

CORPORATE REPORTING

Global performance report Q2 2025



Contents

Our key numbers	1
Financial update	2
Introduction	3
Member engagement and support.....	6
Professional practice.....	17
Standards and Regulation	24





Our key numbers

CANDIDATES AND DESIGNATIONS

112,274

number of professionals
(with RICS designations)

26,500

number of candidates
working towards a
professional designation

1,768

new candidate enrolments

1,810

new professionals





Financial update

Our year to date six-month operating results of £2,623,000 are above budgeted expectations of £909,000. Continued strong performances on commercial revenues and margins, particularly in training, conferences and advertising products have been the main contributor.

The second half of the year is anticipated to be more challenging due to the phasing of the budget. Subscriptions are tracking in line with budget, and election and enrolment revenue is running behind budget due to lower elections in the year and higher assessment costs.

We are starting to see people cost savings as a result of the organisational redesign and we have recognised some operating cost savings as well. Investment performance has returned in line with budgeted expectations for the year to date.



Introduction

Enhancing member value and engagement

Across the world, RICS-led projects are changing the narrative around our profession for the benefit of our members, the industry and the wider public.

There are opportunities for RICS members too. This quarter we opened applications for members to become our next senior vice president, as well as welcoming participation in our AGM. The insight of RICS members is shaping the work we do, from setting our big-picture priorities to contributing to our global standards. We have highlights from the latest wave of our global Survey of the Profession providing us with positive feedback to help shape our direction.

The Standards and Regulations Board (SRB) approved important changes to our CPD framework that will help members maximise the value they get from their learning activity, including CPD that is more relevant to members' practice areas and the development of a new RICS member app.



Strengthening trust in the profession

This quarter we progressed two standards that will support members and uphold the public interest in the face of rapidly developing technology.

We are creating a new standard that will guide the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI), aiming to provide our members with a clear framework for the use of AI in surveying practice, including addressing its risks. We are also updating our *Countering financial crime* professional standard, addressing the evolving landscape of financial crimes and incorporating the latest developments in technology and global trade.

This spring, we welcomed members' perspectives through consultations on both standards, as part of our commitment to protecting both surveyors and the public.

Attracting a diverse next generation

RICS members and professionals across the built and natural environments consistently report the evolving demands of their day-to-day work, the skills needed to respond to them and a shortage of available skilled talent. This quarter we launched a large-scale, global survey about the skills shortage to provide us with invaluable data as we accelerate our work to attract and upskill surveyors across the world.

We also reconfirmed our commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion by signing a new Memorandum of Understanding with our counterparts in the industry. Collaboration is key to our work to attract a diverse next generation. For that reason we joined forces with other professional bodies to host the Built Environment Lounge at UKREiF where we prioritised agreeing action to be taken on skills, housing and sustainability.



Leading and influencing on sustainability

Regional RICS-led events across the world prioritised collaboration and knowledge sharing on sustainability. Our global skills survey, meanwhile, sought surveyors' experience of the skills shortfall as the profession meets the needs of an ever-changing world.

This data will tell us more about the need for green skills, helping us to respond to the challenge for the benefit of the profession, the industry, the environment and the public at large.



Member engagement and support

Driving member value across borders and sectors

In Q2, RICS continued to deliver locally tailored engagement for members worldwide. Through thought leadership, CPD, candidate support and networking, we are reinforcing our global relevance while deepening regional connection. From flagship conferences to grassroots initiatives – every engagement reflects our ongoing commitment to professionalism, insight and community.

Delivering global impact, locally relevant engagement

Engagement activities spanned technical site tours, valuation standards updates, CPD seminars and innovation forums – each grounded in local need and global best practice.

81.5%
global member satisfaction (CSAT)

100+
total events held

5,355
total attendees

30+
countries engaged

Post-event feedback and CSAT overview

In Q2, we saw a significant increase in member engagement through post-event survey participation, with 1,432 responses in 2025, more than double the 632 responses received in 2024 in the same period.

Our 2025 CSAT score stands at 81.5%, just shy of our 82% goal, and reflects the percentage of respondents rating events 8, 9 or 10 out of 10.

The increased volume of feedback is a positive indicator that more members are invested in shaping and improving the event experience – demonstrating trust in our process and a shared commitment to continuous improvement.

