

Public Affairs group

The remit of the Policy and External Affairs Group is to support and give oversight to the successful implementation of ACE's public affairs strategies and promote, protect and project the reputation of ACE.

The Group provides guidance and assistance in the implementation of ACE's three core action areas:

- Promoting a unified voice for consultancy and engineering and ACE
- Projecting ACE's profile amongst key stakeholders and
- Promoting ACE's stance on business ethics and standards

In addition, the Group will be responsible for the strategic planning and implementation of ACE corporate affairs activities. Key roles and responsibilities of this group are:

- Develop ACE's public engagement strategy
- Plan and implement Sector Interest Group activities
- Develop policy statements and positions for key stakeholders
- Assess the impact of economic and policy developments on ACE's member companies and the wider industry, such as Budget, Comprehensive Spending Review and Autumn Statement announcements
- Provide political and analytical insight where appropriate for specific presentations, briefings for meetings and corporate plan development
- Represent ACE with Devolved Governments, Local Authorities, Combined Authorities, Local Enterprise Partnerships and other regional and sector bodies such, NIEP, HMEP, APSE to influence and support officials in the implementation of regional and city infrastructure investment strategies, and on innovative procurement management and practice
- Develop and maintain strong relationships with external stakeholders
- Represent ACE on key stakeholder groups where necessary, or facilitate member involvement.
- Track economic and political developments
- Initiate, conduct and commission research where required

The group also ensures that ACE's public affairs strategies and outputs continue to raise the organisation's profile amongst its target stakeholder groups and gives appropriate support to key initiatives and projects so that all communications opportunities are exploited to the full.

Terms of Reference

Objectives:

1. To support and give oversight to the implementation of ACE's communications and public affairs strategies and promote, protect and project the reputation of ACE
2. To provide guidance and assistance in the implementation of ACE's three core action areas:

- Promoting a unified voice for consultancy and engineering and ACE • Projecting ACE's profile amongst key stakeholders and
- Promoting ACE's stance on business ethics and standards
- 1. To ensure that that ACE's communications and public affairs strategies and outputs continue to raise the organisation's profile amongst its target stakeholder groups
- 2. To give support where appropriate to key initiatives and projects so that all communications opportunities are exploited to the full.

Formation:

1. The Group Chair Tenure and Succession Guidelines shall apply to the operation of this Group, as set out above in Appendix 2
2. Representatives in total drawn from ACE members firm staff and selected communications professionals
3. The Group Chair shall sit on the ACE Board
4. ACE Staff:
 - a) Chief Executive
 - b) Director of Policy and External Affairs
 - c) Group Communication Executive
 - d) Policy Manager
5. The Group shall meet at least three times a year.