



CEO Report

Hello and a warm welcome to the February 2026 Council Report.

I am delighted to report that, once again, CIBSE had another strong year in 2025. We saw growth across the board but I am particularly pleased to report that membership numbers grew last year by 3%, demonstrating how CIBSE's relevance and purpose remain important to our members and our wider community. I am pleased that we saw another strong financial year with revenues being at the highest ever in our 129-year history and a healthy surplus being returned for ongoing investment into the Institution and its activities.

I am also delighted that the February Council meeting will be held in our new HQ at Saffron Hill. There has been a huge amount of work over the past few months as the lower floors are turned into our new, highly versatile Skills Hub. The CIBSE Council will be the first meeting that we host in this wonderful facility which seems right and fitting. Of course, that means there will still be a 'few tweaks' to iron out so please come with an open mind and a little bit of forgiveness!

Looking back over the past four months, we've achieved significant milestones and embraced important opportunities, reinforcing CIBSE's ongoing role in shaping the built environment and supporting our members globally. CIBSE's position in this shaping remains fundamental for our members. For example, in the UK, we are deeply involved with work being led by the MHCLG around the potential structure of the new Single Construction Regulator and the wider regulation of buildings and professionals. We are in continual engagement with the government on this and are working closely with multiple stakeholders, including the relevant fellow PEIs, industry bodies, the Engineering Council and the CIC, to name a few. There is a session at the Council meeting where this will be discussed in far more detail and we welcome Council member's input and clarity of direction.

This work is being led by Sam Baptist, who joined CIBSE last July as our Head of Government Affairs, and he has driven forward our policy and advocacy work, responding to consultations, submitting evidence to parliamentary inquiries, and engaging directly with decision-makers. Highlights include attending the [Labour Party Conference](#) for the first time, contributing to the *Embodied Carbon Summit*, supporting retrofit policy through the APPG for Future Homes and contributing to skills-focused reports such as Engineers 2030 and AI-Z of Engineering. Please do feel free to reach out to Sam if you want his involvement in your events on any of the key government initiatives we are involved in.

The long-awaited brand refresh, I am pleased to say, has now been completed and successfully launched in January. This marks an important step in strengthening CIBSE's global profile and visibility with a new fresh logo and strapline '*Inspiring people. Transforming places*'. The update reflects a more modern, cohesive and globally recognisable visual identity, aligned with CIBSE's strategic priorities and ambition to lead conversations on sustainability, building performance and professional excellence. The [refreshed brand](#) has

been rolled out across digital platforms, member communications and external publications, supporting clearer, more consistent engagement with members, partners and stakeholders around the world.

As well as member numbers growing overall in 2025, we have also seen a strong performance since our last Council meeting in October, with membership rising by 6.7% since the last Council Report, increasing from 22,188 to 23,673. This reflects the value professionals place on our guidance and support. By early February, 11,400 members have renewed, a 7.8% year-on-year increase at this point in the renewals cycle - an extremely positive position to be in.

Key membership initiatives are also progressing strongly. Our Higher-Risk Buildings registration pilot has already seen the first successful registrants and demand for End Point Assessment continues to grow, with over 500 apprentices expected to sit assessments in 2026.

Our group membership programmes for businesses and organisations are also expanding, with 124 companies engaged globally last year. Six of these have now achieved [CIBSE Endorsed Organisation status](#), recognising their sustained commitment to professional excellence. This growth reflects CIBSE's ongoing support for engineers at every stage of their careers.

Between October and December 2025, uptake in our training programmes saw a significant uplift, after what was a challenging first half of the year, delivering strong engagement. We ran 33 public courses, and our corporate training team delivered 17 courses to clients, with 168 delegates participating. Our On Demand training continues to attract strong participation, including professionals taking the Whole Life Carbon Assessment Practitioner course, all of which contribute meaningfully to CIBSE's overall training revenue.

During this period, we also launched three new courses covering Building Safety, Water Services and Interpersonal Skills. Looking ahead to 2026, we anticipate further growth in these priority areas, with new courses planned for Principal Designers and Principal Contractors, as well as updated [Heat Networks courses](#) to support the transition from CP1 to TS1.

CIBSE's societies continue to play a vital role in advancing the science, art and practice of building services engineering. In 2025, SLL hosted its *Ready Steady Light* competition and *LIGHT 25*, launched new Associate Membership criteria and delivered numerous events from Scotland to the Middle East. SoPHE celebrated the 21st anniversary of its London Dinner, raised funds for Village by Village, and launched *TM70: Tall Building Drainage Design*. SFE and SDE expanded their outreach and recognition programmes, and the new [Society of Vertical Transportation \(SoVT\)](#) formally launched, offering professional recognition and a full programme of events.

