



PRESS RELEASE
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New Strategic Forum Chair To Forge Links With Government

The Strategic Forum for Construction (SFfC), meeting for the first time under new Chairman Lord Martin O'Neill, has outlined its priorities for 2012.

At its meeting on 13 September Forum members committed to provide a single clear voice from industry to support and guide Government efforts to reform the sector.

Chief construction advisor Paul Morrell joined the meeting to hear representatives from the industry's contractors, professionals, specialists and products suppliers confirm that they would work together to co-ordinate views from across the sector on a range of key activities including:

- the industry-wide implementation of Building Information Modelling
- the roll-out of reforms identified in the Government Construction Strategy
- the work of the new Green Construction Board
- the development of accurate market statistics for the industry
- a continuing focus on health & safety, training and environmental concerns

Lord O'Neill, a former MP whose time in Parliament included a ten-year stint as Chairman of the influential Trade and Industry Select Committee, is also a past Chairman of the Nuclear Industry Association. He the current President of the Specialist Engineering Contractors Group, and brings with him to the SFfC a wealth of industry experience, as well as crucial links to politicians and an excellent knowledge of the working of Parliament.

Speaking on his appointment as Chairman, Lord O'Neill commented: "I am looking forward to working closely with the industry and the Government on a range of key strategic issues. The Forum sees the Government Construction Strategy as an opportunity to move the industry forward.'

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors:

A photo of Lord O'Neil is attached to this press release.

The Strategic Forum for Construction is the only construction forum that seeks to represent the whole of the construction community. It comprises senior members of the constituent organisations. The Forum's activities are both proactive and reactive but at all times seek to work in partnership across the industry to achieve long term improvements. The membership of the Strategic Forum comprises:

- Construction Clients Group
- Construction Alliance and the UK Contractors Group
- Construction Industry Council (currently the host secretariat for the Forum)
- Construction Products Association
- National Specialist Contractors' Council
- Specialist Engineering Contractors Group
- Trades Union Council.

The Forum has a number of Task Groups including the Sustainable Construction Task Group through whose auspices the work on the waste target came about.

1) FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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