

## Forthcoming events

### November

**6** **Validation of numerical analysis in geotechnical engineering**  
6 November 2014

*In partnership with NAFEMS*  
London | Seminar

**20** **Untangling the infrastructure web: the future of integrated & joint asset management in cities**  
20 November 2014

*CIRIA Civil Infrastructure event*  
London | Seminar

**27** **Responsible sourcing on the global stage**  
27 November 2014

*In partnership with APRES*  
Loughborough | Seminar

### December

**27** **Applying the Infrastructure Carbon Review**  
11 December 2014

*Followed by the CIRIA Network Christmas reception*  
London | Seminar

### January

**27** **Movement in buildings - CPD for Designers**  
27 January 2015

London | Seminar

**28** **Risk assessment and management of asbestos in soil**  
28 January 2015

Manchester | Seminar

## Coming soon

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Geotechnical issues in construction**

London | Mini-conference

**CIRIA network Christmas party**

London | Seminar

**Environmental good practice guide on site**

London | Seminar

**Scour at bridges and other hydraulic structures**

London | Seminar

*More details about these events will be available at [www.ciria.org](http://www.ciria.org) shortly*

Learn more about:

- [CIRIA Civil Infrastructure events](#)
- [Biodiversity interest group events](#)

# CIRIA Civil Infrastructure events

*For Core and Associate members and specially invited guests only.*

The Government has highlighted the need for long-term investment in infrastructure to ensure that Britain can compete in the global race for growth and has developed a delivery plan with a pipeline of major projects to help give a long-term view of opportunities for the UK construction sector. Together with capital investment for new infrastructure to meet increasing demand, there remains the challenge of maintaining and modernising the existing, ageing and sometimes failing, infrastructure on which we depend.

CIRIA is recognised as a hub for thought leadership and facilitating collaboration across the construction supply chain. CIRIA's long standing expertise in research management and the production of industry guidance has resulted in a reputation for high quality, authoritative and widely used reports. Our good practice guidance covers both the principles of sustainable whole-life infrastructure asset design and management, and technical guidance on the management of key assets such as bridges, tunnels, embankments, dams, culverts and reservoirs. From asset monitoring to inspection and maintenance, CIRIA works with industry stakeholder communities and their supply chains in identifying and managing infrastructure asset vulnerability and in the delivery of new infrastructure.

But CIRIA aims to do more. The age of 'digital design engineering' and modern methods of construction can bring significant opportunities to modernise the industry and deliver infrastructure faster, at lower cost, and with lower emissions. By showcasing the aims outlined in the 'Construction 2025 vision' to the rest of the world, it is hoped that export opportunities can be created for key skills and technologies from the UK construction industry.

CIRIA, with support of its Council, is taking forward new infrastructure-focussed activities. Working collaboratively with key organisations and individuals representing infrastructure clients, operators, regulators, academic institutions and other stakeholders, these activities will address the challenges faced by the industry in delivering new, and maintaining existing infrastructure.

The aim is to join up a fragmented sector, to maximise the benefit of investment by identifying gaps and opportunities and filling these through signposting and consolidation. Working with professional institutions and benefitting from linkages with key government and industry initiatives, CIRIA will exploit its unique position to enable joined-up thinking, providing important guidance and knowledge-sharing through a series of planned activities.

Activities planned in 2014 include round-table meetings for CIRIA's civil infrastructure clients to share knowledge, good practice and thought leadership, together with the following seminars, conferences and networking events.

Visit [www.civilinfrastructure.org](http://www.civilinfrastructure.org) for more information.



## Forthcoming events

- 13 Mar** **Smart construction & intelligent infrastructure**  
 London | Seminar
- 19 Jun** **Innovators of tomorrow's infrastructure**  
 London | Seminar
- 18 Sep** **Infrastructure risk and resilience to natural hazards**  
 London | Seminar
- 20 Nov** **Untangling the infrastructure web: the future of integrated & joint asset management in cities**  
 London | Seminar

# Biodiversity interest group events

*For Core, Associate and CIRIA network members and specially invited guests only.*

The natural environment provides us with a range of crucial benefits including food, water, materials, flood defences and carbon sequestration. Biodiversity underpins most, if not all, of them.

Besides the growing consensus that it is prudent to work with and make use of natural processes and systems where possible, it is wrong to let species become extinct and to exploit or dominate nature as if it were an obstacle to progress.

Biodiversity enhancements need to be at the centre of our design and engineering process.

However, it can be daunting to know where to start and how to incorporate biodiversity into developments. This is especially true when the development is already under construction and changes are hard to make.

The Biodiversity interest group (BIG) is a face to face network of industry experts from clients, contractors and consultants, discusses biodiversity developments, achievements in the industry, government initiatives and more. The group shares knowledge from different sectors and focuses on what tangible outputs can be delivered such as guidance, knowledge sharing, training and capacity building. A collaborative initiative, the group works for the greater good and is altruistic in its activities.

We want organisations to start incorporating biodiversity into their budgeting and operations and we aspire for biodiversity enhancements to be seen as simple, affordable and achievable.

## The BIG Challenge

The BIG Challenge of 'do one thing' invites

you to add one new biodiversity enhancement to your construction site, development or existing building.

The biodiversity enhancement can be something simple, such as adding hanging baskets planted with native wildflowers, creating bug hotels, rain gardens, planted cycle locks or skip gardens. These measures can be a permanent feature of your development, or temporary during the construction phase, which, when finished, could potentially be applied to the next site and enhanced further.

The challenge can also include initiatives such as creating biodiversity champions in your organisation, or programmes that engage with the local community. We want the BIG Challenge to demonstrate that small enhancements are the crucial first step in engaging with and understanding biodiversity. We believe the challenge will gain enough momentum to ensure that biodiversity becomes a much greater consideration in towns and cities than is currently the case.

Visit [www.bigchallenge.info](http://www.bigchallenge.info) for more information.



## Forthcoming BIG events

**27  
Mar**

**Biodiversity offsetting**  
Biodiversity interest group  
London | Seminar

**11  
Sep**

**Biodiversity site tour**  
Biodiversity interest group  
London | Site visit

**14  
Oct**

**The BIG challenge: one year on**  
Biodiversity interest group  
London | Seminar