

Institutional Reporting Review 2021

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In 2019 the Edge published its first report on the data reported in 17 built and natural environment chartered institutions. 2 years later we have repeated the exercise and in this report compare the findings with that earlier review.

Clearly the intervening period has been challenging for everyone: institutions as well as the industry, individuals and the world at large, with the impact of Covid-19 and the resulting closure of workplaces and a series of rolling lockdowns. But the surveyed institutions have published a similar number of annual reports, reviews and accounts - 12, instead of 14, out of a possible 17 – although 2 are now effectively solely online.

As previously the Edge has used its published **Institutional Best Practice Reporting Standard** (see - edgedebate.com/edge-institutional-good-practice-reporting-standard) as a benchmark for comparing the reports. This was developed in 2018-19 to encourage the transparent and consistent publication of data on membership, staffing and other operations in annual reports.

As in 2019 the organisations surveyed are the Construction Industry Council (CIC) members operating under Royal Charters (16) together with the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE).

Of the 17, 10 organisations have annual reports available on their websites, with 5 covering the period up to the end of 2019 and 5 to the end of 2020. 2 have on-line information, equivalent to Annual Reports, again covering 2020. Occasionally data has been collected from more than one document published in the period, e.g. the Institution of Structural Engineers published an Annual Report containing its accounts in addition to its Annual Review, covering slightly different periods. 3 of the 17 institutions have also published their gender pay gap data under the Equality Act (one voluntarily) with one other institution holding off doing so under the Covid-19 2020 reporting holiday.

Chartered members of the Construction Industry Council 2019-20	
APM	Association for Project Management
BCS	Chartered Institute for IT
CABE	Chartered Association of Building Engineers
CIAT	Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists
CIBSE	Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers
CIH	Chartered Institute of Housing
CIOB	Chartered Institute of Building
CIHT	Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation
CIPHE	Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering
ICE	Institution of Civil Engineers
IET	Institution of Engineering and Technology
ICES	Chartered Institution of Civil Engineering Surveyors
IStructE	Institution of Structural Engineers
LI	Landscape Institute
RIBA	Royal Institute of British Architects
RICS	Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
RTPi	Royal Town Planning Institute

Table 1 – Chartered organisations surveyed

The 12 data sets have been assessed on whether they reported against each of the categories in Table 2. Assessment criteria have been as generous as possible and it has been enough, for example, to indicate the percentage split between UK and international members to be scored positively for providing information of geographic spread, although it should be noted that many organisations have provided far better quality information in the form of precise regional or age breakdowns of their membership. Likewise a note that CPD has been facilitated has generated a score in that category. In future assessments such generosity will be tightened up to demand fuller data.

Membership	
1	Number of members
2	Membership gains/losses
3	Membership categories
4	New entrants/examination success
5	Geographical spread
6	Gender split
7	Ethnicity & Religion %
8	Sexuality %
9	Social background
10	Age profile
11	Disability
12	Employer category
Corporate membership	
13	Numbers of corporate members
14	Location of head offices
15	Numbers of employees who are institution members/chartered/others (FTE)
16	Turnover
17	Carbon footprints
Institution staffing and governance	
18	Number of staff employed (FTE)
19	Information on gender, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, age
20	Gender pay gap information
21	Breakdown of governing bodies, councils and committees by gender, ethnicity, sexuality, disability, age
22	Carbon footprint of the institution
Discipline	
23	Number of complaints received/decisions reached
24	Reports available
25	Changes to Codes of Conduct, regulations and by-laws
Education	
26	Numbers in education
27	Numbers of accredited courses
28	Inspection visits
29	REF/TEF indices
30	Curriculum requirements
31	CPD activity
Learned Society Activity	
32	Research outcomes
33	Research spend
34	Research partners
35	Library budget
Public engagement	
36	Report on activity
37	Engagement budget

Table 2 – Reporting categories

In order to provide an overall index describing reporting levels each of these categories has been given a score of 1, producing a maximum possible score of 37. In 2019-20 the scores of the 12 reporting institutions vary from 3 to 25, with an average score of 9.9 (up from 7.5) and a median of 8 (up from 6). 3 institutions which published annual reports with reasonably high scores in 2017 have not issued a recent report.

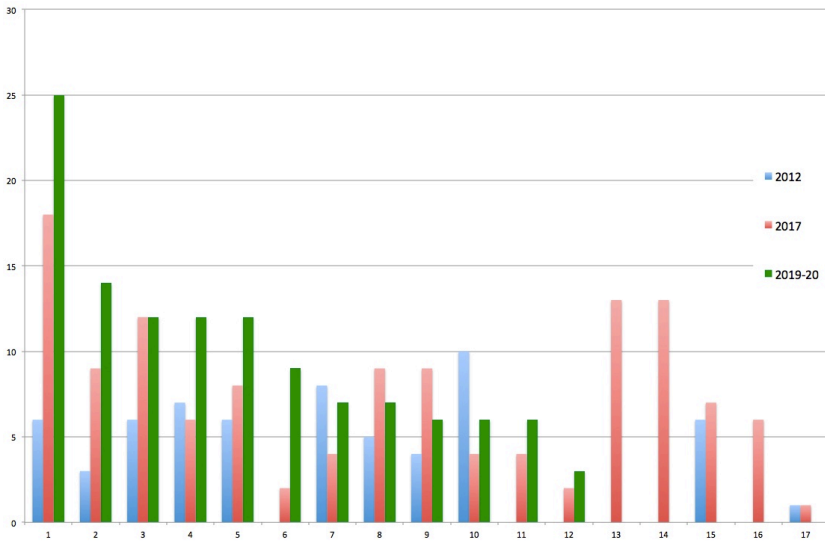


Table 3 – Reporting levels from 17 institutions in annual reports for years 2012, 2017 & 2019-20

The survey (see table 4) has shown that it has been possible and acceptable for most (29/37) categories of data to be reported on, even if this has sometimes been by only one or two institutions. Many of the other, missing, categories also often cover data known to the institutions even though they have not chosen to disclose it.

