



12 JUNE 2025



Scotland Conference

Collaborating for future success - working together to better the built environment



Type of event

Face to face



CPD Hours

5.5
Formal

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Market trends, legislation and technical guidance, all in one place. The RICS Scotland conference returns for 2025 with the iconic University of Glasgow as its backdrop, focusing on collaboration – working together for the betterment of the built environment.

In 2025, as economic uncertainties continue to impact project delivery at every stage, come together with industry leaders for clarity on the subject areas that matter most to you. After a morning of essential updates, a range of break-out options in the afternoon will tailor the conference to your specific development needs. Sessions will ask:

- What are the best strategies for avoiding supply-chain stalls?
- How can emerging and mature industries learn from each other in the creation of green energies and attainment of net zero targets?
- How are planners and home builders looking to deliver homes across all tenures during the housing emergency and beyond?
- How are leaders re-thinking finance models and modes of public-private collaboration for public infrastructure?
- How can we best protect our wellbeing and create a workforce prepared for future challenges?

Don't miss the opportunity to connect with experts over these central questions, and to discuss so many of the challenges and opportunities presented by the current market.

Programme

Time zone:

BST

08:30

Registration

9:00

Introductory remarks

Speakers: **Professor Norman K. McLennan FRICS**, Chair of RICS Scotland, and **Nick Maclean OBE RD FRICS**, Acting President, RICS

9:20

Welcome to the University of Glasgow

Uzma Khan, Vice Principal for Economic Development and Innovation and Deputy Chief Operating Officer, University of Glasgow

9:25

Reflecting on a campus transformation

The University of Glasgow has a unique approach to campus development. Join this session to hear about management and delivery of the university's Campus Development programme. What are the obligations of an estate director at a major university? What is unique about Glasgow's approach to cooperation in the development of its estate? Nicola will also lead a discussion on the Masterplan for Glasgow's future estates development.

Speakers: Peter Haggarty FRICS, Executive Director of Estates at the University of Glasgow & Nicola Cameron MRICS, Director of Property Joint Ventures, University of Glasgow

9:50

Growth in Scotland - Collaborating at pace across the built environment

An exclusive keynote from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic, Kate Forbes MSP, covering key topics across growth in the region, from new construction to retrofitting existing buildings to meet energy efficiency and net zero targets. The keynote speech will also cover the opportunities as well as the challenges of collaborating at pace across the built environment.

Speaker: Kate Forbes MSP, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic

Programme

Time zone:

BST

10:10

Address: Actionable frameworks for collaboration

Examine the Institute of Collaborative Working's new standard for collaborative working – ISO 4401, in the context of key case studies for collaborative projects. The foundations needed for successful collaborations are often sacrificed to demanding schedules. Trends, such as a reduction in the number of interfaces in client work, are shaping the way we work. Join Professor Lynch as she takes us through the touchstones for effective communication.

Speaker: Jane Lynch, Professor of Procurement, Cardiff University

10:35

Streamlining processes up, down and across supply chains - Dunfermline Learning Campus

Supply chains in Scotland face many challenges and the number of corporate insolvencies in Scotland remain high by recent historical standards. This panel session will give an insight into how to avoid supply-chain stalls, highlighting DLC as a leading case study for successful project completion.

Speaker: Alan Paul MRICS, Head of Property Services, Fife Council

10:55

Break

Visit our exhibitors, and explore the site on a guided tour.

11:30

Panel Session: Offshore wind and Net Zero – collaborative thinking across emerging and mature industries

Our panellists will discuss how to minimise risks in the developments of new energies, considering the wide-ranging implications of green technological developments for Scottish marine life, and what can be learned from mature energy firms in terms of company structure collaborations. How can we attract and retain investment and talent for sustainable industries?

Moderated by: Roger Esson, Chair RICS Professional Construction Group and Head of Sales, Centurian Group . Panellists: Celestia Godbehere, Consents & Environment Programme Manager (co-lead), RenewableUK; Jenna Williamson, Director - Market Creation (Net Zero), Scottish National Investment Bank

12:10

Practical collaboration - overcoming the barriers to sustainable retrofit:

Following Glasgow's Retrofit Summit in February, as well as the RICS Residential Retrofit Standard released in October 2024, this session will examine methods for the effective planning and executive of energy-efficient retrofit. What are the emerging priorities in this area, and how has the landscape around solutions evolved in the past year?

