

05 July 2022

Recalibrating the Built Environment sector

The Council for the Built Environment (CBE) held its first quarter Stakeholder Engagement on 05 July 2022, with the primary aim of bringing the industry and sector stakeholders together to discuss Built Environment matters. CBE had the honour of the Deputy Minister of Public Works and infrastructure, Honourable Noxolo Kiviet who delivered the Keynote Address, inadvertently theming the engagement as an effort to recalibrate the industry to address imbalance and equity as we deliver on national priority areas.

In setting the tone, Honourable Deputy Minister Noxolo Kiviet noted some significant milestones initiated by the CBE, these being:

As a co-signatory to South Africa's Infrastructure and Construction Anti-Corruption Pledge on 30 June 2022, it demonstrates the CBE's commitment to rid the sector of this scourge.

Rallying to the call during KwaZulu-Natal's April 2022 floods by mobilising registered and unemployed graduates to be deployed and assist with rebuilding infrastructure in the province.

The work of the CBE's Transformation Collaborative Committees (TCCs) established to guide transformation in the industry.

The Built Environment Throughput Study – made useful recommendations regarding skills pipeline's supply and demand in relation to training and the fast-tracking of candidates' progression towards achieving their professional registration status.

The implementation of the Identification of Work (IDoW) which was gazetted in 2022, should be prioritised, in working together with the professional councils as it is a key mechanism in regulate the Built Environment Professionals.

CBE's participation in government's National Infrastructure Programme (NIP) 2050 which provides foundations for achieving long-term transformation needed for inclusive growth.

In closing, Honourable DM emphasised the need for the private sector to come on board as government cannot address and resolve all the country's problem on its own. With July being Mandela Month, she echoed its universal appeal to make the 2022 theme "Do what you can, with what you have, where you are" a reality.

Industry and stakeholders were brought up to speed on the work undertaken by the respective Transformation Collaborative Committees (TCCs). The TCCs space is where industry and stakeholders come together to discuss issues that affects the built environment under the below thematic areas:

1. Procurement, Policy, Legislation and Socio-Economic Development
2. Women Empowerment and Gender Equality
3. Occupation Specific Dispensation
4. Professional Skills and Capacity Development
5. Health, Safety, Public Protection and Universal Access

More information on the TCCs can be accessed on the CBE website: www.cbe.co.za

In his closing remarks, the CBE CEO Mr Msizi Myeza explained that CBE is currently embarking on engagements with the offices of the Premiers as a nation-wide exercise. Part of the initiatives of the CBE is to contribute to the Economic Recovery Plan (ERRP), as well as support the implementation of the District Development Model (DDM) through supporting built environment skills for infrastructure delivery and maintenance. Memoranda of Understanding were being finalised to help guide the type of initiatives for collaboration. He outlined the CBE's intention to establish a virtual academy with the Mpumalanga Provincial government as one the initiative focusing of candidacy training, mentorship, and employment opportunities.

Look out for the next coming stakeholder engagement in September.