



## **New team will ‘make it happen’ at ICC Wales**

The team responsible for driving business development at the ICC Wales project over the next two years is now complete, with the announcement of two additional members just weeks after the start of building work on the site.

Derrick Lothian and Sandra Eyre join the team as Association Sales Managers. With over 40 years’ experience between them, Derrick and Sandra are both well versed in large-scale event management for both the UK and international markets.

Derrick started his career in hotel events management before joining Edinburgh’s EICC where he has spent the last two years as Senior Association Business Development Manager, facilitating events for an array of blue chip clients and healthcare associations.

Derrick says: “I really enjoy telling potential clients about ICC Wales and its unique and world-class features. This is my dream job and I cannot wait to get started.”

Sandra also began her career in the hotel sector and moved into business tourism development before joining ACC Liverpool as Senior Association Sales Manager, a position she has held for the past seven years. She is also a board member of the Association of British Professional Conference Organisers (ABPCO).

Sandra says: “This is such an exciting project and I feel very privileged to be a part of it. I’m looking forward to promoting Wales as the vibrant cultural and tourist destination it’s renowned for.”

Sandra and Derrick join the ‘Make it Happen’ team, which includes Chief Executive Ian Edwards, Business Development Director Jill Manley, Convention Centre Director Nancy Mollett, Sales Director Danielle Bounds and Head of Event Management Lyon Hughes.

Helena Johnson also joins the team as Sales Executive, having previously worked in the events team at The Celtic Manor Resort for over 13 years. Helena has played a key role in many major events, including the 2014 NATO Summit.

Chief Executive Ian Edwards says: “Derrick, Sandra and Helena join our highly knowledgeable and experienced team of professionals dedicated to delivering world-class UK and international events to Wales’ new state-of-the-art convention centre.”

Once complete in 2019, ICC Wales will provide total floor space for meetings, conferences, exhibitions and events of 26,000sqm – the equivalent size to nearly four international rugby pitches.

An £83.7m joint venture between Celtic Manor and Welsh Government, ICC Wales will accommodate 5,000 delegates and includes a 4,000sqm pillar-free main hall, a 1,500-seated auditorium, 12 flexible meeting rooms, a double-height glass atrium and a 2,500sqm outdoor plaza.

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**Notes to editors**

The official ICC Wales launch video can be found [here](#).