

2nd December 2019

BICC working group on Education and Training

During the past year the working group has met for six sessions covering topics of which the more relevant to our profession include Health and Safety courses for professionals, National Guidelines for Method of Measurement, National Occupational standards for Demolition and Excavation.

KTP Representatives on this working group include Perit David Pace and Perit Rene Cutajar.

Occupational Health and Safety Award for Professionals

Following the accreditation of BICC as a Further and Higher Education Institute by NCFHE in 2018, BICC was granted a licence to offer accredited courses at different levels. Towards the end of 2018, BICC consulted with KTP and the Chamber of Engineers with regards to providing an accredited course for the Occupational Health and Safety Award for Professionals, including Periti. The course was to be offered at MQF Level 4 and consisted of a 25-hour course of which 12 hours were online contact, 9 hours self-study and a 4-hour assessment held at the BICC premises in Valletta.

The objectives of the course were mainly to raise awareness on the need of occupational health and safety on construction sites, to apprehend better where to look for Occupational Health and Safety Legislation and to raise awareness of their implications. Successful applicants would then be awarded the Professional Construction Industry Skill Card. The course will be advertised with periti once the feedback process is complete.

National Guidelines for Method of Measurement

In 2019 the Education and Training working group was presented with a draft guidelines document detailing a draft method of measurement for building works for use in Malta, set up by the Quantity Surveying Unit within the Office of the Permanent Secretary, Ministry for Transport, Infrastructure and Climate Change. The document was presented with the aim of setting up a national standard of measurement, a notion which KTP disagreed with, insisting that there are various methods of measurements which could be followed whilst highlighting the importance of the awareness by developers of which method of measurement is to be agreed upon. Following consultation with BICC, it has been agreed that the document prepared will take the form of published guidelines and following its launch, BICC will be organising information sessions for professionals.

Following feedback from KTP on the state of play with regards to the document discussed within MCCA, it was agreed that a presentation on the document is to be made by the KTP representative on that working group at the next BICC meeting.

National Occupational Standards for Demolition and Excavation

The process for setting up the National Occupational Standards for Demolition and Excavation had already commenced in 2018 and throughout 2019 it has undergone the necessary accreditation procedure such that BICC should be able to provide courses for Demolition and Excavation contractors, hopefully in 2020. Presently discussion are in progress on the drafting of the course structure.