Across our regions, CIBSE engaged globally - from Hong Kong and MENA, to ANZ and Ireland - with visits, conferences, awards and workforce exchanges that strengthened local networks. Our Young Engineers Network is launching its [30 under 30 awards](#) for 2026, and our Special Interest Groups, STEM outreach and EDI initiatives continue to grow impact, engaging thousands of students, engineers, and professionals alike. These achievements reflect the dedication of our members worldwide in advancing professional standards, supporting careers, and shaping the future of our industry. Our strongest growth regions are Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand (ANZ), and Home Counties South West (HCSW). Hong Kong increased from 3,148 members on 1 January 2025 to 3,405 on 1 January 2026, representing an 8.16% increase (a net gain of 257 members). Home Counties South West grew from 959 to 1,018 members over the same period, an increase of 6.15% (59 members). Australia and New Zealand saw the highest percentage growth, rising from 774 to 878 members, a 13.44% increase (104 members).

This growth - particularly in the non-UK regions - has been driven by a wide variety of activities, including increased outreach to universities as well as stronger member engagement through face-to-face events.

In October, we were pleased to announce that [CIBSE UAE has been renamed CIBSE MENA](#), representing an important milestone in the Institution's ongoing growth and development across the Middle East and North Africa. This renaming reflects the evolving scope of the region and ensures our structure aligns with where our members are working and where the industry is expanding.

Over the past four months, our communications activity has delivered strong and sustained impact, significantly raising CIBSE's visibility and influence across both mainstream and trade media.

Our thought leadership has also been amplified through podcasts and interviews, with contributions from colleagues such as 2025/26 President Elect Dave Cooper on [Stuck in a Lift](#), Technical Director Dr Anastasia Mylona on the [DAIKIN podcast](#), and our 2025/26 President Vince Arnold in [Elemental London](#), highlighting professional leadership and impact.

Supporting members with the tools they need to design better buildings, CIBSE has recently updated and relaunched its [Weather Data](#), providing detailed and current climate information for locations across the UK and internationally. Alongside the refreshed data, the CIBSE Weather Data Selection Tool has also been enhanced, making it easier to identify the most appropriate dataset for each project.

Our technical and sustainability work has also advanced significantly. The pilot phase of the UK Net Zero Carbon Buildings Standard concluded successfully, while the Sustainable Cooling Working Group and the Climate Change Committee continue to develop guidance, training, and sector-wide best practice. Our collaboration with The Carbon Trust and Arup is producing new guidance on the embodied carbon of heat networks, and we continue to expand CIBSE's weather data and evidence base to support standards and research globally.

Knowledge generation is, as always, central for CIBSE, with a range of new publications coming out within the next six months. These include *AM10 Natural Ventilation in Non-Domestic Buildings*, *Domestic Heat Pump Design and Installation Guide*, *Health, Wellbeing and Net Zero Guide*, *TM51 Ground Source Heat Pumps*, *TM57 Integrated School Design*, *TM59 Design Methodology for the Assessment of Overheating Risk in Homes*, *TM71 Heat Transfer Coefficient*, and the *Ceiling Fans Guide*, providing the industry with the latest guidance to support sustainable, high-performing buildings.

Our [Domestic Building Services Panel](#) has now fully transitioned into CIBSE, strengthening guidance, policy engagement, and innovation in domestic buildings. Key outputs include the Domestic Heating Design Guide, published this January, and the upcoming Domestic Heat Pump Design and Installation Guide. Alongside these, the Knowledge Management Committee and Technology Committee are prioritising updates to core Guides, supporting research, and improving the accessibility and impact of our technical outputs. Collaboration with industry partners continues to be a hallmark of our work. From REHVA and ASHRAE, to BESA, Actuate UK and the CHEBS LEV group, our team is actively engaging with the sector to shape standards, improve competence, and promote innovation.

In the past few months, CIBSE has strengthened its international engagement through two highly productive visits. In October, myself and CIBSE President Vince Arnold [visited the Middle East and North Africa](#), engaging with industry leaders, policymakers and members across the UAE and Saudi Arabia. Highlights included exploring innovation in modular construction at BK Gulf, advancing sustainable urban development at the King Abdullah Financial District and supporting emerging engineers through graduate training accreditation with Egis, Arup and WSP, alongside celebrating excellence at the second annual CIBSE MENA Awards. In November, with CIBSE President Elect Dave Cooper, we [led a delegation trip to](#)

[China](#), meeting with government bodies, universities and professional partners, including Chongqing University, Guandong Province Association of Science and Technology , ArchSD and the CIBSE Hong Kong Young Engineers Network. The trip showcased CIBSE's commitment to knowledge exchange, professional development and international collaboration, reinforcing its global presence and leadership in building services engineering.

Finally, our events programme continues to highlight CIBSE's technical leadership. October and November saw the *UK Net Zero Carbon Buildings Standard* event, *Build2Perform*, the *MENA Awards*, and the follow-up *Building Performance Reimagined - What's Next?* conference, each showcasing innovation, research and practical solutions for high-performance, sustainable buildings.

Closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all our volunteers and members for their invaluable contributions to CIBSE. Your continued enthusiasm, dedication, and support are truly appreciated and make a lasting impact.

Best, Ruth

Ruth Carter
CIBSE Chief Executive Officer