

April – June 2021

# Supply Chain Sustainability School

Progress report

supplychainschool.co.uk

## 1. Summary by numbers

#### 1.1 Progress against KPI's

There are currently 1,586 organisations and 5,240 active individuals who have become active since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. In terms of the planned activities, these remain on track with much of already set for quarter two. Quarter three and four are already being planned.

Resource access has continued to remain high with a high level of eLearning being downloaded. Month by month figures are being monitored to ensure that members are still accessing resources to the level to last year. Between April and June 2021 there has been 4,386 eLearning downloads, compared to 3,626 in in the same period this year. There has also been a 111% Increase In resource and eLearning access compared to Q1 last year. This is explored in more detail later in the report.

Corporate assessment levels continue to be slow, however there Is still a huge uptake in individual assessments. This FY there has been a 140% increase in individual assessments (1,658 vs 691) and a 102% increase in individual re-assessments (332 vs 164). This continues to show the level of engagement remains high with members, as they are learning In all the different ways the School offers; from attending training sessions, downloading eLearning, viewing resources and completing action plans.

The Illustration below shows key highlights for Q1:





#### SCHOOL PERFORMANCE TO JUNE 2021

Deliverables Actual/	Const	FM	Homes	Infra	Offsite	Wales	Scot	FIR	Digital	Procure ment	Entire School
Target											
Active companies*	1,348/ 2,860	331/ 550	502/ 1,000	624/ 1,500	431/ 750	256/ 400	404/ 450	260			1,586/ 3,235
Active Individuals											5,240/ 12,600
Business Bytes*	4	4 (inc Confere nce)	4	2	4	3	8	4 (Ambassad or Network)	3	2	10/29
Training Workshops	8	12	12	12	14	4	4	40	12	47	64/189
Lunch & Learns*	4	4	8	8	8	2	0	22	12	10	26/164
Learners @ training**	920	550	1,380	1,200	1,000	400	400	2,300	1,140	1,640	4,476 /14,880
Learning Pathways	1	-	1	-			-	-	-	-	2
FIR Ambassador	-	-	-	-			-	503/600	-	-	503/600
E-learning downloads	-	-	-	-	<b>2,546</b> / 2,000		-	-	-	-	4,346 /8,000
Assessments	-	<b>413/</b> 150	-	<b>74/829</b> 200/1,500	<b>97/</b> 340	<b>284/</b> 60	<b>41/290</b> 120/240	-	<b>307</b> /500	<b>224</b> /250	134/1,658 600/3,000
Re- assessments	-	<b>135/</b> 80	-	<b>48/184</b> 550/900	<b>16/</b> 120	<b>68/</b> 60	<b>46/67</b> 120/240	-	-	-	142/332 700/1,000
Bronze/ Silver/Gold	<b>527/</b> 600	<b>118/</b> 250	<b>215/</b> 300	-	-		<b>191/</b> 150	-	-	-	586/600

#### Table 1 below shows a summary of planned activity and progression for each sector:

\*Wales & Scotland School have some events that are part of the sector business plans (denoted in brackets)



\*\* Bracketed figures indicate potential for double counting against the entire school target. For example, a company can be active in more than 1 market sector but would only count once towards the overall target. **Please note:** In the new system Wales & Scotland are viewed as regions. There are two ways to look at the reporting for these regions:

- Looking at the number of companies with a Welsh or Scottish postcode.
- Those who have an interest in these regions but are not actually located there.

The figures above illustrate figures from the second bullet point.

In addition, as there has been a joined-up approach towards the face-to-face training activities, there are several activities which are not 'sector specific' so the figures above will not necessarily add up to the total.

## **1.2 Online Face to face training activities**

All training activities remain virtual for this financial year. Learners continue to engage with the School's virtual offering and the table below details the training activities which have taken place for quarter one.

There were 4,476 learners attending workshops, Business Bytes and Lunch & Learns in Q1 this year. This is an increase of a whopping 248% (1,286 learners in Q1 last year) which is really pleasing to see. Of course, last year the pandemic had just hit, and though the School did see an increase in learners during that first quarter; there was a significant increase throughout the whole year. It is now over a year on since all training activity was taken online and so far, even with furlough ending for most organisations, the numbers attending the training are being surpassed showing the appetite and demand is there.

