

iBEE
Innovation in Built Environment Education

RICS

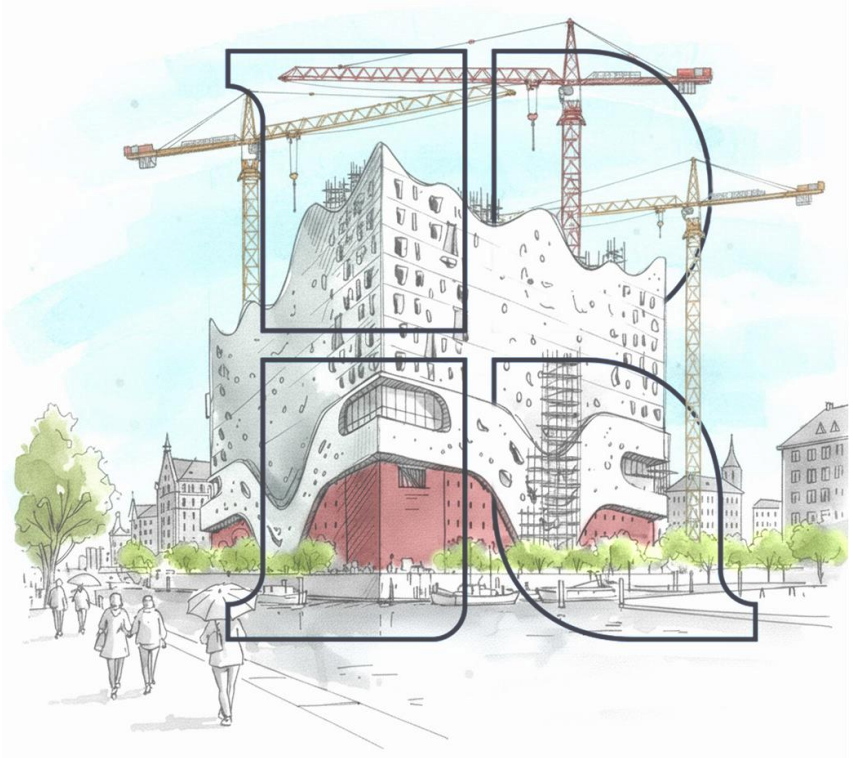
“Are we ready for a revolution?”

Jane Ballantyne Roehampton Institute


University of
Roehampton
London

iBEE / RICS Conference 10 September 2026

Time for a revolution in built environment education?



Presented by Jane Ballantyne

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University of Roehampton, London

University of Roehampton London

janeballantyne2

Ideas for the revolution

What can be done to create more interdisciplinary teaching and move away from the legacy frameworks, to ensure our students are ready for the future?