Top attended events

248

Valuation Standards Webinar (APAC)

223

Cybertecture Webinar (South Asia)

215

FIDIC Contracts Training (KSA)

170

India Real Estate Summit

Regional highlights

Middle East and Asia

- India had the highest engagement with 900+ attendees, including 280 across Hyderabad technical events and 170 at the Mumbai Investment Summit.



RICS India Investment Summit

- Saudi Arabia continued strong momentum with FIDIC training and innovation networking.
- Hong Kong hosted standout CPD seminars (250+ attendees) and the APAC Red Book webinar drew 248 participants.
- Events in Singapore, Japan, Malaysia and UAE showed consistent engagement across technical and networking forums.

Europe

- Germany and France delivered standout ESG and site-tour programming, alongside technical events in Central and Eastern Europe and the Benelux region.
- A pan-European sustainability and valuation webinar engaged 89 professionals.
- RICS members in Hungary gathered for an inspiring evening celebrating shared achievements and the strength of our professional community.

UK and Ireland

- Nearly 40 diverse events supported legal, infrastructure and sector-specific development.
- Highlights include 'Welcome to the Profession' (200+ attendees), Birmingham's technical CPD and regional networking in Wales, Northern Ireland and North East England.

RICS Wales Conference

The RICS Wales Board hosted its third annual conference on 11 June, drawing 190 delegates from across the built environment. This year's conference marked Matt Haynes' MRICS first as Chair of the Wales Board. Delegates heard from an inspiring line-up of speakers representing Welsh government, public sector bodies and leading private sector organisations.

A standout moment was the panel on 'Mental Health in the Workplace', led by Wales Board Member Lucy King. Featuring Phil Sparke (CEO, Lionheart), Cat Griffiths-Williams (CEO, Constructing Excellence Wales) and Alex Jones (Matrics Vice Chair) – the session struck a powerful chord with attendees.



Built environment GCSE taster day

Over 200 students attended the built environment GCSE taster day at the University of South Wales, introducing them to the world of surveying through engaging activities and workshops. The event was spearheaded by Inspire Ambassador Sian Cornwell-Shaw MRICS (NHS Estates), whose dedication and planning – alongside support from the Wales Board, Matrics, Engineering Education Scheme Wales (EESW), University of South Wales (USW), Careers Wales and Network 75 – made the day a great success.

Australasia

- There was vibrant engagement in Australia and New Zealand, from Sydney's procurement seminar (100 attendees) to networking events in Wellington, Auckland and Perth.
- The Australian Data Centre Panel with UBS drew 50+ senior professionals.

Americas

- In Vancouver, a panel explored dispute resolution practices across Canada, with a focus on how they differ in British Columbia. The session sparked a lively and thoughtful dialogue among members.
- In Toronto, we hosted a Tariff Talk featuring a panel of experts who shared insights on project costing in today's economic environment. The discussion covered strategies for advising clients, key cost considerations and projections for the months ahead.



Tariff Talk in Toronto

- In May, we held our annual conference in collaboration with New York University. Around 100 members, candidates and students participated in a full day of thought-provoking discussions centered on the economy, sustainability and emerging technologies.



Conference at New York University

Strategic regional conferences

In Q2 2025, a strategically targeted programme of eight regional conferences across key global markets was held, reaching over 1,430 professionals throughout the built and natural environments. Each conference is designed to address local market priorities while reinforcing RICS' global influence in standards, sustainability and professional development.

Key highlights

Germany: Focus 2025 Conference – 627 participants registered for this event ([see more on LinkedIn](#)).

Hong Kong: Construction innovation and sector resilience – 219 attendees.

Africa: ESG, infrastructure and professionalisation across Sub-Saharan markets – 155 attendees.



RICS Africa Conference

USA: Policy, politics, and technology in the built environment – 96 attendees.

Australia and New Zealand: Commercial management and cost certainty in construction – 197 attendees.

Spain: Valuation standards, market transparency and investor confidence – 138 attendees.

Scotland and Wales: Regional development, sustainability and public sector engagement – 116 and 111 attendees.

These conferences continue to build regional relevance and global alignment, advancing RICS' influence and member value worldwide.

Matrics global: growing the next generation

Momentum continues to build across the RICS Matrics community internationally. In Q2, 264 new sign ups joined the Matrics network from outside the UK, bringing the total to 1,094 engaged Matrics joiners this year so far across 38 countries.

