



Special points of interest:

- **The IBCI is holding a one-day seminar in the Tullamore Court Hotel on 5th September. Details of the programme are included in this issue.**
- **The IBCI will hold its Annual General Meeting for 2002 after the forthcoming seminar in Tullamore.**

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Review of Fire Safety and the Fire Services in Ireland

As reported in earlier editions of the IBCI News, the Department of the Environment and Local Government appointed consultants Farrell Grant Sparks to carry out a review of Fire Safety and Fire Services in Ireland.

In both their first draft and the final report, the consultants recommend that *"the building control regime should transfer to a new Fire and Civil Protection/Emergency Services Authority as part of its critical safety remit"*. It envisages that all Parts, A to M, should be implemented by them through local Fire and Civil Protection/Emergency authorities.

The report also suggests there should be what they describe as *"greater flexibility"* in recruitment to a new Building Control Officer grade. They didn't expand on what they mean by this, but the reporting structure shown suggests that the implementation of Building Control will be carried out largely by non-professional staff.

As previously reported, the IBCI Council had reservations about the recommendations and sent a response to the draft report to the consultants, the Minister and the DOELG. While that response appeared to have little effect on the consultant's final report, the

DOELG subsequently invited an IBCI delegation to meet with Department Officials in May to discuss the report and outline our concerns about its recommendations.

It was agreed at that meeting that the IBCI Council would submit a second response addressing the contents of the final report directly to the DOELG. It is hoped that this document will form the basis for further discussions about the future of Building Control in Ireland.

Further developments and/or any replies to our submission will be reported in future editions of IBCI News.

Consortium of European Building Control Spring Meeting held in Dublin

The IBCI hosted the 26th meeting of the Consortium of European Building Control in Dublin on the 13th and 14th May.

CEBC meetings take place twice yearly and are hosted by member organisations at venues around Europe. When approached by officers of the CEBC early last year and asked to organ-

ise a meeting in Dublin Council decided it was the IBCI's turn to act as hosts and opted for the spring meeting in 2002.

Hosting the meeting proved to be a very large undertaking indeed. A period of approximately three months was needed to plan the full range of events. The usual format involves organising two

full days of meetings as well as a social itinerary for the visiting delegates and their partners.

The people attending began arriving as early as Friday and stayed until the end of the meetings on Tuesday evening. Including Ireland, representatives from 15 countries attended the Dublin

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Consortium of European Building Control Spring Meeting held in Dublin (cont'd.)

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meeting.

The visiting delegates came from England, Scotland, France, Germany, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Austria, Poland, Croatia and Slovenia. The delegates stayed in Jury's Christchurch with the business meetings being held in Jury's Custom House Quay. An outline of the itinerary is set out below.
Sunday: Bus tour of Dublin and North Wicklow.

Sunday night: Rendezvous in traditional Irish music pub.

Monday (morning): Meeting. (Partners visit to Dublin City Hall.)

Monday (afternoon): Site visit to Croke Park including technical presentations by:

- Frank Murray, Horgan and Lynch on Structure, and
- Michael Slattery, Fire Consultants on Fire and Safety.

Monday (night): Conference Dinner in Temple Bar Hotel followed by music in Arlington Hotel.

Tuesday: Meeting.

Day two of the meeting is normally devoted to a particular topic of interest. The theme of this conference centered on the recent Directive of the Council of the European Union on the Energy performance of buildings. Presentations were given on:

- Climate Change
- The Energy Directive of the European Parliament
- Influence of the Energy direc-

tive on Building Regulations in England and Wales

- Harmonization of Building Regulations in Europe
- The work of the AEEBC
- Developments in the Irish Building Control System
- Electronic plan Registration

As usual, the meeting concluded with a Tour de Table where members report on technical or legislative developments in each of their countries. This is a vital part of the Consortiums business where members are made aware of what is going on all over Europe.