Туре	No. of sessions	No. of learners	No. of learning hours
Business Bytes	10	1,205	2,410
Workshops	64	1,514	3,785
Lunch & Learns	26	1,757	1,757
Total	100	4,476	7,952

The number of learner hours is calculated as follows:

- Business Bytes = 2 hours x no. of learners
- Workshops = 2.5 hours x no. of learners
- Lunch & Learns = 1 hour x no. of learners

## **1.3 Engagement in the School**

The School team have been working hard to engage organisations and individuals in the School, as well as keep them returning to learn through the School. The tables below compare previous years in terms of engagement. Due to developments in reporting the School can now track active individuals from 1<sup>st</sup> April which will be included in the table 3.

This financial year sees a focus from the School team to re-engage those who have not done any learning in the School for over a year; as well as working with Partners to engage their key priority suppliers who are not yet members of the School. This will be done via the marketing automation strategy which is progressing behind the scenes.

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Active Organisations (over a period of 12 months)	3,469	3,208	3,188	2,567	2,630
Active Individuals (over a period of 12 months)	13,027	6,772	5,948	4,239	4,368
Active Organisations (1 <sup>st</sup> April – 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021)	1,586	1,695	1,204	1,237	601
Active Individuals (1 <sup>st</sup> April – 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021)	5,240				
Resources & eLearning accessed (1 <sup>st</sup> April – 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2021)	20,933	9,926	4,183	3,320	2,082

Table 3 Comparison of Active organisations, individuals and engagement over 12 months and since April:

\* Active member defined as an organisation which have used at least one resource in the past 12 months. This can be either completing an assessment, coming to one of our events, or accessing an online resource.

Table 4 focuses on the month-by-month engagement from individuals. The past 18 months has seen a huge increase in individual engagement, and it was unclear whether this was due to COVID and much of the industry being furloughed and encouraged to learn during this time; or whether there is simply more demand and appetite from industry to learn through the School. These results would indicate that the latter is certainly now the case. These figures will be monitored as the year progresses.

Month	Resource views (not eLearning)	E-learning views	Virtual face to face training
2020			
April	1,904	1,483	392
Мау	2,378	1,171	895
June	1,990	950	807
July	2,256	976	839
August	2,558	825	935
September	3,155	1,268	517
October	3,797	1,641	1,313
November	4,441	1,674	1,381
December	3,326	1,583	218
2021			
January	4,129	1,557	1,637
February	5,610	2,476	1,382
March	6,074	2,651	1,864
April	4,981	2,340	1,340
Мау	4,075	2,008	1,211
June	5,091	2,334	1,525

#### Table 4. Engagement tracker

It is also interesting to analyse which type of resources are being used by the members. The table below illustrates this. eLearning and videos are the most popular resource type.

Unique Resource Views	Apr	May	Jun
All Resources	6,703	5,393	6,472
Documents	931	822	1,551
E-learning	2,037	1,667	1,846
ТооІ	119	97	101
Videos	2,450	1,908	2,183
Weblinks	1,166	899	791

#### Table 5. Analysis of popularity of resource type

The top five resources each month are listed in the table below. This Is likely to be driven by the communications that go out to members encouraging them to use specific resources based on the theme for that month.