These international prospects are joining regionally-led Matrics networks and being invited to bespoke candidate support and networking events as they progress toward APC and professional status.

Key highlights

- 1,368 attendees across 65+ face-to-face global events
- strong growth in India, UAE, Italy, and Northern Ireland
- new traction in France, KSA, Germany, and Sub-Saharan Africa
- UK&I Matrics held 52 events reaching 1,029 attendees.



UK&I Matrics event

Stronger governance, broader voices

In Q2, member engagement in governance and advisory roles showed a clear upward trend, reflecting growing trust and willingness among members to actively shape the profession.

Key highlights

New Regional Advisory Board Chairs announced for UK&I in 2025

Four new UK&I Regional Advisory Board Chairs were appointed following a competitive application process. Application numbers exceeded historical averages, reflecting greater awareness and enthusiasm among members to engage in leadership roles.

- **South-West Regional Advisory Board** welcomes Jay Ridings MRICS as Chair, stepping into the role following Mark Humphries FRICS, who stepped down in July.
- **East Midlands Regional Advisory Board** welcomes Sirah Parkes FRICS as Chair, stepping into the role following Amrit Sagoo MRICS, who will step down in the summer.
- **London Regional Advisory Board** welcomes James Hughes MRICS as Chair, stepping into the role following Richard Garland FRICS, who will step down in the autumn.
- **Northern Ireland Regional Advisory Board** welcomes Brian Reid FRICS as Chair, stepping into the role following Martin Doherty MRICS, who will step down in the autumn.

The appointment process was overseen by some members of the UK&I World Regional Board and current UK&I Regional Advisory Board members. We are grateful to all members of the appointment panels for their time, commitment and thoughtful contributions throughout the selection process.

With new leadership in place, we are now launching recruitment for new members across several UK&I Regional Advisory Boards. To learn more about these opportunities and how to get involved, please visit: [Join a UK & Ireland Regional Board](#).

Hear from Sirah Parkes FRICS, new chair of the RICS East Midlands Regional Advisory Board



'This is an incredible privilege and an equally significant responsibility. My vision is to ensure that our Board provides an inclusive, well-informed experience for our members. Engaging locally – listening, interacting and understanding member needs – is at the heart of my approach. This role allows me to channel member feedback directly into the core of RICS.'

Sirah Parkes FRICS, new chair of the RICS East Midlands Regional Advisory Board

New chair Sirah Parkes FRICS and outgoing chair Amrit Sagoo MRICS

Celebrating our volunteers: a global commitment

We are proud to recognise the invaluable contributions of volunteers worldwide through our volunteer recognition programme:

- 40+ volunteer dinners delivered or scheduled
- welcome kits, certificates and upcoming ambassador badge
- access to exclusive professional development and digital tools
- launching soon: community and belonging hub and #RICSCommunity storytelling campaign
- end of year appreciation events.

We are also reaching out to loyal, quieter voices – members who may not serve on boards but consistently engage with the profession. Stay tuned for opportunities to share your story and influence the future of RICS.

Snapshot member stories from around the world

- **Perth:** 50+ professionals connected at an engaging Curry Night – [view LinkedIn post](#).
- **Malaysia:** 100+ attended a half-day AI and construction tech seminar at University Malaya – [view LinkedIn post](#).
- **Toronto:** Experts led a tariff talk on project cost planning – [view LinkedIn post](#).
- **Vancouver:** Lively panel explored dispute resolution in BC – [view LinkedIn post](#).
- **New York:** 100+ joined our NYU RICS Americas Conference – [view LinkedIn post](#).





Professional practice

The Knowledge and Practice Committee (KPC) is responsible for overseeing the advancement of knowledge and professional practice. Reporting to the RICS Board, the Committee supports the implementation and development of technical standards (providing input to the Standards and Regulation Board) and assists in amplifying the voice of the profession.

Key activities

Land and natural resources

FIG Brisbane April 2025

Over 1,350 delegates attended from over 100 nations. The Geospatial Council Australia (along with Surveyors Australia) welcomed the global surveying profession to Brisbane and held one of the best in recent years. RICS was joined on the UK desk by our colleagues from the Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors, Simon Hamlyn (CEO) and Alison Watson (president). RICS' James Kavanagh, Nigel Sellars and Gordon Johnston (elected as incoming chair for FIG Commission 4 – Hydrography) delivered papers on RICS standards and initiatives, chaired sessions (including the Commonwealth Association CASLE) and gave keynote addresses at several sessions.

