



Council Report

27 June 2024





CEO Report

Greetings and a warm welcome to the June 2024 Council Report.

10th June saw our Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address which celebrates the exceptional year we have seen and welcomes the beginning of a new Presidency. But it also marks the end of the 'CIBSE Year' with a number of our Chairs, from the various networks within CIBSE, coming to the end of their tenure. The role that these individuals play is significant in not only ensuring that our community learns, pays it forward and stays connected but in the continuing focus on our charitable objectives as set out on our Royal Charter – namely 'the promotion, for the benefit of the public in general, of the art, science and practice of building services engineering'. I would personally like to thank all of them for the work they have done and the difference they make within CIBSE.

Our AGM was a chance for our outgoing President, Adrian Catchpole, to reflect on the success of last year and I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to him for his exemplary leadership and dedication during his Presidency. His unwavering commitment has significantly advanced our institution's mission and impact.

I am also delighted to welcome Fiona Cousins as our new CIBSE President. Fiona brings a wealth of experience and a global perspective, through her role as Chair of ARUP in the Americas, that will undoubtedly continue to steer us with even more new successes. In her Presidential Address, Fiona launched the research that CIBSE has recently commissioned on *Building Performance Reimagined* which poses questions and farsighted scenarios for our sector and challenges us to think about the building services world in a different way. The document is available to all to [download](#) and Fiona's address can be watched [here](#).

Additionally, I am pleased to welcome Vince Arnold as President Elect, whose vision and expertise will further advance our collective goals. This gives us a strong leadership bench on our Board of Trustees and we look forward to continuing our journey of innovation and excellence, fostering a global community of building services professionals dedicated to creating a sustainable future.

I am pleased to share that CIBSE has continued its exceptional performance over the first quarter of 2024. We have witnessed remarkable growth in our membership which has reached an all time high. Specifically, CIBSE's membership has increased from 21,284 in January to 23,045 in June 2024, marking an 8.3% uplift. CIBSE's output of knowledge and guidance remains robust, as well as the commercial activities which have also excelled, contributing to CIBSE's ongoing success. This period has been marked by significant achievements across all fronts, reflecting the dedication and hard work of our entire CIBSE community.

Divisions and networks are thriving, with every group achieving notable progress in their respective fields. In April, following on from extensive consultation with the sector, we launched the innovative Workplace Exhaust Ventilation Group (WEVG) to tackle crucial issues regarding workplace ventilation. This initiative provides a collaborative platform for industry experts to advance ventilation practices, building upon the groundwork laid by the now dormant Institute of Local Exhaust Ventilation Engineers (ILEVE). This strategic step reaffirms CIBSE's dedication to enhancing air quality and ventilation standards in workplaces.

The CIBSE Regions have conducted their 2024-2025 AGMs, welcoming nine new Chairs and preparing committee members with induction sessions. Highlights include the sold-out *CIBSE Scotland Annual Conference*, *Retrofit2Perform*, and a seminar on *The Building Safety Act*. The Hong Kong Region celebrated its 45th anniversary with a dinner featuring the Under Secretary for Housing and hosted technical events on water engineering and decarbonisation. The UAE Region has launched its annual awards, with Farah Naz, CIBSE UAE committee member, being named Most Influential Woman in the author category at the Filmfare Middle East's Most Influential Women 2024 Awards. She achieved the award for writing the UAE's first book on net zero cities. The ANZ Region's upcoming seminar series focuses on achieving net zero, and the *CIBSE ANZ Young Engineers Awards* introduced new categories. CIBSE Ireland reactivated its Workshare Exchange Programme, held a student competition, and organised a site tour of the DU Polaris building, aligning with CIBSE's net zero goals, while also celebrating International Women's Day.