Padlet



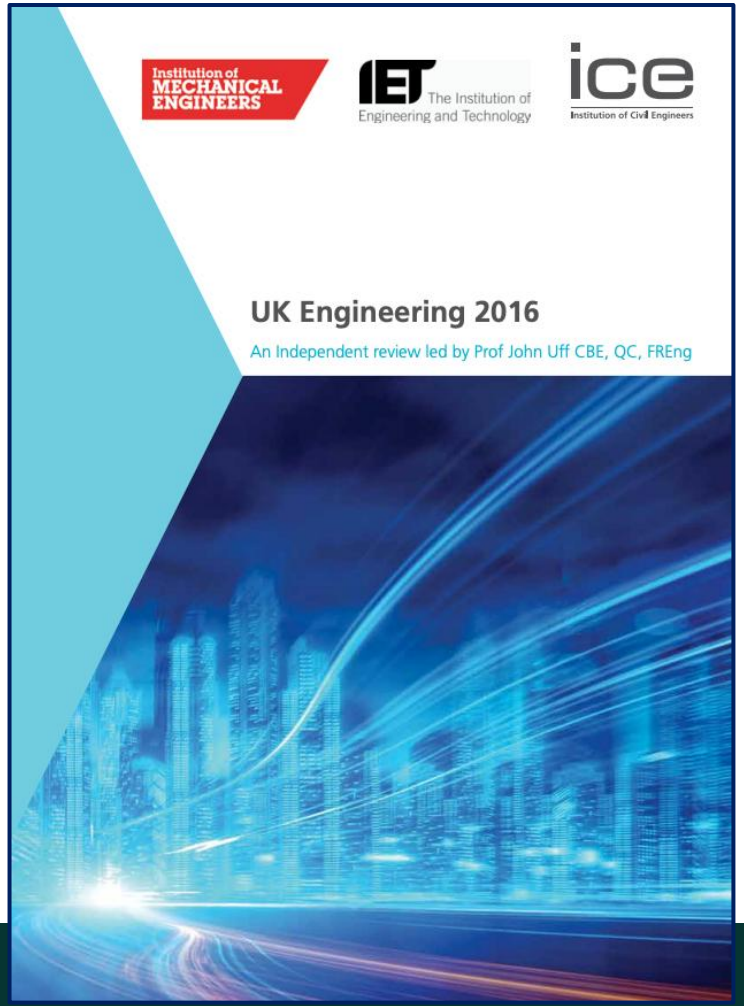
BBC

Is the current division between different built environment disciplines outdated and disadvantageous to students?

UK Engineering 2016 Report

Undertaken by Professor John Uff

The Uff Review of UK professional engineering was a wide-ranging evaluation commissioned in March 2016 by the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), and the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) to address fragmentation and modernisation within the profession. Led by Professor John Uff KC, the final report was published in March 2017.



‘The separate PEIs* perpetuate outdated divisions between engineering branches, hindering career movement and limiting course offerings that combine engineering with other disciplines’ (Uff, 2016).

UK Engineering 2016 Report’s executive summary extract of paragraph (5)

* PEIs = Professional Engineering Institutions

WONKHE

"Engineering roles have become more integrated, often spanning functions that used to be separate. The work is more interdisciplinary, more data-rich and more entangled with societal and environmental complexity…….. AI is reshaping design. Global supply chains are increasingly geopolitical. Net-zero is non-negotiable. Yet most engineering curricula remain structured around siloed disciplinary content. In some cases, this purity is reinforced by the more than 40 professional engineering institutions licensed to accredit degrees. This is not unique to engineering. Many disciplines face the same tension between legacy structures and emerging professional realities."

Beverley Gibbs, President Elect, Engineering Professors' Council

WONKHE Blog 16th June 2026

Accrediting Professional Bodies

CIOB

RICS

CIBSE

CIAT

APM

RIBA

ARB

JBM

CICES



















Why does this matter?

