

The FIG logo consists of the letters 'FIG' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered within a red square. The square is divided into three vertical stripes of equal width.

# DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION FOR RESPONSIBLE LAND ADMINISTRATION

FIG Commission 7 & 2 Annual Meeting 2023

2-4 October 2023, Deventer



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## Regulation and accreditation of surveying professions – challenges going forward

**Davey Edwards and Grazyna Wiejak-Roy**

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## Aims

Compare the current approaches to regulation and accreditation of surveying professions in the US and the UK and identify key challenges going forward.

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## Background

- Environmental, political, and social changes
- Technological innovations
- Complex projects
- Shortage of surveyors
- Low attrition

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## Methodology

- Legal requirements pertaining provision of surveying services
- Guidelines, professional standards, and other rules imposed through professional self-regulation
- Wider professional literature

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# UK – 3-tier professional regulation system



Conveyancing Practitioner, Licensed Conveyancer, Solicitor, Architect

Regulated Professions

Professional self-regulation - Royal Charter

e.g., International Association of Hydrogeologists, Royal Society of Ulster Architects

Professional self-regulation - Non-chartered

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## UK – Self-regulation – Royal Charter



- Granted by the Sovereign on the advice of the Privy Council since the 13th century
- Purpose - create public or private corporations and to define their privileges and purpose
- Charters are reserved for bodies that work in the public interest and which can demonstrate pre-eminence, stability, and permanence in their particular field
- Over 1,000 chartered bodies including universities, professional organisations...

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# UK – Self-regulation – Royal Charter



- Chartered Association of Building Engineers (CABE)
- Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CIArb)
- Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists (CIAT)
- Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB)
- Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH)
- Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE)
- Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors (CICES)
- Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation (CIHT)

- Institution of Royal Engineers (InstRE)
- Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE)
- Landscape Institute (LI)
- Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA)
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS)**
- Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)



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## Towards membership

### Membership types

Associate; Chartered; Fellow Member

### Routes

APC structured training

Senior Professional

Specialist

Academic

Direct entry via other professional bodies

AssocRICS progression

21 pathways

Land

Property

Construction & Infrastructure

APC

Education

Evidence of professional practice

CPD



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## Accredited programmes



### MRICS

- a. relevant experience and an RICS-accredited degree;
- b. 5 years of relevant experience and any bachelor's degree; or
- c. 10 years of relevant experience operating at an advanced level by seniority, specialisation, or in academia.

Pathway	Number of accredited courses	
	UK	Non-UK
Environmental surveying	29	12
Geomatics	31	19
Land and resources	1	2
Minerals & waste management	0	0
Planning & development	107	37
Rural	16	2

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# Apprenticeship Scheme and Training



Profession	Equivalent
Surveying technician	A level
Chartered surveyor	Bachelor hons degree
Geospatial survey technician	A level
Geospatial mapping and sciences	Bachelor hons degree
Construction Quantity Surveying Technician	Certificate of higher education (CertHE) Higher national certificate
Land Referencer	Certificate of higher education (CertHE) Higher national certificate

## CPD

- Min. 20h p.a.
  - Min. 10h formal
  - Min. 10h informal
- Ethics – every 3 years

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## Challenges and Considered Changes



- Refresh competencies with more focus on sustainability, data management and soft skills
- Consultation on regulations, e.g. valuers
- Improving diversity

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# Licensure



- Regulation by each state and territory
- Licensure requirements vary with each state
  - Education
  - Experience
  - Examination

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## National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)



- Model Laws and Rules
- Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) Examination
- Principles and Practice of Surveying (PS) Examination
- Respective state may require a state-specific examination (boundary)
  - State Statutory Law
  - State Case Law

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FS Exam Pass Rate

OVERALL TAKERS				ABET BACHELORS DEGREE				OTHER TAKERS			
FIRST TIME		REPEAT		FIRST TIME		REPEAT		FIRST TIME		REPEAT	
Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate
1142	60%	601	36%	343	69%	105	46%	799	56%	496	34%



PS Exam Pass Rate

OVERALL TAKERS				ABET BACHELORS DEGREE				OTHER TAKERS			
FIRST TIME		REPEAT		FIRST TIME		REPEAT		FIRST TIME		REPEAT	
Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate	Vol.	Pass Rate
688	69%	333	44%	244	69%	115	47%	444	68%	218	42%

(NCEES, 2022)

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## Challenges and Considered Changes



- Consideration of reducing the educational requirements from a four-year baccalaureate degree to a two-year associate degree (Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors)
- Concerns over this proposal (National Society of Professional Surveyors)
- Perplexing perception that the surveyor profession is becoming obsolete while the demand for their expertise is increasing

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# Conclusions

- Complex regulations
- Voluntary certification / licencing
- Varying requirements
- Inflow of new professionals
- Progression to certification
- Attrition
- Mobility issues
- Training for life
- Professional ethics

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