

Meeting

ICE Reservoirs Committee

Date Thursday 26 June 2025
Time 2.00pm to 5.00pm
Venue MS Teams
Chair Ed McCann

Panel members

Sub-Committee 1

Alan Brown - Chair
Stuart King
Craig Goff
Kenneth Barr
David Neeve

Sub-Committee 2

Ian Scholefield - Chair
Dave Crook
Dominic Molyneux
Chris Scott
Martin Deane

Ex Officio

Alice Baverstock - Defra
Mark Acford – Environment Agency
Jonathan Sewell – Scottish Government
Sara Fletcher – Scottish Government
Ryan Robinson – Department of Infrastructure, NI
Violeta Morosan – Department of Infrastructure, NI
Matthew O'Brien – Natural Resources Wales

Secretariat

Kerrie McPeake – ICE
Saima Saddique - ICE

Summary of Applications in June 2025

New Applications

5 new applications were submitted to the Supervising Engineers Panel this cycle.

2 Supervising Engineer applicants have been recommended for appointment in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

1 Supervising Engineer applicant has been recommended for appointment in England, Wales and Scotland.

2 Supervising Engineer applicants have been recommended for appointment in England and Wales.

1 new application was submitted to the All Reservoirs Engineers Panel this cycle.

Re-applications

15 re-applications were made to the Supervising Engineers Panel this cycle.

2 Supervising Engineers Panel re-applications have been recommended for re-appointment to England, Wales Scotland and Northern Ireland.

11 Supervising Engineers Panel re-application has been recommended for re-appointment to England and Wales. 1 Supervising Engineer Panel re-application has been recommended for re-appointment to Scotland.

3 re-applications were made to the All Reservoirs Engineers Panel this cycle.

1 All Reservoir Engineers Panel re-application has been recommended for re-appointment to England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

2 All Reservoir Engineers Panel re-applications have been recommended for re-appointment to England, Wales and Scotland.

Item no	PART A Updates from government and enforcement authorities	
2506	Legislative changes, jurisdictional impacts	
	<p>Update on current legislative situation in each of the jurisdictions:</p> <p>England – Alice Baverstock</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no legislative updates. • Information regarding the Reservoir reform programme has been moved to the ‘Engage’ page on the website. • The Environment Agency’s biennial report to the Secretary of State will be published very soon. <p>Scotland – Jonathan Sewell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JS mentioned they held their first Reservoir safety stakeholder group meeting following a 2-year break. The aim is to re-establish this as a regular forum, particularly in light of potential changes in Scotland following the reforms in England. • Aiming to boost the representation of single and small reservoir owners as it is quite public sector heavy towards the majority owners. • Continuing to engage with BVR on the consideration of reservoir engineer performance issues. • Maintaining dialogue with Defra and the EA regarding their reform programme and its potential implications on the Scottish legislation. • JS stated there is no immediate need for divergence between practices in England and Wales and Northern Ireland versus Scotland and they are testing that now. • SEPA have increased their compliance monitoring efforts, resulting in the issuance of several fixed and variable monetary penalties. JS stated they are currently observing how this approach influences compliance levels across the various reservoirs <p>Northern Ireland - Ryan Robinson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are currently no legislative updates. • The Infrastructure Committee have yet to approve the legislation to go through the Northern Ireland Assembly process. The Committee’s primary concern relates to the potential costs for the Reservoir Managers/Undertakers and are seeking more detail on possible support through a grant scheme. In response, RR confirmed they have launched a public consultation on proposals for a grant scheme to assist with the initial costs for Undertakers. They hope that once the 	

	<p>Committee reviews these details, they will approve the legislation, allowing it to proceed through the NI Assembly.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A survey was carried out among current Reservoir engineers and 56 would consider joining a future NI panel. <p>Wales - Matthew O'Brien</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work on the Reform programme alongside England is ongoing. • MB confirmed they are about to begin testing the new reservoir incident database, which will be hosted by ICE. They are currently in the data verification phase before presenting it to a stakeholder group for testing. If all goes well, the database should be published by the end of August. • This year marks the centenary year of the Dolgarrog disaster. Whilst NRW and the Welsh Government are involved in the committee; the focus remains on the local community leading the commemoration. Keith from ICE Wales is contributing to the idea of installing a commemorative plaque. If anyone would like to attend please contact MB. • The biennial report should be published by the end of September. 	
2507	<p>Reservoir Safety Review</p>	
	<p>Update on progress – Alice Baverstock The focus is on preparing for consultation in the Autumn, with ongoing work to explore various types of proposals and develop them further.</p> <p>ii. Update from Panel Engineer Committee – Chris Scott</p> <p>CS in the process of producing a note outlining the activities the PEC have been engaged with over the past 12 months. CS is also presenting at the Supervising Engineers forum in September and sharing what the PEC does.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WS1 - Hazard classification. The PEC shared some notes with Defra outlining their concerns regarding the hazard classification work which had been carried out. CS mentioned they are now awaiting the publication of the associated research reports. • WS2 – Future supply of engineers. The PEC are working closely with Defra on the panel restructure and a proposal has been prepared which the ICE have commented on. They have also had some involvement in work around accessibility services to smaller owners. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WS3 – Reservoir safety management plans. Defra has appointed Mott MacDonald to assist with the development of the Reservoir safety management plans and they engage via a series of workshops. • WS4 – Mios and risk There is no update from the PEC. • WS5 – EA duties There is no update from the PEC. <p>CS mentioned that at the last PEC meeting, they agreed to retain the current membership through to the consultation phase. Membership changes may be considered following that stage.</p>	
	<p>Future meeting dates: Thursday 16th October 2025, 2.00pm – 5.00pm (OGGS)</p>	