Skills shortages and emerging skills

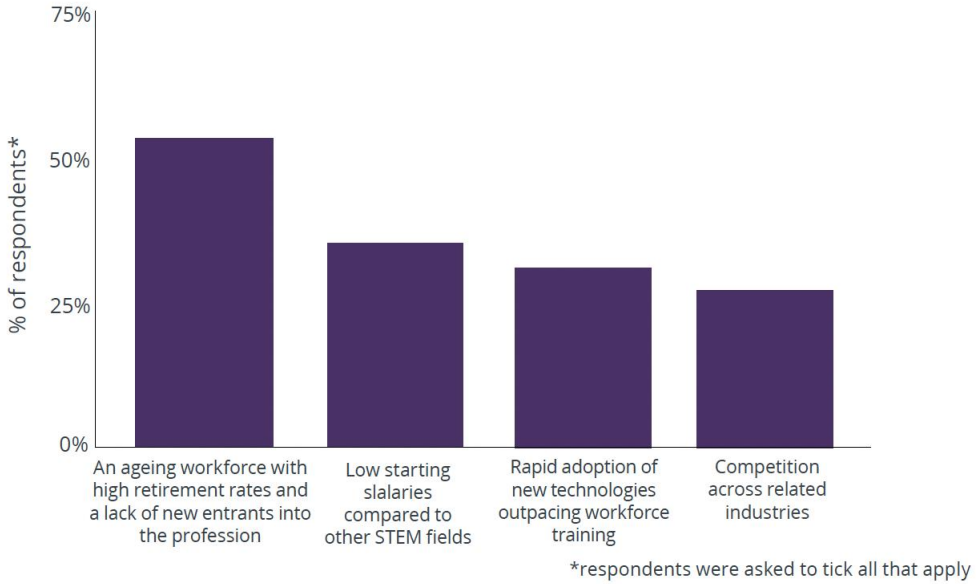


Figure 4: In your opinion, what are the key drivers behind skills shortages in your sector? (Top four responses)

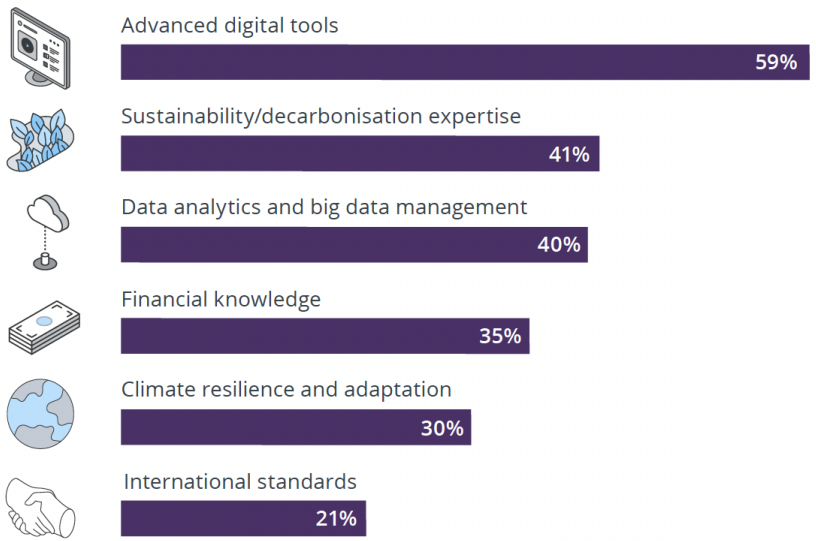


Figure 7: What emerging skills do you think will be most important for surveyors in the next 5–10 years? (Respondents were asked to tick up to three ranked)