#### Table 6. Top 5 resources each month

Top 5 Resources	Apr	Мау	Jun	
#1	Sustainability Strategy - Sustainability Short	Understanding Invisible Disabilities	Introduction to Climate Change and Carbon	
	112 views	89 views	106 views	
#2	FIR Toolbox Talk: FIR Induction	Science Based Targets - Sustainability Short	The Circular Economy	
	91 views	88 views	99 views	
#3	Achieving business success through FIR	Sustainability Strategy - Sustainability Short	Sustainability Strategy - Sustainability Short	
	88 views	84 views	93 views	
#4	Science Based Targets - Sustainability Short	Modern Slavery	The Waste Hierarchy	
	83 views	70 views	87 views	
#5	FIR Toolbox Talk: Mental Health and Wellbeing	Introduction to Environmental Management	Introduction to Climate Change and Carbon 2016	
	73 views	61 views	82 views	

#### 1.4 Quality ratings of events

All events that are run are measured against three KPI's: quality; impact (change) and relevancy. These are based on good or excellent responses. The below table illustrate results for the training run to date:

Year	Target and measure	Rating	Virtual change +/-
	95% of employers will rate the training quality as good or excellent	96%	+1%
April - June	90% of employers will rate the training received as relevant to their needs	90%	0%
2021	75% of employers agree training will change the way they do business	83%	-2%
	95% of employers will rate the training quality as good or excellent	95%	
FY 2020/21	90% of employers will rate the training received as relevant to their needs	90%	
	75% of employers agree training will change the way they do business	85%	

#### Table 7. Table showing KPI ratings for Change, Relevancy and Quality

The Internal team continue to meet regularly to discuss feedback received from those who attend the training to ensure that the offering is continually improved.

## 2. PR, Marketing & Communications

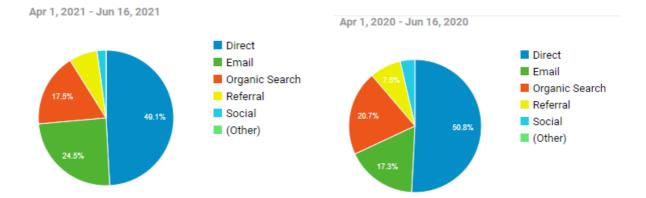
#### Website

The School acquired near double the number of users versus the same period in 2020, with over 40,000 users visiting the website in Q1 2021. Sessions were also up 94% YoY, suggesting that visitors were exploring more of the School's site in Q1 2021 than in Q1 2020. Page views were up 85% YoY, indicating that the visitors were more engaged with the School in Q1 2021.

Users 🔻 VS. Select a metric				Hourly	Day Week	Month
Apr 1, 2021 - Jun 16, 2021: Users						
Apr 1, 2020 - Jun 16, 2020: Olivers 3,000						
2,000		<b>N</b> .				٨
1,000	A	M	-12-	A	5	$\sum$
	May 2021	-	Jun	e 2021		

The School received a higher number of international visitors in Q1 2021 (but in proportion to this overall growth), specifically users from the USA (15.57%), the Netherlands (4.28%) and Finland (4.17%) - perhaps due to all training sessions taking place online and more resources available in Q1 2021.

Most of the web traffic was acquired from users directly typing the School's URL into a search bar - this is evident across both years (49.1% 2021 vs. 50.8% 2020), perhaps showing how well established the School has become. Email marketing is also more effective this quarter, proven by the increase of users accessing the School's site via email @ 24.5% in Q1 2021 vs 17.3% in Q1 2020. This Is likely due to the change of email marketing strategy, focussed on a quality over quantity approach with new email templates designed.



In terms of topics, the FIR topic page was the most visited, receiving one fifth of all topic traffic in Q1 2021 (21.08%). Another trending topic in Q1 this year, was Digital @ 5.94% visitors. This will be due to the launch of the new Digital learning platform to accelerate digital adoption through the upskilling of managers.

The most popular markets in Q1 2021 were Construction @ 37.75%, FM @ 16.98% and infrasturcture @ 7.73%. These also reflect the top performing markets for the whole of FY 2020 and therefore this is a recurring theme for the School.

#### Media coverage

In Q1, the School distributed press releases focused on the launch two skills hubs: Digital & Procurement. As such, the School received several articles and media mentions in industry related publications and websites, including PBC Today, BIM Today, CIPs, Highways Today and more! In addition, the School featured in a press release with Partner Fortel Group, supporting their 'hard hat stickers' scheme, aiming to highlight workers who have undertaken diversity training. Furthermore, Shaun McCarthy OBE (Chair of the School) was showcased in Civil Engineering Surveyor magazine for his cover story on 'Making a business case for sustainability'.

