

CONFERENCE



Wales Conference

Empowering professionals to navigate the complex landscape for a brighter future

Course level

Intermediate



Type of event

Face to face



CPD Hours

6
Formal



Included in

Professional Package

Book your place today

[Click here](#)

Wales is grappling with persistent economic uncertainty. This has made it imperative to address challenges and respond to issues around mental health, new sustainability and environmental regulations, technological advancements, and Wales's aging infrastructure.

Don't miss this year's Conference—your essential update on the future of surveying in Wales. Join leading industry experts as they explore the transformative impact of Artificial Intelligence on the profession, assess the latest developments in decarbonisation, and unpack critical changes to building safety regulations in Wales. Gain practical insights through sessions on residential valuation, non-domestic rates, and evolving regulatory frameworks. Plus, hear directly from the Future Generations Commissioner on the long-term vision for Welsh infrastructure.

Join us at this year's Wales Conference 2025 for a chance to network with professionals from across the country and stay updated on the latest industry trends and regulations. This is your opportunity to enjoy a full day of interaction with your peers and hear relevant insights from industry experts.



Time zone:

BST

8:30

Registration and networking

9:30

Welcome Remarks from the Conference Chair

Speaker(s): Matt Haynes, RICS Wales Chair

9:35

Welcome by RICS

Speaker(s): Emma Causer, Market Director UK&I – RICS

9:50

Future Generations Commissioner

Speaker(s): Derek Walker, Future Generations Commissioner and the future of Cymru's built and natural environment.

Dan Tram, Civil Engineer, Arup

10:25

Market Dynamics

Wales has recently seen an increase in new construction, particularly in the residential sector. Additionally, the trend towards remote working may impact the demand for commercial spaces, requiring surveyors to adapt their expertise to new types of assessments.

Speaker(s): Andrew Dobbs, Lite Steps

11:00

Networking & refreshment break

11:30

Breakout Sessions (choose A or B)

Session A - Mutual Investment Model (MIM)

The Sustainable Communities for Learning programme and the role of the Mutual Investment Model in improving the education estate across Wales.

Speaker(s): Neal O'Leary (MRICS) Programme Director – Sustainable Communities for Learning



Time zone:

BST

11:30

Developing new schools and colleges through the Mutual Investment Model and how this innovative approach to procurement, shaped by the Welsh Government, is delivering benefits to learners and local communities in Wales.

Speaker(s): Charlotte Arnell (MRICS) Project Manager – WEPCo

11:30

Session B – Building Safety

Design, Construction and Occupation.

Speaker(s): Mark Tambini – Head of Building Regulations Policy, Welsh Government.

Kim Phleps - Head of Building Safety Occupation Phase Policy ,Welsh Government

12:15

Mental health and wellbeing in the Built Environment (Panel Discussion)

With pressures ranging from tight contracts and long working hours, to managing complex budgets and the rising costs of supplies, various reports have emerged, stating many in the industry struggle with their mental health. In the past, organisations have focused more on physical injury than on mental health

Speaker(s): Phil Sparke – CEO Lionheart

Cat Griffith-Williams, CEO Constructing Excellence Wales

Lucy King MRICS – Director, Gelar Property Limited

Alex Jones – Vice Chair – RICS Matrics South Wales

12:45

Matrics Update

The need to nurture future talent has never been greater. RICS Matrics supports the next generation of industry professionals through peer networks, mentoring, free online CPD resources, and a vibrant calendar of social and networking events. This session will explore how we can build on past successes, highlight upcoming initiatives, and shape the future of talent development in Wales.

Speaker(s): David Morgan, Chair – RICS Matrics South Wales

13:00

Lunch



Time zone:

BST

14:00

RICS Address & CEO Update

Speaker(s): Justin Young, CEO - RICS

14:30

Welsh Government Update – Policy impacts for surveyors

Update on the Welsh Government's Property Delivery Plan for employment sites and premises.

Speaker(s): Tim Howard, Welsh Government, Deputy Director - Property

15:00

Networking and refreshment break

15:15

Breakout Sessions (choose A or B)

Session A - Residential: RICS Red Book

The latest edition of the RICS Red Book was published on December 2, 2024, and came into effect on January 31, 2025. This update reflects the latest regulatory changes, valuation standards, and professional guidance to ensure consistency and accuracy in property valuations. Key revisions include enhanced requirements for transparency, sustainability considerations, and alignment with evolving market practices. For residential valuation experts in Wales, the updated standards are particularly relevant in addressing regional legislative developments and market dynamics, ensuring compliance with local property valuation requirements.

Speaker(s): Nigel Sellars, RICS Senior Specialist; Property - RICS

15:15

Session B - Impact of AI and Data Analytics: Advancing the Future of Smart Buildings

From cost control to project management, AI-powered tools and algorithms will continue to streamline processes, enhance decision-making, and potentially unlock new possibilities for those willing to embrace and lead the adoption. How will this innovative, disruptive technology shape the future of Smart Buildings in Wales?

Speaker(s): Richard Scott, Chief Technology Officer – Tyrell Building Technologie



Time zone:

BST

16:00

Breakout Sessions (choose A or B)

Session A – Retrofitting and RICS

The shift toward sustainable practices and green building standards, to include retrofitting to reduce energy consumption and lower carbon emissions, is impacting property valuations. This trend is expected to accelerate as environmental concerns gain importance.

Speaker(s): Steve Lees, RICS Senior Specialist Buildings & Property - RICS

16:00

Session B - Revaluation 2026 – The Challenges of Delivering a Three-year Cycle

The Valuation Office Agency will discuss Business Rates Transformation, in particular the impacts of the Non-Domestic Rating Act 2023 which altered the revaluation cycle for all non-domestic priorities in England and Wales from a 5 yearly to a 3 yearly cycle. Given that there are circa 2.14 million properties requiring valuation, we will hear from those directly involved about the resultant challenges and opportunities.

Speaker(s): Adam Neale, Valuation Office Agency – Revaluation Lead

Sam Lewis, Valuation Office Agency – Revaluation Lead

Nicola Broadbent, Valuation Office Agency - Head of NDR Revaluation Programme Delivery (England and Wales)

16:45

Closing Remarks from the Conference Chair

17:00

End of Conference

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.

Americas, Europe, Middle East & Africa
aemea@rics.org

Asia Pacific
apac@rics.org

United Kingdom & Ireland
contactrics@rics.org



rics.org