



### February 2018

**Ian Trickey FICConstM. Director of Membership for the past two years has handed over the role to Roy Blamey MConstM. at the Executive meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> January, Ian was thanked for his hard work**

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**Willmott has moved to Cardiff**

With ambitions to develop further in the South Wales region, Willmott Dixon has moved to bigger offices at Celtic Gateway Business Park in Cardiff Bay.



The Willmott Dixon team outside their new offices in Cardiff Bay having seen its local turnover double since 2009 to £165m a year, and heading for £200m in 2018, Willmott Dixon aims to be a key player in Cardiff.

The company has taken 7,769 sq ft of third-floor office space at Celtic Gateway Business Park, providing desk space for 200 employees in support of site teams working across South Wales. The contractor's track record in the area includes the Royal Welsh College of Music, Cardiff & Vale College, One Central

Square and the new Computational Foundry at Swansea University. It is also behind the £25m Eastern High School for the City of Cardiff Council, built on land formerly used by Cardiff & Vale College's Trowbridge campus.

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**Cardiff Contractor**

Cardiff contractor's boost for the New Year Cardiff based family business R&M Williams has secured more than £30m worth of contracts as they head into 2018. The company, which also has an office in Swansea, has won framework agreements with both Cardiff City and Caerphilly Councils. It has been appointed to build teaching facilities at Newbridge School and has also secured a contract to build a new £4.3m fire station at Bristol Airport. R&M Williams will be working on residential properties across Cardiff as part of the framework deal for the next four years, doing maintenance work and disabled adaptations. It also has a separate two-year contract to work on estate regeneration projects. Involvement with Caerphilly Council, will include carrying out external work and refurbishments to 169 residential council homes. At Newbridge School R&M Williams will be demolishing the old music block and building a new three-storey facility in its place. The £1.8m project was awarded to the Local Consortium Wales LLP, which is a partnership established by R&M Williams to compete for larger publicly-funded projects.



## Self-cleaning Solar Panels



Technologies has secured a near £1m research grant from Innovate UK to validate and test the industrial rollout of a self-clean coating, developed to optimise energy production of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels. Field trials are under way in Dubai and the UK, and further trials are planned in the USA, Kuwait and Chile. Industry research has already proven that the accumulation of dirt and soiling on solar modules deployed in solar farms can reduce their power output by up to 50% per month. Not only are such large energy losses having a direct impact on operation and maintenance costs, they are reducing the perceived benefits of investing in solar energy in the developing world. The new coating technology, branded as Solar Sharc, eliminates surface contamination caused by salt, dirt, dust or ash because it removes the need for manual cleaning. Field trials are under way in Dubai and the UK, and further trials are planned in the USA, Kuwait and Chile. Industry research has already proven that the accumulation of dirt and soiling on solar modules deployed in solar farms can reduce

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## AGM and National Rally Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018 *Hosted by South West Region*



**Leigh Park Country House Hotel & Vineyard. Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire.**

**Booking forms contact me Mike Bishop details below, if you would like one, don't miss a great weekend**

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**Mike Bishop. FICConstM. Editor  
Governor  
01962 713000 [bishop1ue@btinternet.com](mailto:bishop1ue@btinternet.com)**