Land Use Framework consultation response

Led by Fiona Mannix, the RICS Land and Natural Resources Professional Group Panel delivered a full, comprehensive and holistic response to the Land Use Framework consultation. RICS supports UK government's intention to optimise the use of England's land resources to satisfy the multiple roles land plays in delivering the needs of society. We support the need to use land more effectively to mitigate climate change, enhance nature and ensure the agricultural sector is capable of viably providing the food security the country needs. RICS also hosted a roundtable event on the Land Use Framework organised by The Edge, a multi-disciplinary, campaigning built environment think tank. RICS fed into the wide-ranging discussions in addition to outlining our position on the value of the Framework to key stakeholders.

Planning Reform Working Paper: Planning Committees

The Planning and Development Expert Group working with Tony Mulhall and Robert Toomey submitted a response to the UK government's consultation on the reform Planning Committees. This is part of a series of inquiries the government is running, with this one looking into how the government could reform planning committees to support a plan-led system and ensure appropriate democratic oversight.

Building surveying

RICS Building Surveying Conference

RICS' flagship UK Building Surveying Conference took place on 13 May, with over 500 delegates and many expert speakers. The conference enables the growing cohort of qualified building surveyors in RICS membership to hear from industry experts, support them in their work, and receive crucial updates on legislation, regulations and standards on building safety, fire safety, RAAC and other specialist areas of practice.

Discussing building safety in European countries

RICS took part in the Consortium of European Building Control (CEBC) regulators business meeting sharing good practice and new developments in European countries on 2 and 3 May. RICS is one of only two professional bodies to be a regular member and contributor to CEBC, to share best practice internationally, new developments, thought leadership and to ensure safe buildings in accordance with Building Regulations and codes in the post-Grenfell UK regulatory reforms, which are being closely monitored by other countries.

Continuing to provide expertise and feedback to government post-Grenfell

RICS was invited to engage with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) over future fire engineering competence and regulation on 12 June. This is one of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry final report recommendations accepted by the UK government, with fire engineering competence important and integral to the outcome of safe buildings.

RICS has played a major part in the post-Grenfell reforms and continues to offer expertise and feedback to government on fire safety engineering in the built environment.

Valuation

Valuation conferences and engagement

The flagship UK and Ireland RICS Valuation Conference attracted 241 attendees in a new online format over two half days and covered a range of subjects impacting valuation such as technology, ESG and evolving practices and international standards.

The valuation team kept up this engagement with further events presenting globally on valuation standards in Bucharest, Johannesburg and Prague and at regional events across the UK in Birmingham, Cardiff, London and Leeds.

Updated professional standards

[Valuation of medical centres and surgery premises](#)

Health is a key matter of public interest and a large and growing sector of the economy. This updated professional standard, published in May, will help RICS valuation professionals provide sound and contemporary advice in this area.

[Valuation of licensed leisure property](#)

The UK licensed leisure sector has seen substantial changes in recent years. Diversification and a wider consumer offering have made it a more mainstream asset class, attracting substantial internal and overseas investment. The updated professional standard reflects market, practice and relevant regulatory changes since the previous edition in 2010. It expands the coverage, aligns with *RICS Valuation – Global Standards* and includes a section for non-valuers. The publication was cited in [Costar](#) and [Property Week](#).

Welcoming students to HQ

A delegation of students from HAWK University (Germany) were welcomed to RICS HQ for a tour of the building and a presentation on valuation and investment advisory. We actively demonstrated the benefits of RICS membership to current and future members and why it is relevant to the next generation.

Sustainability

RICS' whole life carbon assessment software validation programme has launched

RICS has launched the new [whole life carbon assessment software validation programme](#) to provide greater confidence for professionals using carbon measurement tools. Software providers can apply for validation, which involves RICS checks. This includes ensuring that the software receives inputs appropriately and performs calculations according to the mandatory requirements of the RICS professional standard [Whole life carbon assessment \(WLCA\) for the built environment](#), as well as verifying that the software outputs are aligned with the WLCA reporting template in an acceptable digital format. Software that meets these criteria is awarded an RICS validation badge. Annual checks are required to maintain validation and ensure ongoing compliance.