Publication	Title	Date	URL
Builders' Merchants News	Saint-Gobain partners with Supply Chain Sustainability School to 'Make the World a Better Home'	19-Apr-21	https://www.google.com/url?rct=j&sa=t&url=https://www.bui ldersmerchantsnews.co.uk/Saint-Gobain-partners-with- Supply-Chain-Sustainability-School-to-Make-the-World-a- Better- Home/50931&ct=ga&cd=CAEYACoUMTU3MzIxMTY00Dk10Tc 5MDA0NDQyHGRhY2YzMWRmYzc3YWViZGY6Y28udWs6ZW46 R0I&usg=AFQjCNHkiv1_zDqOtM7Tj2T0HJ1YA3oivg
Mirage News	Centre for Construction Law plays a key role in launch of a construction skills hub	22-Apr-22	https://www.miragenews.com/centre-for-construction-law- plays-a-key-role-in-548223/
Kings College London	The Centre for Construction Law plays a key role in the launch of a construction skills hub at the Supply Chain Sustainability School	22-Apr-22	https://www.kcl.ac.uk/news/the-centre-for-construction-law- plays-a-key-role-in-the-launch-of-a-construction-skills- hub?utm_source=miragenews&utm_medium=miragenews&ut m_campaign=news
CIPS	New hub aims to 'embed better procurement' in construction	22-Ap-22	https://www.cips.org/supply- management/news/2021/april/new-hub-aims-to-embed- better-procurement-in-construction/
Highways Today	UK Industry launches Skills Hub to improve supply chain procurement	24-Ap-22	https://highways.today/2021/04/24/skills-hub-procurement/
Light Steel Frame Association	KIER PUTS OFFSITE TECHNOLOGIES ON THE MAP	05-May-21	https://www.lsf-association.co.uk/news/light-steel-frame- news/kier-puts-offsite-technologies-on-the-map/

Please refer to the table below for all media coverage in Q1.

Publication	Title	Date	URL
Construction Enquirer	Hard hat stickers highlight workers with diversity training	11-May-21	https://www.constructionenquirer.com/2021/05/11/hard- hat-stickers-highlight-workers-with-diversity-training/
Construction Manager Magazine	Hard hat stickers to signal inclusion and mental health training	11-May-21	https://constructionmanagermagazine.com/hard-hat-stickers- to-signal-inclusion-and-mental-health-training/
PBC Today	Upskilling to accelerate digital adoption in construction	24-May-21	https://www.pbctoday.co.uk/news/hr-skills-news/digital- adoption-in-construction/93840/
BIM Today - June Edition	Upskilling to accelerate digital adoption in construction	01-Jun-21	https://edition.pagesuite- professional.co.uk/html5/reader/production/default.aspx?pub name=&edid=2a8f6acf-862e-4277-9be8-f8aabcd61c38
Civil Engineering Surveyor - Cover Story	Making a business case for sustainability	07-Jun-21	http://ces.pagelizard.co.uk/magazine

#### Content and Email Marketing

In May, email templates were redesigned to make the emails cleaner, appealing and more engaging for members. Find an example of the monthly marketing email here. It is too early to confirm the success of these at this stage, but a full analysis will be conducted in Q2.

In addition, a new content plan was put in place to reduce the number of emails the marketing team were distributing. This was to ensure that members would receive an appropriate number of emails from the School each week and not to dilute the key important messages. The team now focus on a quality over quantity approach.

Email marketing will become an even bigger focus later in the year, with plans to launch email automations campaigns such as a re-engagement campaign (for those less active members of the School), multiple educational series focussed on key topic areas (to engage members with resources) and an acquisition campaign (to acquire 'potential' priority suppliers).

#### 2. Sector Group Progress

The following section gives a summary of what each group are currently focusing on.

## 2.1 Construction

Working alongside the Homes group, the construction group is also working on developing the sustainability learning pathways for groundworks companies. See the Homes group section for more information on the pathways. The group plan to develop a statement about what the pathway is and why it's important, linking to crucial business benefits around cost savings and meeting customer requirements.

