



WIG

The Whitehall & Industry Group
connecting the sectors



'Infrastructure' Series

The National Infrastructure Strategy - key considerations for a modern Britain

Expert Insight

We were joined by Professor Brian Collins, Professor of Engineering Policy and Director of the International Centre for Infrastructure Futures at UCL. He touched upon points including:

- Resilience, Preparedness and Adaptability - our infrastructure has been found wanting, even more so as we look to move to low carbon and new ways of living, moving and working. Our infrastructure needs to fit the people who use it.
- The need for a joined up approach to net-zero carbon targets across all of the sectors.
- The need for better ways of engaging the public to understand what is needed for the future, in particular the views of younger generations as they will be the users along with their children and grandchildren.
- Data and information are paramount to ensuring infrastructure resilience and there is a bigger role for this to play in future infrastructure development.
- Sovereign capability and the impact of COVID-19 on our ability to build and maintain utilities.



Cross-sector Opinion

Attendees from the breadth of our cross-sector membership listened in, we asked them:

Which do you feel are the top two priorities for national infrastructure?



Our members' questions

Our members raised some challenging questions to be answered, some of the big issues raised included:

- How we can enable whole-life carbon management as an essential and routine aspect of all new infrastructure projects.
- Whether the UK systematically benchmarks performance on infrastructure development with other countries facing similar challenges.
- How we make a cogent business case for resilience and whether there was more work to be done on understanding the economic value of resilience rather than the cost of lack of resilience.
- The role of regulators in driving the right agendas for the required behaviours.
- Whether sovereign capability has been sacrificed for the sake of cost reduction and if this was something we need to restore.

WIG members can listen to Brian's presentation [here](#)
To see our full programme of webinars, visit www.wig.co.uk