC / Premier Guarantee**

A discussion took place on the use of British Standards vs Eurocodes being used by House Builders, and it was agreed there was a need to run a CPD webinar to educate house builders and warranty providers on the matter. The committee are currently collating a list of invitees.

**Level 7 Degree Apprenticeship in Geotechnical Engineering**

The first intake of the Level 7 Degree Apprenticeship will take place in September 2022. The Universities who have expressed interest are currently: Strathclyde; Birmingham; Leeds & Portsmouth, and potentially Imperial who have requested further information.

**Technical Note – Base of Pile Reinforcement**

A note on the base of pile reinforcement will soon be published via the FPS website.