The June Leadership group meeting featured a case study presentation from Willmott Dixon on the significant carbon / cost savings delivered from working collaboratively with a groundworks company. They worked with the groundworker to measure their carbon hotspots, understand the data, identify interventions and then most importantly, implement change. Cost savings were significant, and these should be used as a hook when engaging groundworkers and encouraging them to use the School's carbon reporting tool. Willmott Dixon will be delivering a lunch n learn in July to share the learning from the case study and will be working with the School to develop some guidance around reducing carbon.

Collaborating to cut carbon is a top priority for the construction group. The group have agreed actions around sending out letters to their key suppliers to ask them to report carbon using the reporting tool. The is a target for 85% of the group to be actively recommending their supply chain to report carbon using the tool.

#### 2.2 Homes

The Homes group now represents the Top 10 UK homebuilders. The latest partners to join are Crest Nicholson and Saint Gobain.

A key activity for the group is the development of the sustainability learning pathways for groundworks companies. Two pathways are being developed as below:

*Level 1* provides a quick overview of high priority sustainability issues relevant to groundworks companies using a range of sustainability shorts and toolbox talks, together with the interactive e-learning module on Sustainability in Groundworks. It explains what the issues are, why they are important, together with handy hints and practical tips on how to address them. The pathway is suitable for anyone working in a groundworks company, including new entrants, procurement / supply chain, site managers, bid teams, plant, engineering etc.

*Level 2* provides a more detailed insight into high priority sustainability issues relevant to groundworks companies. It explains what the issues are, the business case, client drivers and expectations, together with practical advice on how to tackle these. Target job roles include

senior managers, procurement, site managers, business development / tendering, plant team etc.

The pathways are currently being reviewed by groundworks companies, with a view to launching in Q3. Neither learning pathway covers safety related issues.

#### 2.3 Infrastructure

Infrastructure group meetings continue to be well attended with 40+ people taking part. The groups have continued to Invite keynote speakers to give a strategic perspective. Presentations from United Utilities and Network Rail helped partners to understand the direction of travel around issues such as carbon, social value and modern slavery. A presentation from a senior director at Leonardo helped the group understand strategic procurement in the aerospace and defence sector. The Environment Agency has recently joined as a Partner and the group are looking forward to hearing from the leader of their recently published Net Zero policy.

#### 2.4 FM

Group members report that the FM sector continues to be heavily engaged in Covid related response to client needs as well as delivering against existing project priorities. Supplier response continues to be excellent despite the challenges being faced. Given the operational pressures Partners are facing, including some going through major restructures and rebrands, the environment for delivering sustainability learning has remained somewhat challenging.

The Group met in May and focused on the business plan objectives for the year. This included discussion of what event strategy and topic matter would best suit the FM/client/supply audience this year. The topic of FM and digital was discussed as a potentially interesting area, which will fit well with the requirements of the School's Digital Group. Demand is evident for partners and their clients to develop "Hybrid" working models so this could also well be a topic to visit later in the year.

Vinci Facilities have recently provided the speaker and main content for an excellent and very well received lunch and learn session covering social value in FM. Given the feedback for this there is considerable scope to deliver follow up events. Following successful delivery with EMCOR UK, a further "Re-introduction to the School" workshop has also been delivered for ENGIE. This workshop model enables School Partners to re-acquaint themselves with the School and to make the most of their Partner status.

## 2.5 Offsite

The Offsite group have focused on delivering the business plan and so far, have run one Lunch & Learn, and three workshops, with a total of 75 attendees. A Business Bytes has also been staged which had 112 attendees. Appetite continues to grow for learning around the topic of offsite.

The Offsite Group are continuing to develop an improved Offsite Training Needs Assessment tool which will be supplemented by new and improved resources in the next quarter.

There are currently plans for six further training activities and plans to stage a further 13 training activities to the end of the financial year as part of the business plan.

#### 2.6 Wales

David Emery has taken over the Welsh group from Paul Parkinson in the last quarter.

