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## Key Activities of ACES

• **Consultation and lobbying** – perhaps the most significant role of **ACES** is to assist government and professional organisations in formulating policy and advice to the public sector. Appointed members of **ACES** meet regularly and formally with Communities and Local Government to discuss matters of mutual interest. Additional special meetings are arranged if there are specific issues where our professional public sector experience can assist. This is a particular strength of **ACES** in having a membership which spans the whole spectrum of local government organisations throughout the UK.

**ACES** works with and offers help, advice and experience to the:

- Audit Commission
- Audit Scotland
- Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountancy
- Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
- Development Trust Association
- Local Government Association
- Office of Government Commerce
- Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors
- Scottish Government
- Valuation Office Agency
- Public Health England

**ACES** is keen to establish links with other public and private agencies, organisations and companies in order to improve the crucial role property plays in our public lives.

• **ACES website** - Membership of **ACES** gives interactive access to the website, which has links to other important property sites and gives details of forthcoming events. There is a Forum where members can post questions and sit back, hoping some of the 400 members may be able to provide just the hands-on advice that they are looking for – or at least mutual support.

• **Dissemination of information** – elected co-ordinators have responsibility for keeping abreast of current affairs and in disseminating this information to the membership. Roles cover:

- Agricultural asset management
- Commercial asset management
- Compensation
- Corporate asset management
- Consultation
- Health
- Housing
- Performance management
- Post Graduate Courses
- Rating & Taxation
- Regeneration
- RICS
- Sustainability
- Valuation

Co-ordinators report regularly at **ACES** Council, conferences and meetings and produce articles for **ACES'** publications. Information is posted on the website.

• **Conferences** – **ACES** members organise a national conference each year and these are traditionally hosted in the elected President's home region. The successful format adopted is a day of presentations of professional interest, an evening meal with informal networking, followed by a full morning's presentations. Visits to nearby attractions are arranged for retired members. As existing members of **ACES** will tell you, the strength of the organisation is the strong networking links of "the **ACES** family". Attendance at conferences is open to non-members and there is strong representation from our private sector friends and colleagues.

• **Publications** – **ACES** produces publications of professional interest to the public sector surveyor.

- The Terrier is the association's regular journal and is produced quarterly. It relies on members submitting articles on topical property matters and branch activities. It also includes a broad range of material submitted by our friends from the private sector and retired members, including legal articles and hands-on experience.
- Asset contains transcripts of the professional papers presented at the annual conference each year.

The publications are sent out to all members and sponsors and can also be viewed on the website, together with back copies.

**ACES** encourages advertisements in all its publications and there are mutual benefits for the private sector organisations and **ACES** members in making contact through both the publications and through sponsorship at conferences.