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## Consultation leaders convene to explore role of tech in enhancing virtual and in-person stakeholder experience

As organisations adapt to new forms of working such as hybrid - which has accelerated post-pandemic - a range of consultation specialists gather in London on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2022. They'll provide practical ideas on how to incorporate new innovations that significantly boost the stakeholder experience for infrastructure projects.

<u>The Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement for Infrastructure</u> 2022 event will also focus on how to design a consultation for both in-person and virtual, and the role of technology in improving stakeholder reach and engagement.

The event will be a prime opportunity to gain crucial knowledge on how to successfully plan and deliver an effective consultation strategy, and in doing so, avoid major delays to your project.

Among the speakers at this year's one-day event will be Damian Greenfield, Institute Associate at The Consultation Institute. He'll examine how consultation has changed in 2022, what it will look like in 2023, and what are the external factors influencing consultation and engagement.

Dan Barrett, Head of Infrastructure at Traverse, will look at how best to increase accessibility and improve inclusivity, to ensure you're engaging the right audience and receiving representative feedback. He'll also give advice on how to navigate an area that is becoming increasingly politicised - working with groups that have opposing views.

Poppy Tremayne, Stakeholder and Consultation Manager at RWE will explore themes concerning planning and delivering an effective consultation and engagement strategy. She'll also be giving insight on stakeholder mapping and the effective utilisation of previous data to inform your project.

The event will provide several panel discussions throughout the day. National Highways, EDF and TFL will discuss the benefits and challenges of hybrid, virtual and in-person consultation and engagement formats. They'll also examine project speed and how best to prepare for a future skills shortage.

The event will be chaired by Stephen Hill, Institute Legal and Parliamentary Lead at The Consultation Institute. He's recently reviewed the Government's 'Planning for the Future' consultation, which proposes the most significant reforms to the planning systems in England in a generation.











Mr Hill, said: "The Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement for Infrastructure event will be a wonderful opportunity for specialists in the field of consultation and stakeholder engagement to share their expertise, and provide innovative solutions to help overcome the various challenges facing infrastructure projects.

"The pandemic has hastened the need for organisations to keep up-to-date with new ways of creating inventive, yet practical forms of communication and engagement. The event will give sage advice on how to keep on top of developments to ensure projects are being completed on time.

"Along with scheduled speaker time and panel discussions, attendees will have plenty of opportunities throughout the day to network with key stakeholders from multiple industries."

The event is organised by Waterfront Conference Company, which delivers physical and virtual policy conferences for the planning, energy, rail, ports and maritime sectors.

For more information and to register for the Consultation and Stakeholder Engagement for Infrastructure 2022, visit the event website <a href="https://waterfront.eventscase.com/EN/consultation22">https://waterfront.eventscase.com/EN/consultation22</a> or for other Waterfront events, visit <a href="https://www.waterfrontconferencecompany.com/">https://www.waterfrontconferencecompany.com/</a>.

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## **Notes**

Established in 1993, Waterfront Conference Company is one of the UK's leading providers of conferences and training events for the rail, ports and planning sectors.

For more information, visit www.waterfrontconferencecompany.com .