RICS sustainability standards included in major study

In Q2, the practical relevance of RICS standards was reinforced through their [inclusion in a major study](#) commissioned by the Irish government on the impacts of reducing embodied carbon in new buildings. The report references RICS' [Whole life carbon assessment \(WLCA\) for the built environment](#) and the [Built Environment Carbon Database](#) (BECD) as key frameworks supporting accurate measurement and data consistency. By embedding these internationally recognised tools, the study sets a clear pathway for national policy development and industry uptake, ensuring Ireland's construction sector is equipped to deliver low-carbon buildings in line with climate targets.

Construction

Attendance at UK Construction Week in May 2025

UK Construction Week was held at Excel London in May. RICS established a stand at this important event for the UK Construction industry, which enabled us to have a significant presence alongside other key industry players. Amit Patel, Head of Professional Practice – Construction, attended the event and provided support to the RICS stand and to Acting President Nick Maclean who spoke on a panel at the event.

RICS will return to UK Construction Week later in the year at the NEC in Birmingham.

Interview with Reuters on timber frame construction

Amit Patel, Head of Professional Practice – Construction, was interviewed by Reuters on a subject that goes to the heart of the government's commitment to build 1.5 million new homes – the drive to a greater use of modern methods of construction in the form of timber frame construction and the ability to construct elements of the dwelling in a factory environment. The debate continues over the attractiveness of this strategy with RICS seeking to influence members and key stakeholders to give serious consideration to this matter.

The article will be published by Reuters in July 2025.

Commercial property

Updated professional standard on service charges

The 2nd edition of RICS' [Service charges in commercial property](#) was published in June. This professional standard promotes best practice, uniformity, fairness and transparency in the management and administration of service charges in commercial property. It contains mandatory requirements for RICS members and RICS-regulated firms, which will encourage service charges to be managed with greater consistency and due diligence.

The professional standard is effective from 31 December 2025.



New paper published exploring the digital risks to buildings

In June, RICS also published a paper on [Digital risks in buildings](#). The paper is aimed at property professionals globally and explores how the risk profile of buildings is evolving due to technology, the implications and suggested next steps. The Guardian wrote a related piece on this topic, highlighting RICS' FM survey findings.

Consumer guides and government engagement

RICS published several free consumer guides:

- [Retrofitting and improving the energy efficiency of your home](#) on 3 April
- [Fire safety for homeowners, occupiers and residents including landlords](#) on 25 April
- [Reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete \(RAAC\)](#) on 13 June and
- [Damp and mould](#) on 16 June.

RICS is continuing its extensive engagement and technical support to MHCLG and the Welsh and Scottish governments around fire safety and building safety, particularly in relation to the reforms and recommendations being taken forward by government(s) following the Grenfell Tower Inquiry final report.

RICS has also engaged with technical support to MHCLG regarding proposed government guidance on the use of sprayed foam rafter and floor level insulation.



Standards and Regulation

The Standards and Regulation directorates support the profession through maintaining public trust and confidence for the benefit of society. Strengthening trust underpins client and wider public confidence, through upholding professional standards by regulatory activities and assurance programmes.

Regulation and Assurance Operations

The Regulation and Assurance Operations directorate supports the profession to underpin client and public confidence and uphold professional standards through regulatory activities and assurance programmes. See [Regulation](#) for more detail.

536

Designated Professional Body scheme firms (UK only)

1,714

Client Money Protection scheme firms

9,978

RICS-regulated firms

15,570

Valuer Registration scheme members

138,774

individual members

In this quarter we:

- received 1,366 concerns about RICS members, of which 679 related to individual members (300) or regulated firms (379)
- opened 207 new investigations and
- closed 131 investigations.

Support teams

The profession support and assurance teams, supporting the Valuer Registration, Firm Registration, Client Money Protection and Designated Professional Body schemes, have:

- conducted 159 member support or regulatory review visits
- held 9 regulatory compliance workshops and webinars
- reached 1,037 regulated members and firms and
- undertaken reviews against £498.6m of client money.



Regulatory Tribunal

The independently led Regulatory Tribunal, chaired by Alexandra Marks CBE, dealt with:

- 6 cases, including 3 disciplinary panel hearing
- 0 registration panel hearings
- 0 interim measures hearing
- 3 single member decisions
- 0 appeal panel hearing
- 5 sanctions issued (more than one sanction may be issued in a case).