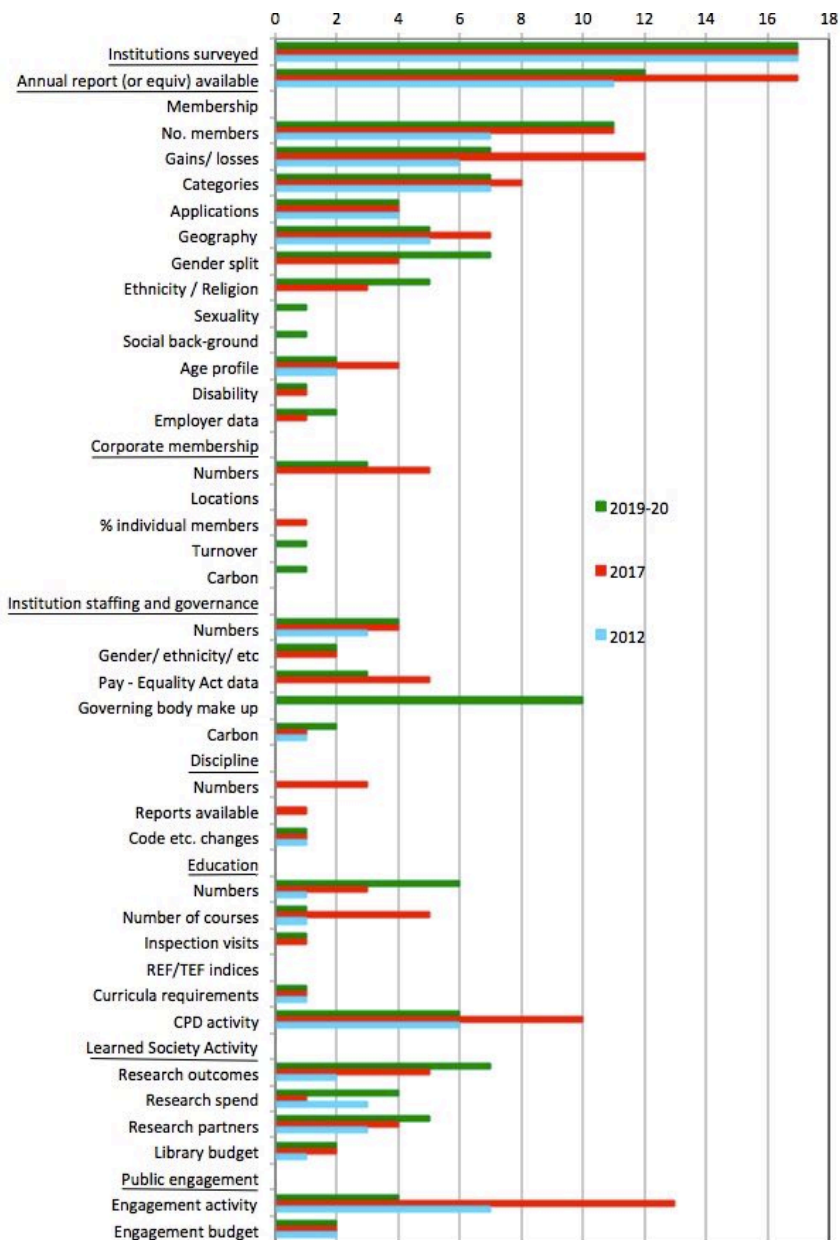


Table 4 – Reporting in individual categories for years 2012, 2017 & 2019-20

Since our previous report a number of institutions have seemingly taken the challenge to fully report on membership and other data very seriously, while others have slipped back to a narrative and aspirational approach lacking in evidence. Good progress has been made in a number of areas:

Gender	7 institutions have reported on the gender split in their membership against 4 previously.
Ethnicity	5 institutions have provided data on ethnicity against 3 in 2017
Sexuality	1 institution has reported on sexual identity for the first time
Governance	This has now become a standard reporting feature
Carbon	2 institutions (up from 1) have given details of their carbon emissions

Inclusion and diversity is discussed in many Annual Reports but there is frequently no supporting data. It is important that this should change.

Similarly sustainability is given space in a large number of reports but it is not backed up by genuine metrics that show how institutions are acting, not only to put their house in order, but how their members are facing up to the climate emergency. With the agreement to implement **Carbon Zero: the professional institutions' climate action plan**, published by the CIC in June 2021, it is anticipated that the institutions will publish data against that in their future reports.

The Edge looks forward to a wide take-up of the Reporting Standard and greater improvement in years to come.

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the Edge is a voluntary built and natural environment think tank. We stand for being:

- **Interdisciplinary:** bringing built environmental professionals together, inclusively along with others who share their concerns.
- **Open and creative:** working across all disciplines with competitors and collaborators.
- **Strategic in approach:** encouraging accessible and shared knowledge and seeking to connect place, practice, policy and research.
- **Visionary:** in identifying the issues and in promoting effective and urgent responses to both local and global challenges.
- **Professional:** developing a broad-based ethic of responsibility to social and environmental demands based on an equitable global framework.
- **Business-like:** furthering the skills and capacity of the UK construction industry to promote prosperity and deliver a better built environment.

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