



E-Newsletter Vol 2 Issue 2, 01 April 2009

Visit WMCCE website [HERE](#)Email not displaying properly, or using MS Outlook 2007? View as webpage [HERE](#)

## A note to readers



Michael T.  
WMCCE, Executive  
Director

It is hard to present a newsletter like this at a time like this without mentioning the word recession, in the knowledge that all around us, organisations both in the public and the private sector are having to tighten their belts, leading on many occasions to a reduction in resources and the inevitable redundancies. And yet, the Construction Industry in the West Midlands can ill afford to lose any more skills when there is already a shortage for the future.

In partnership with the [Learning and Skills Council](#), a Construction Summit was held in late February which concentrated on the skills agenda and in particular on the support that is available to companies and individuals through such initiatives as Business Improvement Techniques, 'green' business opportunities, labour agreements and supply chain development.

This was a really positive Summit leading to a large amount of feedback being collected from the delegates attending which will be used to create new initiatives to help the industry weather the storm. More information on this event can be found below.

## Celebrating Construction Award 2009

### Finalists Announced



The West Midlands Centre for Constructing Excellence (WMCCE) has announced the finalists for their 2009 Constructing Excellence awards. See the list [HERE](#).

The winners will be announced at the Celebrating Construction (CC09) awards dinner, taking place on Friday 24th April at the ICC in Birmingham. To book your tickets, contact Jo Webb at CIOB on 0845 070 6137 or [jwebb@ciob.org](mailto:jwebb@ciob.org)

## News

### Construction Summit Report



Investing in new greener technologies and providing businesses with funding and training support are the crucial issues which need to be tackled to survive the recession.

These are the key conclusions which have come from a Construction Summit held in Walsall with over 50 industry leaders and suppliers from the public and private sector, coming together to... [more](#)

### What is Best Practice?



A survey by WMCCE that investigated Best Practice within the regional construction industry had some interesting responses from the 135 respondents. The survey revealed that although 89% of respondents implement Best Practice techniques within their organisations, just over half (57%) fully understand the term.

Only 0.7% thinks that guidance on Best Practice, such as the Latham and Egan reports, had been adopted by the industry... [more](#)

### Low Carbon Housing Report: Developing a baseline for refurbishment in the West Midlands



The report, published last week, presents the findings and recommendations of an assessment of existing housing refurbishment during the period April 2007 to March 2008.

The report offers recommendations for carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions reduction and... [more](#)

### West Midlands Economics - February Update



According to the last report of the West Midlands Task Force, the construction private-sector activity remains considerably down although the public sector investment in infrastructure helps offset some of this decline. Read the report [HERE](#)

### Shadow Secretary of State promises to connect West Midlands with High

## 2012 Games Opportunities



In support of the 2012 Olympic Games, WMCCE is working in conjunction with Advantage West Midlands and the government portal [CompeteFor.com](#) to provide information about the London 2012 procurement opportunities.

➔ [See Tenders](#)

Want to know who from the West Midlands won a bid?

➔ [Read the Monthly Briefing](#)

## Coming Events

### Accessible Design

When: 23 April 09

Where: Fazeley Street Studios, Birmingham



Update on the DDA, design solutions, European standards, specifications, fire escape and the new BS/CoP 8300... [more](#)

### Celebrating Construction 2009

When: 24 April 09

Where: ICC, Birmingham



Celebrating Construction 2009 is a showcase and awards ceremony that provides recognition of the professionalism, excellence and innovation that... [more](#)

### Construction Lean Awareness Workshop

When: 30 April 09

Where: WMCCE, Birmingham



Lean allows you to cut costs and improve performance, a must for those wishing to stay... [more](#)

See all coming events [HERE](#)

## Feedback