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CLC PLANS TO USE COP 26 TO BROKER AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDUSTRY LEADERS, YOUNG PROFESSIONALS AND THE PUBLIC TO DELIVER NET ZERO IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As the world prepares for COP26, the time for action and concrete agreement to reduce carbon emissions and invest in our future is now. Government and industry have a crucial opportunity to agree tangible commitments, benefitting future generations across the world.

Our role as part of the Built Environment and Construction Sector (which accounts for 38% of global carbon emissions) is vital. The Construction Leadership Council's Construct Zero programme is leading the industry's drive to net zero and is excited today to announce its confirmed line-up for '*Construction: The Built Environment*' at COP26 on 11 November.

The role of our industry young professionals, working in partnership with industry leaders is fundamental to delivering on Net Zero. We have already seen their passion, and heard some of their fantastic ideas through the youth COP summit in Milan and our own CLC young people's summit. We are delighted to facilitate the voice of young professionals at the heart of this session by allocating 50% of our tickets to them. We are also pleased to confirm our session will be co-chaired by Sarah Linnell (Cundall). Sarah brings with her an exciting array of relevant knowledge and experience as a structural engineer turned sustainability engineer. We hope this will provide a great opportunity for young people to engage at this session and work with our industry leaders.

We know construction is unique with its local, regional, national and global footprint. We will hear from Actuate UK, Saint Gobain and the Construction Industry Council on how they, as Construct Zero partners, are already advancing the importance of retrofit, materials, and design/professional services in delivering Net Zero.

We will debate some of Construct Zero's priorities with four of our current Business Champions (Keltbray, Costain, Atkins and Travis Perkins), identifying some of the challenges they face, and opportunities to share best practice.

We will be releasing '*Building a Greener Britain*'. This exciting film reaches out into local communities, demonstrating some of the great work taking place across the sector.

Streamed online through [COP26's YouTube channel](#), we are bringing the challenges and opportunities of Net Zero to industry, leaders, SMEs, young industry professionals and the general public. If you want to make a difference to our growing sector, understand in detail how colleagues have overcome similar barriers to what you are experiencing, or have a group of interested young emerging professionals, please sign up and [register](#) for the event!

Andy Mitchell, co-chair of the CLC said:

"The world will be watching as the Construction Leadership Council takes the stage as part of events at COP26. I am delighted with our line-up of industry experts who can speak about the role that construction can play in delivering net zero carbon. We hope that they can lead change not just in the UK but promote better outcomes for construction worldwide".

Hannah Vickers, CLC CO2nstructZero and Chief of staff at Mace said:

"COP26 has the potential to be a landmark moment for the planet, and it's outcome will have a great impact on the construction sector in the UK. The Construction Leadership Council has a huge role to play as our sector transforms itself over the coming years, and we're very pleased to be able to announce the line up for our event on Cities and the Built Environment Day at the conference. I would encourage everyone in the industry to get involved in anyway you can – our industry is changing quickly, and we must work together current and future leaders to ensure success".

It's free to attend, a great learning opportunity live in the COP Green Zone and an opportunity for you to put your questions to our speakers. It promises to be a fascinating series of debates as the construction sector engages at COP26!

Only by working together, in partnership, and building on COP26, will we collectively build back better, faster and greener.

Notes for Editors Pages

About the Construction Leadership Council (CLC)

The CLC's mission is to provide sector leadership to the construction industry. The expanded CLC has twelve workstreams that operate collaboratively to address the biggest issues facing the sector, focused on the Industry Recovery Plan. Workstreams include skills and inclusion, building safety and business models. The CLC is co-chaired by Lee Rowley MP, Minister for Business and Industry, and Andy Mitchell CBE, CEO of Thames Tideway.

Speaking Partners and Business Champions Background

Darren James, Group Chief Executive Officer of Keltbray

Prior to his role with Keltbray, Darren worked for Costain Group PLC for over 30 years, most recently as chief operating officer. He has a wealth of experience in leading high profile programmes for both public and private sector clients, often in highly regulated environments, across the UK. He initially joined Costain as an industrial placement student during his undergraduate studies at the University of Surrey, where he obtained a degree in civil engineering.

Since joining Keltbray, Darren has gone on to develop a new core purpose and strategy to drive the company towards becoming a more sustainably profitable specialist engineering business, as well as forming and chairing the new Inclusion Committee to own the Inclusion Strategy, to attract and retain a more diverse workforce.

Last month, Darren was awarded the title ICE Carbon Champion by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE). The ICE Carbon Champions programme recognises decarbonisation efforts from across the civil engineering community, and provides recognition for project owners as well as best practice insights and expertise for the wider industry. Darren is also a non-executive director of the Port of London Authority and a director of the Rail Industry Association.

Nick Roberts, CEO OF Travis Perkins plc

Travis Perkins is the UK's largest supplier of building materials with 16,000 colleagues working across market-leading businesses, including Travis Perkins, Toolstation, BSS, CCF and Keyline.