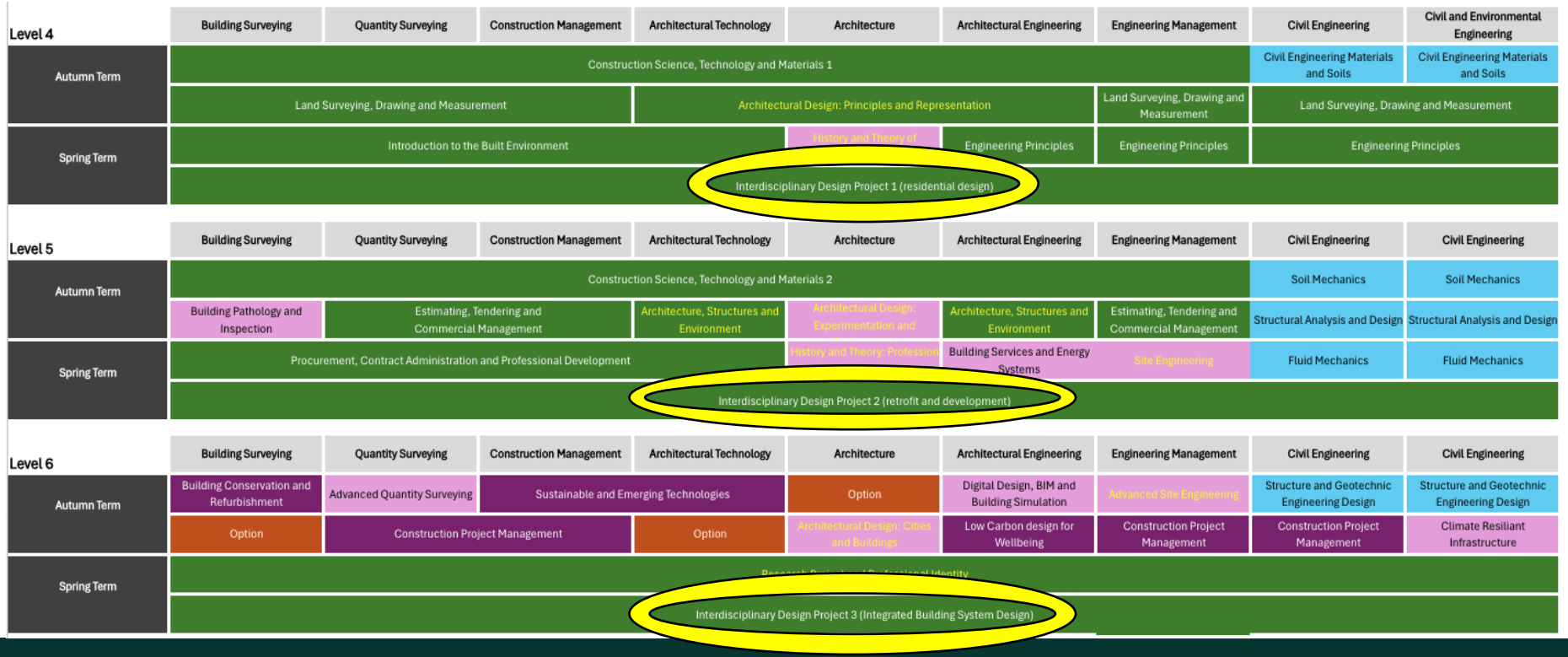
RICS, 2025

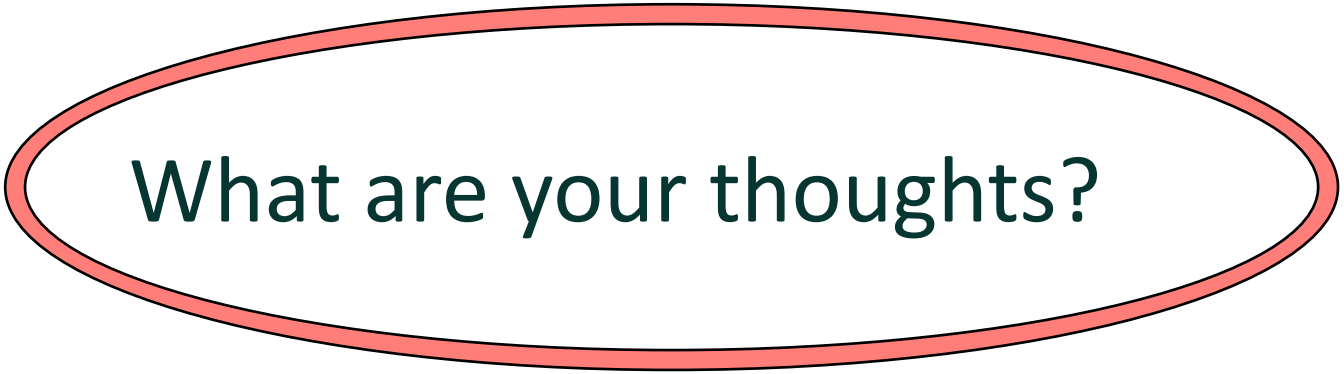
“Grenfell revealed the dangers of a siloed industry. We must rethink design and construction education as a result.”

Justin Lunn, Building, 15 July 2025

Where to start?

University of Roehampton's UG curriculum
Interdisciplinary Design Project (IDP) at each level of study
Across 9 courses - 30 credits




What are your thoughts?


University of
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London