Valuation Assurance roundtables

In April and June, the chair of the Valuation Assurance Committee, Victor Olowe, led engagement activities and roundtables with around 40 valuation firms in the UK and UAE to discuss the Committee's work developing a Valuation Compliance Framework for firms. The Committee also hosted a CPD event for valuers in Dubai.

Changes announced to the CPD framework for members

The Standards and Regulation Board announced changes to the CPD framework to better support members' lifelong learning, maintain professional standards and uphold public interest. The changes agreed were based on the work of the CPD Steering Committee led by Peter Smith FRICS. Work is underway to implement these changes including improvements to the way that members can plan and record CPD activities.

Education and qualification standards

Enrolments are 91% of market plans. The Q1 trend continues: lower than expected numbers in UK, Europe and APAC were offset by higher than expected numbers in the Middle East region.

Assessment numbers are higher than forecast globally, with higher than expected numbers in the Middle East offsetting lower numbers in Americas, China and Hong Kong.

Election numbers are buoyed by higher than expected recognised professional route applications.

	Assoc assessments	MRICS assessments	Enrolments	Elections
Q1	124	373	1,827	631
Q2	242	2,536	1,757	1,817
Q1 + Q2	366	2,909	3,584	2,448

DRS Appointment Services

UK

Between 1 April and 30 June 2025, a total of 797 applications for appointments were recorded, broadly consistent with volumes recorded in Q1 2025 (833 applications), but representing a 4.7% decrease compared to the same quarter in 2024 (836 applications). Despite some pressures in the wider market, volumes across our core services have remained stable.

Commercial applications for appointments totalled 412, reflecting a marginal increase compared to Q1 (410 applications), but a slight decrease compared to Q2 2024 (424 applications).

Adjudication appointments totalled 314, a slight decrease in the previous quarter (316 applications) and 338 applications compared to Q2 2024. We remain the adjudicator nominating body market leader in construction adjudication, and this leadership position has also been reflected in the Low Value Dispute service. We receive an average of 20 applications per month under this scheme – a 400% increase compared to competitors, who typically receive around four. This significant lead highlights the strong market confidence in the DRS adjudication service.

Canada

Adjudication has only been developing in the province of Alberta over the last 24 months under the Prompt Payment and Construction Lien Act (PPCLA) framework. Between 1 April and 30 June 2025, a total of 11 adjudications were recorded under ARCANA AB. This represents a significant increase compared to just 4 adjudications in the same period in 2024 and a 37.5% rise compared to Q1 2025 (8 adjudications). This growth mirrors the early stages of adjudication's development in the UK following its introduction in 1996, where a similar upward trend was observed as the process gained acceptance. It suggests positive momentum and growing confidence in this dispute resolution method in Alberta.

DRS Quality Assurance and Panel Management

During Q2, the Panel Management Team has been focused on the recruitment of construction adjudicators. RICS is the UK's leading adjudicator nominating body and demand to join the Panel remains very high.

In April, we contacted over 300 eligible candidates and received more than 90 applications.

The Selection Committee, comprising external assessors, is currently reviewing these applications and shortlisting approximately 60 candidates to be invited for interview.

Shortlisted candidates will be invited to attend in-person interviews at our offices in London or Birmingham, which are scheduled to take place during August and September.



DRS Education

DRS Education have had a strong Q2, with figures for this quarter being the highest to date compared to previous years. This has resulted from the largest cohort of delegates enrolled on the arbitration diploma and the adjudication diploma, many of whom have paid upfront for the 18-month programme.

We also ran an extra UK expert witness programme this quarter, as well as launching a regionalised expert witness programme in Australia with 20 delegates enrolled on the first cohort.

Working with Transport for London (TfL) we have delivered the first of a three series programme on conflict avoidance. The face-to-face sessions, run over two days, is the first time RICS DRS have devised and delivered a bespoke training programme on conflict avoidance. Feedback has been excellent and has enabled DRS to reacquaint TfL who are committed to conflict avoidance processes.

During Q2, we worked with our judging panel, Amanda Clack, Louise Brooke-Smith and Matt Molloy, to consider applications for our [Women in Construction Scholarship](#), which was awarded to Elaine Huskinson.

DRS Consultancy

In April, Martin Burns gave presentations on dispute resolution to two workshops at the Environment Agency Annual Conference in Birmingham. The event was attended by around 200 representatives of the Agency's supply chain.

