

A number of ICE special interest panels have been set up in the North East, enabling members (and non-members) to provide expert comment, informed opinion and direct input into the Institution's regional profile building and learned society activities.

## What is the role?

The ICE needs a number of experts in their field from across the North East region to provide detailed technical advice on flood defence, housing, roads, rail, urban and local transport, seaports, waste, skills shortage, sustainability and energy.



## Why are they needed?

Increasingly the ICE is being given opportunities to lend its expertise externally. This can range from the State of the Nation reports, through major media issues such as recycling and sustainable travel, to consultation with other bodies. The input our members provide inevitably raises the profile of the ICE, to the point where we become the first port of call for those seeking an authoritative view on all aspects of civil engineering.

## Who should get involved?

Anyone with an interest in the areas already mentioned, and indeed other issues, can volunteer.

## What do we need from you, and when?

We would simply look to you to be available upon request, be it by phone or e-mail, to provide valuable technical input in your professional area. There will be no set times when you'll be needed – just as and when. You will not need to give too much time up – for example, meetings may take place occasionally but attendance will usually be optional. We are also rolling out WebEx to panel members, to enable them to work more sustainably and effectively by conducting some of their meetings online.

## What have other people done for ICE?

As already mentioned, State of the Nation and the Regional Spatial Strategy have already seen valued contribution from ICE members. What we now want is to widen the pool of ability we draw upon.

## What will I get from being a Technical Expert?

The chance to pass on your knowledge to many audiences – other professional bodies, the general public, the media, government organisations to name but a few. It will also help shape policy and debate on the main issues involving civil engineering, and encourage other experts in the ICE to get involved.

Working groups have been created covering the topics of transport, flooding and heritage with a new group on sustainability emerging. This is an exciting development within the North East as it further broadens the opportunity for engagement in ICE affairs.



If you feel that you have the experience and expertise to contribute and would like to join one of the existing panels please contact the relevant person below:

<b>Transport:</b> Laura O'Toole	e: <a href="mailto:Laura.OToole@jacobs.com">Laura.OToole@jacobs.com</a>
<b>Flooding:</b> Tom Brown	e: <a href="mailto:tom.brown@ch2m.com">tom.brown@ch2m.com</a>
<b>Heritage:</b> Michael Taylor	e: <a href="mailto:jmichael.taylor@btinternet.com">jmichael.taylor@btinternet.com</a>
<b>Sustainability:</b> Kate Cairns	e: <a href="mailto:ICENESustainability@ice.org.uk">ICENESustainability@ice.org.uk</a>

Alternatively if you would like support in establishing a new panel then please contact Penny Marshall at [penny.marshall@ice.org.uk](mailto:penny.marshall@ice.org.uk).