The Young Engineers Network (YEN) held its AGM where Ruth Tatanga was elected Global Chair, aiming to place a young engineer on each CIBSE committee by April 2025. I am delighted to welcome Ruth into that role and look forward to seeing her lead the continued success of one of our most engaged and successful groups. All our Special Interest Groups held their AGMs, including the newly renamed Heat Networks Group and we also celebrated the launch of the [CIBSE Sustainability Special Interest Group](#). Other notable events included cross-group technical collaborations and the Lifts Group's first Scotland presentation. The CIBSE Patrons' annual Policy Update event introduced a new format and received high praise. The Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity (EDI) panel promoted collaboration, and leadership transitions occurred in WIBSE and the Fellows Network. Initiatives across Minority Ethnic Groups, LGBTQ+, and Neurodiversity focused on planning and strengthening their impact within the CIBSE community and the building services sector.

End Point Assessment (EPA) excelled with enhanced processes benefiting apprentices and stakeholders. Ofqual praised CIBSE for a successful compliance statement submission while fourteen new assessors were recruited to meet demand, with 165 apprentices applying for EPA in 2024. The CIBSE STEM Ambassador program saw increased participation. The upcoming CIBSE Flush Challenge aims to promote building services engineering in schools while the newly introduced [CIBSE Chartered Organisation programme](#) sets high competency standards for organisations in the sector.

CIBSE continues to release essential knowledge resources, with recent publications such as *TM65.3 addressing embodied carbon in building services for logistics centres* and upcoming releases on Commissioning Code A on air distribution systems, R18 on retrofit revisits and Guide K on electricity in buildings. In the first quarter, CIBSE's training programmes surpassed targets, driven by the success of bespoke offerings and the Heat Training Grant. The grant, which trained 95 delegates, has been applied for a second year of funding. Additionally, despite the closure of the Engineering Centre (more on that later), remote delivery remains popular, with a shift towards corporate training at client venues for face-to-face sessions.

CIBSE's events hold immense significance for the industry, serving as platforms for knowledge exchange and professional networking. The *Decarbonisation Conference* held in June facilitated crucial updates on sustainability activities, addressing pressing environmental concerns. Similarly, the upcoming [CIBSE Building Futures: Performance reimagined conference](#) scheduled for October, promises to delve into innovative strategies for enhancing the performance of buildings, reflecting the industry's evolving needs and aspirations. Moreover, events like the [Young Engineers Awards](#) not only celebrate emerging talent but also foster a culture of innovation and excellence within the field. Likewise, the [Careers Fair](#) provides a unique opportunity for professionals and companies to connect, fostering collaborations and career advancements. Additionally, prestigious ceremonies such as the

[SFE Façade Awards](#) scheduled for 6-7 Nov 2024 and [Build2Perform Live](#), scheduled for November, serve as showcases for cutting-edge advancements in design and engineering, inspiring industry professionals and driving progress.

The CIBSE technical team has been deeply involved in addressing some of the most pivotal consultations within the industry. Our collaboration with the Government and other pertinent institutions in response to policy has reached new heights, evidenced by four key highlights this quarter: The Heat Network Zoning Consultation, The Future Homes and Buildings Standards, the Home Energy Model and the Future Homes Standard Assessment within the Home Energy Model.

Our pivotal contribution to initiatives like the UKNZCBS and spearheading a response to climate change and sustainability through the Climate Action Plan underscore our increasing influence and solidify our position as a foremost expert in the field. Additionally, CIBSE hosted a dinner with Dr Alan Whitehead, Shadow MP for Energy, in May which was attended by industry leaders from across the sector. The debate was more than robust but it also gave the opportunity to share the sustainability initiatives and challenges within building services with a view to influencing policy thinking.

I am delighted that I can now share the news that our Balham Head Office and Engineering Centre have now been sold with the deal completing at the beginning of June. The Engineering Centre is now fully decommissioned and no longer accessible by CIBSE. However, we have negotiated a peppercorn rent with the new owners for us to remain in Delta House until the end of the year whilst we look for our new Head Office. Much work has already been done around this and we are currently pursuing several central London options.

Finally, as always, I would like to thank all our Volunteers and members for the role they play in our sector and the continued, passionate and highly engaged support they give to CIBSE.

Best, Ruth

Ruth Carter
CIBSE Chief Executive Officer