



CEO Report

October is always an exciting month in the CIBSE calendar where we have so many celebrations of all that is good in our community. But two key events always stand out for me. Firstly, the [CIBSE Young Engineers Awards \(YEAs\)](#) where we recognise the fresh, dynamic and exciting talent starting their CIBSE and engineering journeys. Every year, the line up of finalists across all categories becomes more and more impressive and I look forward to the finals on 12 October. Secondly, the President's Awards Dinner, on 13 October, where we celebrate and thank the outstanding contributions of some of our leading and most committed volunteers. This year we will recognise exceptional commitment by awarding six Bronze, three Silver and one Gold medal. This event is the jewel in the crown of CIBSE's calendar and reflects the reach we have in the sector, the wider industry and the world. I am delighted that, for the first time in many years, we will have representatives from all the non-UK CIBSE Regions at the awards, celebrating the accomplishments that are critical in driving the future of building services engineering.

2022 was a strong year for CIBSE, with the Institution producing record levels of guidance and knowledge, increasing our membership numbers, engagement and retention at a higher level than we have seen for many years, and delivering the most financially successful year in our 126-year history. 2023 is also promising to build on those successes and continue the growth, reach and impact of the Institution.

Our membership continues to grow, with 2023 seeing the highest number of UK corporate MCIBSE and ACIBSE applications since 2018 at 183 applicants. This growth is reliant on CIBSE being able to award professional registration and I am pleased to share that we passed our recent review with the Engineering Council with flying colours and have once again been licenced for the next five years.

In the June report, I shared our President Adrian Catchpole's aspirations to further our reach by registering ten STEM ambassadors per CIBSE Region by June 2024. You will be reassured to hear that considerable progress has been made against this target with four of our 13 UK Regions having already met this number, and a further three Regions just one ambassador away from achieving the target. So many of you tell me that you would not be where you are without the support you received in your early career and so I urge you to look into [becoming a STEM Ambassador](#) and paying forward what you have learned.

Our membership at all levels remains strong and whilst we are seeing 'fast feet' entering our CIBSE world, I am also delighted that our 'wise heads' remain equally as robust. I was delighted to spend a morning signing certificates of appreciation for the quite considerable number of people who have been members of CIBSE for over 50 years. We thank all of you

for the support and commitment you have given to CIBSE, but we really do appreciate those of you who have done this for over half a century.

27 June saw Dame Judith Hackett and Dr Hywel Davies awarded Honorary Fellowships to CIBSE in recognition of their lifetime contribution to the construction and building industries. Honorary Fellowships are the highest accolades that can be presented to those who are not CIBSE Members and are only awarded to individuals whose contribution has been exceptional. My sincere congratulations to Dr Davies and Dame Judith who join an illustrious and long list of exceptional achievers.

In August, Adrian and I visited Ireland where Adrian delivered an opening address at the ASHRAE-GE23: Achieving Net Zero Conference in Galway. Adrian emphasised the need for a robust route to net zero and highlighted the role CIBSE guidance and knowledge play in supporting members to lead on delivering better building performance. We also met with a number of members of the CIBSE Ireland Committee, to develop plans for enhanced engagement and activity with our membership there.

On 28 August, CIBSE ANZ signed an MOU with the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) to create a strong collaboration on how we transition the built environment to net zero. It is a partnership that I am keen to watch evolve as we further develop that relationship. The race to net zero is a team effort, and CIBSE prides itself in its willingness to work with strong partners to achieve the necessary results.

CIBSE strives to expand our global reach, reflecting the sector it serves, and we continue to work with Chairman Gary Chiang and the Committee in Hong Kong to drive growth in the region. Additionally, I look forward to further developing our international relationships when Adrian and I visit the UAE in December when CIBSE will be represented at COP28, pursuing a number of activities in driving the net zero agenda, including participating in the Reuters Climate Impact Talk. Additionally, we will be joining the CIBSE UAE annual awards ceremony which continues to go from strength to strength.

