

Navigating the future: Surveyors, Public Interest and the Data-to-Decision Gap

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SUMMARY

With GIM International's interview with RICS President Nick Maclean, this plenary sets out plainly and practically how we convert professional and technical capability into trusted decisions, market confidence and better public policy. The presentation will connect the dots between our profession's immediate pressures—skills pipelines, AI and digital ethics, marine and climate-driven land risk—and the surveyors' role as a standard-bearer at the frontline of the built and natural environment. This plenary will move beyond 'tools and tech talk' to the judgement, education reform and cross-disciplinary collaboration required to make spatial data actually matter to governments, investors and communities. It will also outline a simple agenda for the next 12 months: evidence-led influence with lawmakers, ethical use of AI, purposeful capacity-building and a renewed commitment to the public interest that keeps surveyors, land, property, construction and beyond, at the heart of delivery.

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