At the conclusion of the meeting, CEBC Chairman David Smith paid tribute to the IBCI saying we had hosted "one of the best meetings ever" with the Dublin meeting having the highest turnout in the history of CEBC.



David Smith, CEBC Chairman

Members of the Council attended the weekend events and helped to extend our hospitality to the delegates. They were most appreciative of our efforts and left with an enhanced view of Dublin.



Delegates attending the CEBC Spring Meeting in Dublin pictured during the technical visit to Croke Park

IBCI One-day Seminar on Building Control and Domestic Development

The Irish Building Control Institute is pleased to present a one-day seminar for those involved in Building Control and/or domestic construction. The theme of the seminar is "Building Control and Domestic Development".

In many building control authorities, domestic developments account for up to 90% of the commencement notices received. The IBCI recognise that for many involved in building control, inspection and monitoring compliance of works relating to dwellings can form a large part of their daily routine.

In recognition of the significant increase in the popularity of non-traditional methods of construction, IBCI have invited two guest speakers to give presentations on the topic. Robert Clark is Development Director with Fusion Building Solutions who specialise in steel frame homes and Peter deLacy-Staunton is Technical Manager with IJM Timber Engineering a leading manufacturer of timber frame buildings.

The seminar will be an opportunity for all those involved in building control to acquire some knowledge in relation to non-traditional methods of construction and refresh their memories on some dwelling related topics. It will also provide a forum to discuss current points of interest and to exchange views about the operation of building control in Ireland. All building control staff are encouraged to attend.

The seminar will be held in the Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly on Thursday, 5th September, 2002. Lunch and refreshments will be provided and the cost of attendance is €150 per participant.

A booking form is published here and can be cut out and

used if desired. Booking forms may also be copied as required and we would ask that one form be completed for each person wishing to attend.

The number of places are limited so you are advised to book early to avoid disappointment.

Irish Building Control Institute



Building Control and Domestic Development

One-day Seminar

Thursday, 5th September, 2002

**Tullamore Court Hotel
Tullamore, Co. Offaly**

Building Control Seminar Programme

9:30 Registration

Session 1: Chaired by Tom Johnson, President, IBCI

10:00 On-site Waste Water Treatment and Disposal
Philip O'Brien, IBCI

11:00 Coffee

11:30 Steel Frame Homes from Plans to Reality
Robert Clark
Development Director, Fusion Building Solutions

12:30 Lunch

Session 2: Chaired by Philip O'Brien, Vice-president, IBCI

2:00 Timber Frame Construction
Peter de Lacy Staunton
Technical Manager, IJM Timber Engineering Ltd.

3:00 Site Conditions
Johnny MacGettigan, IBCI

4:00 Close (followed by IBCI Annual General Meeting)

Booking Form

Name:

Job Title:

Address:

Telephone:

Fax:

Email:

Amount Enclosed:

or

Local Authority Order Number:

Attendance fee: €150 per participant.

Cheques should be crossed and made payable to:

**Irish Building Control Institute
P.O. Box 3667,
Ballsbridge,
Dublin 4.**

IRISH BUILDING



**P.O. Box 3667,
Ballsbridge,
Dublin 4.**

If you would like to contribute an article to the IBCI Newsletter, or comment on anything contained in this issue, please write to:

**IBCI News,
P.O. Box 3667,
Ballsbridge,
Dublin 4.**

Notice of 2002 AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Irish Building Control Institute for 2002 will be held immediately after the forthcoming building control seminar in Tullamore. The details are as follows:

**Venue: Tullamore Court Hotel,
Tullamore, Co. Offaly.**

**Date: Thursday, 5th September,
2002**

Time: 4:00 pm

The IBCI promotes the professional practice of building control in Ireland. All members are encouraged to attend, to participate in developing policy and to take part in the election of the Council of the Institute for the coming year.

With your help the Institute will continue to grow and represent your interests both here at home and in Europe.