Moderated by: Richard Laing FRICS, Professor of Urban Collaboration, Northumbria University. Speakers: Jonathan Bourke, Associate Director of Retrofit, Keegans; Caitriona Jordan, Head of Retrofit, National Retrofit Centre, BE-ST

Programme

Time zone:

BST

12:45

Innovative funding models - collaboration between public and private sector funds

Collaborative funding models in Scotland are moving away from more 'traditional' PFI and PPIE structures. How can refreshed modes of funding can be a regenerative tool and incentivise the development of public infrastructure? Join Peter Reekie to discuss how the Growth Accelerator Scheme facilitates collaboration between public and private funding sources.

Speakers: Peter Reekie, Chief Executive, Scottish Futures Trust; John Hamilton, Chief Executive Officer, Winchburgh Developments

13:10

Lunch

***After lunch, return for breakout sessions:
Please choose between 1A and 1B, and then either 2A and 2B.***

Breakout sessions

Time zone:

BST

14:10

1A: Technological transformations for meaningful change - closing the skills gap and recruiting for the future

Digital technologies are fundamentally reshaping the architecture, engineering, and construction sectors, creating new opportunities to enhance accuracy, efficiency, and sustainability. Technologies such as precision recording, 3D representation, terrestrial laser scanning, and urban visualisation can support the scalable adoption of emerging technologies across the sector. This presentation will explore how innovative, tech-focused courses are preparing graduates to thrive in a rapidly evolving professional landscape, while actively addressing the industry's widening digital skills gap.

Moderated by the Chair; Speakers: Douglas Pritchard, Associate Professor, Scott Sutherland School of Architecture and Built Environment, Robert Gordon University; Lynsey Brydson, Director of Impact Programmes, BE-ST

Or

14:10

1B: P&D update - delivering homes for Scotland

Planning: Join this session to discuss updates on the planning process in Scotland, addressing an ongoing, government-recognised housing emergency. How can Scotland boost local planning authority capacity, and encourage the development of small and medium-sized enterprises in the housing sector?

Speakers: Paul Hughes MRICS MRTPI, Director, GlenEive Projects; Kevin Murphy, Director of Planning, Homes for Scotland

15:00

Break

After the break, return to Room A or Room B for your second breakout.

15:30

2A: Valuation - sustainability and green initiatives

The shift toward sustainable practices and green building standards is impacting property valuations, and this trend is expected to continue as environmental concerns gain traction. Join our panel to see how developers and valuers are responding to changing market priorities.

Moderated by: Jonathan Shaw, Operations Director, Harvey Donaldson & Gibson Chartered Surveyors. Speakers: Chloe Timperley, Green Mortgage Campaign Lead, Green Finance Institute; author of 'Generation Rent'; Duncan Penman, Head of Property Risk & Climate, Credit Strategy, NatWest Group

Or

Programme

Time zone:

BST

15:30

2B: Panel session - potential pitfalls and promoting collaboration - the cost of conflict and value of early intervention

A rare opportunity to hear the legal, client and contractor perspectives on the delivery of project successes. Join this panel for a dynamic discussion on the pitfalls that can undermine effectiveness in delivery.

Moderator: Brenda Jones, Development Manager, Balfour Beatty; Speakers: Caroline McDermott FCInstCES FRICS FCIArb, Associate Director, Turner & Townsend; Christine Worthington, Partner, CMS

16:10

Short Break - all return to the main room for our final session.

16:25

Lionheart & DEI showcase: Supporting the profession, working together for wellbeing and inclusion in the built environment

Familiarise yourself with the work of the RICS DEI team and the initiatives being taken to support a changing profession. In 2025, pressures in the construction industry range from long working hours, to managing complex budgets and the rising costs of supplies. How can we maintain wellbeing amongst economic uncertainty?

Moderator: Kevin Keane, Director of Operations, Allied Surveyors Scotland; Speakers: Phil Sparke, CEO, Lionheart; Sybil Taunton, Head of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, RICS

16:50

Closing remarks

Professor Norman K. McLennan FRICS, Chair of RICS Scotland

Delivering confidence

We are RICS. Everything we do is designed to effect positive change in the built and natural environments. Through our respected global standards, leading professional progression and our trusted data and insight, we promote and enforce the highest professional standards in the development and management of land, real estate, construction and infrastructure. Our work with others provides a foundation for confident markets, pioneers better places to live and work and is a force for positive social impact.

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