

PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVES 2012

Economic Situation

- Endorse and maintain the industry profile through effective political lobbying and representation at every level.
- Minimise the impact of austerity measures on the industry and its markets.
- Exert pressure on the Government to deliver its proposals to increase the UK housing stock and improve access to mortgages and indemnity schemes.

Energy and Emissions

- Resolve all outstanding matters and continue to provide effective advice and assistance to enable members to achieve compliance with:
 - new 2013 Climate Change Agreements – including new target negotiation
 - EU ETS – including 2014 “carbon leakage” list revision and ETS ‘lite’ for ‘small emitters’
 - Energy Efficiency Directive
 - Carbon Reduction Commitment
 - Recast Industrial Emissions Directive and the revision of process guidance notes
- Produce a *European Ceramic Industry Roadmap to 2050* to plot the industry’s contribution to EU environmental, energy and carbon targets and protect the industry against damaging regulation.
- Secure mitigating measures to provide relief for companies from unilateral UK regulatory burdens and taxation particularly affecting energy costs and emissions.
- Promote industry-wide technology development to reduce emissions and ensure members can access the promised finance for energy efficiency projects.
- Encourage recognition by Government of the importance of security of gas and electricity supply, and the development of appropriate policies resulting in internationally competitive prices.

Health and Safety

- Preserve and further develop the relationship with the HSE and its support for the industry through alignment of the Ceramic Industry Pledge with the HSE strategy for manufacturing.
- Continue develop a strategy to address the situation faced by the industry and its suppliers following registration under REACH.
- Monitor regulatory developments regarding crystalline silica, campaign against inappropriate restrictions, and develop a health surveillance protocol as appropriate.

Employment

- Endeavour to preserve and develop the sound working relationships with all unions after extensive personnel changes.
- Exploit fully every opportunity to improve further the quality and support for training given the withdrawal of the majority of funding from Proskills.

Land, Property and Minerals

- Defend essential planning policies for clay within the new National Planning Policy Framework, and secure the provision of suitable sector and technical guidance.
- Address and deal with the consequences of introduction of abstraction licensing for dewatering quarries, and longer term revision of water resource management legislation.
- Pursue the rating revaluation negotiations with the Valuation Office Agency to a satisfactory conclusion that achieves savings for member companies against the listed revaluations.

Trade

- Support all sector association activities to resolve issues concerning barriers to free and fair international trade.