CIBSE Guides are at the very heart of what we do, and September saw the launch of the new Guide M, which, alongside TM65 and CIBSE's role in developing the UK Net Zero Carbon Standard, are examples of the significant strides CIBSE continues to take in supporting its members to take a lead on delivering better building performance. I urge you to read the section in this report around all the activity coming out of our Technical Department.

Some other key highlights within our CIBSE community that I would like to pull out include:

- New planning and budget process to be introduced across CIBSE Societies to set a clear plan and share successes across the year
- SoPHE continues to support their Young Engineers Network by reintroducing site visits to the Thames Tideway (Super Sewer) –fully booked within 24 hours
- Façade 2023 awards have seen an increase in entries for 2023 celebrating exemplar projects, the Young Façade Engineer of the Year and a Lifetime Achievement Award
- CIBSE Patrons partnered with Edinburgh University to deliver a tour that demonstrated the extraction of heat from seawater as part of a research project
- 16 August saw various new regulations published. CIBSE was ahead of our peer institutions by responding within 24 hours, and within four days published seven articles setting out the scope and headlines of the three main sets of regulations
- Guide M and Part O training is set to be delivered in 2024
- A steady increase in our in-person training courses which are starting to return to pre-pandemic levels and now account for 30% of all public training.

Back in CIBSE Head Office, there are changes to some of the senior roles in the team as we have been strengthening our Technical Department to reflect the increased breadth and

activity in that area. As you know, Dr Hywel Davies moved into the role of Chief Technical Officer last year with a remit to increase the focus on policy, government and external relations. We have therefore been searching for a new Technical Director to lead CIBSE's Technical Department and manage the team to deliver on the day-to-day responsibilities that entails.

Having carried out an extensive search with a number of highly talented and experienced individuals, the process highlighted to us that we already had exceptional technical expertise in-house, with Dr Anastasia Mylona. I am therefore delighted that Dr Mylona has been appointed as CIBSE's new Technical Director. Having led CIBSE's knowledge and research activities for the last half a decade, she brings a wealth of experience, thought leadership and vision to this role.

I am also delighted to announce that Melissa Drayton has been appointed as CIBSE's new Marketing and Communications Director. Melissa joins us from RICS, where she was their Global Head of Marketing and so brings extensive knowledge of integrating marketing with communications across both commercial and membership growth.

Melissa's strength as a senior global leader will allow us to build upon our existing marketing and communications capability to support the growing range of global activities which CIBSE is undertaking. She has a clear mandate not only on membership engagement and growth but also about increasing CIBSE's voice on the world stage.

CIBSE's relocation of its Head Office into a central London location is progressing, with the selling and premises search well underway. Whilst we work through this process, CIBSE has started the journey of putting some best practice in place, including, amongst many other activities, carrying out a Building Use Study (BUS) assessment. Following a comprehensive and robust tender process, the contract was awarded to Arup. The survey will be completed by mid-October and will play an important role in the decision-making process on what will be required from the new premises for our staff and our membership.

It would be remiss of me not to mention that we said a sad farewell to one of CIBSE's giants, Dr Gina Barney FCIBSE, who passed away in July. Dr Barney was a powerhouse within our community, a leading light within the CIBSE Lift Group, Co-Chair of the CIBSE LGBTQI+ Panel as well as the all-consuming momentum behind CIBSE's Guide D. Those few words do little justice to the force of nature that Gina was, and she will be sorely missed by all.

Lastly, I'd like to remind you all that the new mandatory CPD on building safety and sustainability will be introduced from 1 January 2024 and is being communicated to members now. Please support us by leading the way with adherence to your CPD requirements and reach out to our membership team if you need any guidance.

I look forward to welcoming you to Balham on 13 October for our next Council meeting – as always, it promises to be an exciting discussion - and of course, afterwards at the Waldorf for the President's Awards Dinner.

Thank you for your continued support and passion as part of the CIBSE Community in enabling CIBSE to achieve its goals.

Best, Ruth

Ruth Carter
CIBSE Chief Executive Officer