PLANNING FOR INFRASTRUCTURE IN WALES 2026

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Ahead of the Planning for Infrastructure in Wales 2026, taking place on 30 April 2026, **Ed Evans, Company Director and Secretary, CECA Wales,** shares the opportunities unlocked by the new consenting regime and how the sector can deliver Wales's infrastructure pipeline.



ED EVANS
COMPANY DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY
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WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES UNLOCKED BY THE NEW CONSENTING REGIME AND HOW CAN THESE BE MAXIMISED?

If the new consenting regime operates as planned then I would expect greater clarity, consistency and speed of delivery when it comes to development - plus increased confidence from investors as the risks to success diminish. However, much will depend on the resources applied by regulators and a significant change in culture.

WHAT MORE CAN BE DONE TO SUPPORT INNOVATIVE TYPES OF DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE SCHEMES ACROSS WALES?

Wales must demonstrate that it's open for business, open to new ways of doing things and has the supply chains and a workforce capable of supporting delivery. That needs a Team Wales approach.

HOW CAN THE SECTOR ATTRACT GREATER INVESTMENT TO DELIVER WALES'S INFRASTRUCTURE PIPELINE?

Governments at all levels need to inject greater clarity, consistency, certainty and visibility into their plans so that investors and suppliers are able to plan ahead with confidence. Constant chopping, changing, pausing and stopping plans sends out the wrong messages.

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