There has been one Leadership Group meeting so far which had presentations from CITB on their research around Net Zero. The Waste Group also presented their findings from the Homes packaging research which took place last FY. This topic remains important to the group, indeed, there a Business Bytes event, *Showcasing Carbon Reduction in Wales* took place in Q1 which had 78 attendees. The School is planning a large programme of activity, with a focus around COP26 this year which the Wales group will be able to take advantage of.

## 2.7 Scotland

The main priority for Scotland is Carbon Reduction. Several Partners collaborated to run a "Hydrogen in the Built Environment" Business Byte, which was attended by 110 managers and leaders from supply chain companies. This seminar presented a range of pilot projects to accelerate adoption and use of hydrogen at scale for heating and cooking in domestic and commercial settings. This included input from the Energy Network Association, National Grid, SGN, Cadent, Wales & Welsh Utilities. The School plans to continue a focus on hydrogen within its training offer as it becomes an increasingly important part of the UK's decarbonisation strategy.

#### 2.8 FIR

CITB funding for the Fairness, Inclusion and Respect Programme restarted the programme from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021. The programme continues to engage the industry with targets to engage 800

construction businesses of which 490 will be SMEs to learn more about FIR over the next two years. The aim is to deliver 118 courses between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022. There are also plans to update the eLearning modules and a target for 1,500 downloads of the modules.

The Ambassador journey is in the process of being web-enabled with the introduction of a recognition system to reward those going above and beyond; in addition, there is a learning pathway being created for ambassadors to reach bronze, silver, and gold status.

Work is underway to develop the FIR Maturity Matrix (alignment of the CITB BeFaIR framework and FIR Growth Matrix) made freely available for industry via the school. Where third party accreditation is required, this would be delivered via CITB's independent assessors.

From July 2021 the Diversity Monitoring Tool will be available to use. The tool is for construction companies to report their diversity breakdown in a common and consistent way to their clients and contractors.

The recent annual FIR impact survey was completed by 811 employees in the sector and provided data and insight into the effectiveness of the programme and more widely on the changes in attitudes to diversity in the industry. The results will be presented as a report in July 2021.

## 2.9 Digital

The launch took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> April. There were three separate panel discussions in the morning, and In the afternoon, taster workshops and a round table discussion with CITB and industry. There were 149 attendees. All the materials and tools are now available on the new Digital section of the School.

The focus over the next two years is to reach 765 construction employers, 50% of whom will be SME, 1,050 different construction leaders and managers employed by construction companies who will have received training either virtually via 26 x training sessions, 26 x webinars or 4 x Digital conferences or through our e-learning modules.

Two cohorts, one from Costain the other from the A12 project, have started their Digital Training Module with two more in the pipeline. This course mixes cases studies of technology adoption from leading projects and contractors in our sector, with the academic knowledge of Lecturers from UCL who form Digital Outlook to deliver this through the School.

#### 2.10 Procurement

The virtual launch took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2021. There were 223 attendees. The **Procurement** section of the School and all the materials on offer were showcased and a panel discussion with CIPS, Kings College London, Skanska, and the Institute for Collaborative Working (ICW) took place.

The focus for the next two years will be the delivery of the project through webinars, workshops, and conferences.

An application process for the Exemplar projects (now called Supply Chain Improvement Programmes - SCIPs) has been developed. A panel is being created to decide which applications should qualify as a SCIP. Applications will be from the Partners who are tier 1 contractors, their key supply chain members, and client organisations. The aim of the SCIPs is to drive increased performance through the adoption of better procurement and supply chain management practices and improved collaboration. We expect measurable improvements in performance that will include at least £5m of productivity improvements.

The first Collaborative Partnership kick off meeting with Nottingham Trent University and CECA took place on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. The online portal for accessing training tools, toolkits and online and face to face training was discussed, and a follow up action meeting will be taking place on 17<sup>th</sup> June to discuss the shared governance of the collaboration overarching three projects.