In May, Martin gave a presentation on the RICS Conflict Avoidance Process (CAP) to an audience of around 150 at the Annual General Meeting for the Association for Specialist Fire Protection in London. Ysella Jago gave a similar presentation at the Association for Specialist Fire Protection's Scotland conference in Edinburgh the following week.

In June, John Fletcher attended a meeting with the legal and commercial teams from the nuclear project, Sizewell C, to discuss their adoption and use of the CAP.

London International Dispute Week 2025

Also in June, and as part of this year's London International Disputes Week (LIDW), DRS hosted a high-profile event titled 'The role of experts in the dispute resolution process' in collaboration with HKA and 4-5 Gray's Inn Square. It was a standing room only session, with a keynote delivered by Acting President Nick Maclean, and a panel session moderated by John Fletcher and former President and current Dispute Resolution and Appointments Board chair, Amanda Clack. The event received excellent feedback and praise on social media and we have been asked to deliver another event next year.

DRS continues to liaise with government departments and contribute to consultations:

- We responded to Stage 1 of a wide-ranging government consultation on reforms to landlord and tenant legislation. Our response included a proposal to rely on and use an RICS ADR process that is designed to provide a simple and cost-effective alternative to litigation of lease renewal and business tenancy disputes.
- DRS made representations on the *Planning and Infrastructure Bill*, and proposed use of mediation measures to speed up the planning process and avoid/manage disputes between developers and local authorities.
- We also responded to a government consultation on whether expert witnesses in the Family Court should be members of regulatory bodies which, among other things, regulate their role as expert witnesses. We have proposed that expert witnesses should be accountable and regulated and explained that RICS already regulates chartered surveyors who discharge this role.

South Africa

In March, DRS were asked to take part in the South Africa Law Reform Commission's 'Discussion paper workshop' on a Mediation Act for South Africa. Workshop attendees included professionals from a broad range of sectors who engage with or are otherwise involved in mediation. DRS submitted their formal comments on the proposals to introduce a Mediation Act on 30 May. During Q3, there will be a series of meetings held in South Africa and East Africa to explore opportunities for the RICS Conflict Avoidance Process (CAP).

United Arab Emirates

Abu Dhabi Centre for Projects and Infrastructure (ADPIC) has confirmed a project for the CAP pilot and a kick-off meeting has now been held with the employer's representatives. A meeting with the contractors and consultants took place in June. Potential CAP professionals have now been contacted to gauge interest in providing CAP services and there will be an application process and familiarisation session scheduled in the coming weeks. John Fletcher was invited to speak about the CAP initiative at the inaugural Abu Dhabi Infrastructure Summit on June 17.

India

In May, RICS DRS Executive Director John Fletcher and Head of DRS Education Raj Sohal led a high impact visit to India, delivering the RICS Mediation Training Programme at the India International Arbitration Centre (IIAC) in Delhi. The visit included strategic meetings in Mumbai, Delhi and Hyderabad to strengthen relationships and promote the RICS India Arbitration Service. Key engagements were held with the Indian Council of Arbitration (ICA) and the International Arbitration and Mediation Centre (IAMC), with both organisations expressing strong interest in formal collaboration.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with ICA was signed during London International Disputes Week, launching a joint panel of construction and infrastructure arbitrators in India. Discussions are also progressing towards a MoU with IAMC, focused on expanding access to commercially focused arbitration services. These partnerships align with recent Indian legislative changes that support sector expert-led arbitration over traditional, judge-led processes.

RICS is also exploring opportunities to register RICS-trained mediators for court-annexed mediation and to introduce India-specific expert witness training and accreditation. The visit concluded with two successful RICS-hosted events in Mumbai and Hyderabad, focusing on dispute resolution trends and the role of expert witnesses. These engagements significantly enhance RICS' visibility, influence and collaboration in India's legal and construction sectors. They also create valuable new opportunities for RICS members and further solidify RICS' position as a global leader in built environment dispute resolution.

Delivering confidence

We are RICS. As a member-led chartered professional body working in the public interest, we uphold the highest technical and ethical standards.

We inspire professionalism, advance knowledge and support our members across global markets to make an effective contribution for the benefit of society. We independently regulate our members in the management of land, real estate, construction and infrastructure. Our work with others supports their professional practice and pioneers a natural and built environment that is sustainable, resilient and inclusive for all.

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