



South East
Centre for the
Built Environment

28 September 2005

Stakeholders Commit to Communicate and Collaborate to Create a Better Built Environment

The South East Centre for the Built Environment (SECBE) held its first consultative Annual Stakeholder Group meeting on 27 September 2005. SECBE is fostering partnerships at a regional and national level to help stakeholders to develop their own work in context, create opportunities for collaboration and to inform the development of its own work programmes. Representatives from professional institutions, trade associations, sector skills councils, government bodies, business support bodies, research bodies and learning providers were brought together to explore better ways of working together.

The unanimous commitment from the Built Environment Stakeholders at the SECBE meeting was "***We will communicate, we will collaborate and we will create a better built environment.***"

Outlining the ethos of SECBE, Derek Rees, Chief Executive, SECBE said,

"These three actions are vital to the success of SECBE and the Sector as a whole. We will

- **collaborate**, work together to maximise impact and eliminate duplication;
- **innovate**, create solutions intentionally built on the work of others
- **educate**, help business members understand what they need to do and how to do it."

SECBE is a business owned and business led consortium to drive business performance throughout the built environment sector. With strong ties to national and regional government bodies the Stakeholder Group becomes a powerful voice to inform regional policies and a strong driver to move the industry forward. As the regional Partner for Constructing Excellence in the built environment, SECBE makes a valuable contribution to meeting national challenges."

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More follows

This event was hosted at BSRIA (Building Services Research Information Associates) who value being involved in such a powerful group. Anne King, Marketing Director of BSRIA commented " Our services to improve profitable construction, add value in manufacture and increase efficiency in facilities management align very closely with SECBE's mission of driving business performance, thus helping businesses move towards achieving a better built environment. This is the aim of all organisations present today".

SECBE is taking a lead in stakeholder collaboration to ensure its members receive the best business support to improve the performance of individual companies and the wider sector. SECBE is uniquely qualified to act as regional information brokers, signposting members towards available expertise.

SECBE received catalyst funding from the South East England Development Agency (SEEDA).

Photo caption

Built Environment Stakeholders share SECBE's vision for a better built environment. Bob Heathfield, Chairman of SECBE (Centre) is joined by some of the region's most influential bodies including SEEDA, CITB-ConstructionSkills, CIOB, CIC, RTPi, ICE, Business Link, ABE, BIFM.

Notes for Editors:

About SECBE

The South East Centre for the Built Environment (SECBE) is a new consortium of business leaders that exists to inform regional policy and drive business-to-business learning and networking. We are not a "talking shop" - we take regional strategies and industry issues and develop action plans to improve business performance throughout the supply chain.

Owned and driven by its members, SECBE's programmes of work are identified by its members and agreed by an elected Management Board in consultation with an advisory group of key stakeholders.

The South East Centre for the Built Environment's business membership is for: Clients, Developers, Designers, Contractors and Suppliers

Member services include:

- ▶ Information & networking;
- ▶ Strategies to improve process and profit for members & their supply chains;
- ▶ Brokerage between the industry and strategic regional/local government bodies.

Our services cover four inter-linking areas of business and our members expect serious performance gains.

Client Leadership

Through SECBE membership you will report a significant increase in the number of clients placing orders based on best value rather than lowest price.

Planning Process

Through SECBE membership you will report significant improvements in the practical implementation of local government planning processes.

People Performance

Through SECBE membership you will recognise the business case for investment in people and take practical/positive steps to develop their employees' skills sets and productivity and to encourage young people into the industry.

Business Performance

Through SECBE membership you will report a 10% business performance gain – especially increasing client satisfaction and reducing material waste.

For further information, please contact, Tina McGeachan, Marketing Manager, South East Centre for the Built Environment, tel: 0118 967 5540, email Tina@SECBE.org.uk or visit www.secbe.org.uk for more information.

South East Centre for the Built Environment, Chief Executive, Derek Rees is available for interview. If you would like to arrange an interview please call Tina McGeachan.