## 3. New Knowledge Development

## 3.1 Plant Category Group

The Plant Group is in the process of revising the Minimum Standards for Plant and equipment, as well as developing a system to understand how well signatories to the Plant Commitment Charter are performing. This comes off the back of a successful business bytes webinar in January.

## 3.2 Labour Category Group

The labour group has been looking at the resources and current trends relating to Modern Slavery. The last group meeting heard from Stronger Together and Slave Free Alliance on what activities they are currently undertaking in the construction industry. At the end of 2021 the new BS25700 standard will be released, and the group has expressed the desire to produce a construction guide relating to the standard and how to implement. There is also a desire to

review support and information on how to improve the grievance & remediation processes and guidance within the School. These requirements will be added to the development schedule and the budget will need to be reviewed to prioritise going forward.

The rest of the years labour groups have been set and key themes relating to the People Matter Charter have been included as the focus of the agenda. The dates are as follows:

8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 – Skills & Training

 $27^{\rm th}$  July 2021 – Social Value & the People Matter Charter Themes

29th September 2021 – Employment Standards & Business Planning

24th November 2021 – Responsible Sourcing and Human Rights in International Supply Chains

 $25^{th}$  January 2021 – End of year review and business planning

## 3.3 Waste Category Group

The School's Waste and Resource use Group continues to grow, in size and influence. The group seeks to be highly inclusive, dealing with content of common and specific interest to all the School's partners and members.

Traditional and emerging waste challenges are being addressed from a "shopping list" developed recently by partners through three core stands of activity covering mapping and materials development, procurement and supply chain engagement, and measurement and reporting. This continues to be supported by a highly insightful and knowledgeable level and quality of support provided by Group members. Not all desired activities can be carried out within the proposed Group budget so some prioritisation or additional funding will be required.

Following delivery of two popular online sessions on Plastic Packaging Tax and its implications, the School also once again secured the involvement of HMRC (who are designing and will be collecting the Tax) to respond to attendees' questions online at a session in May. This was positively received by both participants and HMRC, who informed the School that they found the questions raised and feedback received from the School's events extremely useful in their decision-making process in aspects of Tax's development. This kind of industry, policy and marketplace influence is just the kind of impact the group has aspired to achieve and is both gratifying and challenging in equal measure.

A Packaging Innovation Showcase planned for June 24<sup>th</sup> will bring together the expertise of the partners in the Group's recent Homes packaging project, along with a group of innovative suppliers and manufacturers, to examine ways to reduce the sustainability impacts of product packaging.

## **3.4 Special Interest Groups:**

## Carbon

The Climate Action Group continue to promote the use of the Carbon Tool amongst the School Partner and supply chain with regular lunch & learns running amongst the training programme. The group collaborated with the Infrastructure leadership group to stage a Business Byte on 18<sup>th</sup> May.

Speakers came from the sector discussing their views on how and where we can reduce carbon. The format was very different from the norm, with a no slides approach so that it was led by discussion and questions. There were over 100 attendees from 87 different organisations contributing their thoughts and questions. Key speakers were:

- Jonathan Ayton, Senior Sustainable Development Manager, Willmott Dixon Holdings Limited
- Lara Young, Group Carbon Manager, Costain
- Sarah Jolliffe, Carbon Reduction Lead, BAM Nuttall
- Facilitated by James Cadman, School

## Wellbeing

The Wellbeing SIG has reconvened this quarter following the publication of the Wellbeing In The Built Environment report in January. During this new phase of the group, the plan is to continue the work started in this report of sharing Wellbeing best practice across the sector via case studies and guides. There will also be collaboration with The Lighthouse Club and the Samaritans to create a Wellbeing hub of content focusing on Mental Health in the industry – the Mind Builder project. The School, with the support of the SIG, will continue to run a program of Wellbeing-themed Lunch & Learns, in addition to a Business Bytes, *Wellbeing in the Workplace*, on 21st September.

## 4. New Partners

The School welcomes new Partners this quarter: JLG, IDE, Welfare Hire National, UK Power Networks, Caulfield Contractors, Southern Construction Framework, Electricity North West, Causeway, Crest Nicholson.

End.