



E-Newsletter Vol 2 Issue 7, September 2009

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A note to readers



Michael Thompson
WMCCE, Executive
Director

After the Summer season and what appears to have been the deepest part of the recession, the Autumn is creeping in and there are signs that recovery may be on the way, albeit over a longer period than we might like. The Construction Action Plan has been set up under the auspices of the West Midlands Task Force to help with this recovery, assisted by many organisations across the region including AWM, WMCCE, the West Midlands Business Council, Homes and Communities Agency and others. More about this below.

Early October sees a repeat of last year's "Constructing Our Future" which consists of a series of events organised across the region, attracting youngsters into the Construction and Building Industry. These events are designed to give visitors, young and older, something memorable to think about when they are considering careers as well as to persuade careers officers that this industry is something worthwhile for their pupils to enter.

Finally, we are rapidly coming round to the applications for next year's WMCCE Constructing Excellence Awards. The Application Pack is now ready and can be downloaded [from our website](#) – see the Home page or the [News page](#).

News

Has your Business Signed Up to the Prompt Payment Code?



Paying suppliers promptly is critical in helping small firms maintain their cash flow and survive.

The Prompt Payment Code, devised by the Government with the Institute of Credit Management (ICM), means suppliers can have confidence that any company that signs up will pay within clearly defined terms and that there is a proper process for dealing with any payments that are in dispute... [more](#)

Building Blocks to Aid Construction Sector Recover



The Regional Economic Taskforce has recognised the need to support the West Midlands construction industry as it continues to struggle in the recession.

Under the stewardship of WMCCE, the building blocks of an action plan have been put in place to help take the sector forward. Actions confirmed as available now for construction businesses across the West Midlands region include Bridge Loans, Gap funding... [more](#)

Club Chairman Elected Chair of National Clubs Steering Group



Roy Casey, Chairman of the Black Country Constructing Excellence Club, has been elected to the role of National Clubs Steering Group Chairman.

The role will be for a 2 year period during which Roy's vision is to encourage better communication and collaboration between the Clubs in all regions of the UK, whilst improving the image and standing of Clubs within the construction community nationally... [more](#)

Building on People 2009: Constructing Our Future



From 2nd October, a series of events in the West Midlands will run to attract people into the Construction Industry.

These events are being organised in collaboration with Colleges, Professional Institutions, Trade Associations, the Constructing Excellence (Best Practice) Clubs, Contractors, Consultants and... [more](#)

South African Inward Mission: New Business Opportunities



Meet face-to-face with key South African construction companies and regional government officials visiting the UK...

Sustained economic growth, the 2010 Football World Cup and the South African government's commitment to a major programme of infrastructure improvement has created opportunities for UK construction companies... [more](#)

Celebrating Achievements in Science, Technology and Innovation



The iawards are a new awards event created by the Advantage West Midlands Department of Business, Innovation and Science in association with QinetiQ. The awards are backed by Science and Innovation Minister Lord Drayson and leading entrepreneur James Caan. iawards are currently looking for applicants... [more](#)

Midlands Excellence Awards

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

Dealing with contamination on existing residential developments, CIRIA

When: 15 September 2009

Where: RegenWM Balcony Rooms, Birmingham

This workshop will discuss the practicalities of investigations and remediation on residential property. It will explore practical access and working... [more](#)

Building on Innovation

When: 15th September 09

Where: WMCCE, Birmingham

A breakfast briefing, which brings together universities from around the region to highlight opportunities through innovation schemes... [more](#)

Maximising Value: Taster

When: 25th September 2009

Where: WMCCE, Birmingham

This free half day event on maximising value is a taster session to the full course running in October... [more](#)

Question Time Debate

When: 30th September 09

Where: Austin Court, Birmingham

WMCCE is hosting a Question and Answer form of debate, entitled "Construction Recovery through Regional Action"... [more](#)

Briefing Session Series 1: Amendments to part L and F building regulations

When: 9th October 09

Where: WMCCE, Birmingham

The first in a series of one hourly monthly breakfast briefing sessions designed to keep industry professionals up to date with the ongoing developments in technology... [more](#)

See all coming events [HERE](#)