

ENGINEERS IRELAND POLICY OVERVIEW

March 2018

The Engineers Ireland Strategy 2017-2020 established the organisation's vision, strategic objectives and key deliverables for the next three years. One of the key themes of the Strategy is 'relevance', to build the reputation of Engineers Ireland as a trusted, progressive and authoritative voice, taking a leadership role nationally in relation to engineering as well as sustainability, wellbeing and innovation more broadly.

To this end, Engineers Ireland aims to play an active and constructive role in the new consensus-driven model of policy decision-making. We would like to hear the voice of the engineer in debates of national significance and we believe that our expertise, drawn from over 25,000 engineers across every discipline of the profession, can add significantly to public policy formation.

Engaging members in policy development

Engineers Ireland policy development is based on extensive engagement with our regional branches, engineering divisions and societies, the wider membership and profession, and other stakeholders. Members are given the opportunity to shape our policy positions through surveys, workshops and by contacting the Policy Officer directly (see contact details overleaf).

Communicating our message

The primary form of Engineers Ireland's policy communications are Policy Briefs – short documents which summarise our recommendations and background research – available online. These Policy Briefs shape our submissions to public consultations, proactive engagement with policymakers and the work of our representatives on committees and in the media.

Our other major policy communications are 'The State of Ireland' and 'Engineering', annual assessments of infrastructure and the profession. The reports are informed by expert advisory groups and communicated extensively to policymakers and the media.

An ethical approach to policy

The Engineers Ireland Code of Ethics applies to all members of the organisation and covers: relations with colleagues, clients, employers and society in general; environmental and social obligations; maintenance and development of professional conduct and standards; and enforcement procedures and disciplinary action. Based on the provisions of the Code of Ethics and the Strategy a set of five core policy values have been adopted; these values underpin each of our policy positions.

“ Engineering interacts with all other forms of life. The future of the profession will see engineers at the centre of planning, not simply asked to join in the execution of particular tasks, but in designing transformation. ”

- *President of Ireland,
Michael D. Higgins*



Engineers Ireland Policy

Click [here](#) for policy briefs on a range of topics

Further reading

Engineers Ireland (2018)

Engineering 2018: A barometer of the profession in Ireland

Engineers Ireland (2018) Code of Ethics

Engineers Ireland (2017) Strategy 2017-20

Engineers Ireland (2017) State of Ireland 2017

Engineers Ireland (2016) State of Ireland 2016

Engineers Ireland (2012) Bye-laws

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Engineers Ireland

With over 25,000 members, Engineers Ireland is the voice of the engineering profession in Ireland. Engineers Ireland was established in 1835 making us one of the oldest and largest professional bodies in the country.

Members come from every discipline of engineering, and range from engineering students to fellows of the profession. For more information, see www.engineersireland.ie.

Policy values

- Community and the common good: Advancing the safety, health and well-being of the public
- Sustainability: Promoting the principles and practices of sustainable development and the needs of present and future generations
- Innovation: Leading rapid and transformational developments in digital and other technologies for the benefit of all
- Excellence in engineering: Promoting knowledge and skills, professional standards, diversity, and public confidence in the engineering profession
- Trustworthiness: Acting with integrity, objectivity, evidence, authority, and transparency as an organisation

Policy framework

A policy framework has been devised to add structure to Policy Briefs by connecting complementary themes. The first pillar of the framework is 'advocating innovative solutions for society' and goes to the very heart of the relevance of the organisation to wider society. The themes within this pillar broadly align with Engineers Ireland's divisions and societies, government departments and the themes used by other organisations. The second pillar is 'promoting and developing the profession' and broadly aligns with the operations of the organisation and our engagement with the wider profession.



Policy work completed in the past year

In the past year, Engineers Ireland has been bringing the expertise of the engineering profession to bear on public policy. We advised the preparation of the National Planning Framework and National Development Plan (Project Ireland 2040), which envisage a strategic approach to planning and infrastructure. We also gave evidence to an Oireachtas Committee and engaged extensively on building regulation and standards. Finally, we made a wide range of submissions to public consultations, which are available on our website.