Nick joined Travis Perkins in July 2019 from design, engineering and project management consultancy, Atkins, where he was President. He is a passionate advocate of safety and wellbeing, and of working collaboratively to decarbonise as well as improve productivity and diversity in the construction industry. A geologist by profession, Nick holds an MSc in Environmental Impact Assessment from Aberystwyth University and a BSc in Geology from the University of Reading, and is a Chartered Geologist, Fellow of the Geological Society and an Honorary Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Travis Perkins plans to reduce its scope 1 and 2 emissions by 80% before 2035 from a 2020 base year and to reduce its total scope 3 emissions 63% within the same timeframe. Travis Perkins has committed to investing in its buildings to continually improve energy efficiency, using low carbon, renewable energy systems where possible. Measures have also been put in place to optimise the Group's 4,000-strong transport fleet by utilising fleet management systems, transitioning to alternative fuels and adopting low carbon technology while also installing energy saving solutions such as utilising LED lighting, solar panels and electric vehicle charging points across the Group's estate. Travis Perkins will also work with its supply chain, both upstream and downstream, to encourage the reduction of their emissions and the embodied carbon in products as part of the broader Scope 3 emissions commitment.

Stephen Hodder, Director of Hodder+Partners

As Chair of the Construction Industry Council's Climate Change Committee, responsible for coordinating their Climate Change Action Plan, Stephen Hodder MBE will be presenting at COP26 on behalf of the CIC. Stephen is a former RIBA president, former CIC Chair (and current Deputy Chair) and director of Hodder+Partners, an established architectural practice with over 40 national awards including the inaugural RIBA Stirling Prize for architecture.

Michelle Agha-Hossein, Building Performance and Soft Landings Lead for the Building Services Research and Information Association (BSRIA)

BSRIA is one of the [Actuate UK](#) member organisations. Michelle is a chartered engineer with a doctorate degree in the field of sustainable refurbishment for offices; she has been providing consultancy services on Soft Landings and post occupancy projects for over 10 years and have been a guest lecturer at the University of Reading on similar topics. [Actuate UK is an alliance of eight leading engineering services bodies](#). The UK engineering services sector comprises over 60,000 firms and over 350,000 skilled professionals, employees and contractors. It comprises some 40% of UK construction by value, with over £100 billion pounds of additional turnover annually, through the provision of ongoing infrastructure and facilities services.

Sarah Linnell, Cundall

Sarah Linnell is a Sustainability Engineer at multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy, Cundall. She specialises in quantifying whole life embodied carbon to inform design decisions and help educate design professionals. Sarah joined Cundall as a Graduate Structural Engineer in 2018 where her interest in the challenges of calculating embodied carbon led her to joining Cundall's Sustainability team in 2020.

Mike Chaldecott, Chief Executive Officer to Saint-Gobain - UK & Ireland

Saint-Gobain - UK & Ireland encompasses 17,000 employees across its 900 building distribution branches, its Off-Site, Interior Solutions and Contracts Divisions and its construction materials manufacturing brands which includes many respected construction brands such as British Gypsum, Weber and Isover. Mike is responsible for executing Saint-Gobain purpose to Make the World a Better Home and deliver on its vision to be the leader in light and sustainable construction. Prior to this Mike was Managing Director for British Gypsum for 8 years; has spent 5 years working in France and Poland, responsible for the group's gypsum and insulation businesses in Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary and previously held the position of Managing Director for the global BPB Formula business based in Paris. Mike is an engineering graduate and has an MBA from Manchester Business School. He is an active fundraiser, Patron and a past Trustee of the Construction Industry's charity for the homeless and hospices, CRASH.

Lara Young, Group Climate Change Director, Costain

Lara was named Energy and Carbon Manager of the Year at the 2021 edie sustainability leaders award and is a Highway UK 2020 Associate Laureate.

Lara is the instigator and driving force behind establishing and implementing Costain's Climate Change Action Plan to transition to a net-zero organisation. Challenging existing business models and processes, her role is to embed carbon management and drive the design and delivery of whole life low carbon solutions across Costain.

Lara is leading the integration of the world's first standard for managing infrastructure carbon, PAS2080 at Costain.

In 2020 Lara joined the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) Carbon Project steering group and is working to incorporate systems thinking to help articulate a future vision for UK infrastructure and became Chair of the Carbon Champion review Panel in June 2021.

Lara was recently listed in the Energy Saving Trust "Eight Great Women list" for International Women's Day and named the 2021 New Registrant of the Year by the Society for the Environment.

Richard Robinson, CEO SNC-Lavalin's Atkins

Richard joined SNC-Lavalin's Atkins business as the CEO of UK & Europe in November 2019 and is responsible for leading a business of 10,000 people across multiple sectors including transportation, water, property, aerospace, defence and security.

A chartered chemical engineer and a dean's list MBA graduate with a Royal Academy of Engineering SMF Scholarship started his career with ICI. He moved through senior leadership roles at Tarmac, a technology start-up company, Heathrow Express and Aecom before becoming COO HS2. Richard was also an Executive Director of the HS2 Ltd board. He is a fellow of the ICE, Board member of the Association of Consulting Engineers (ACE) Board Member and a Confederation of British Industry (CBI) Council Member.

Under his leadership, Atkins' UK business has been at forefront of the engineering sector's drive to help clients manage climate risk and build climate resilience through the collaborative application of digital innovation and sustainable solutions.