Christina Hsieh

Chartered Structural Engineer | Expert Witness | Fellow of the Institution of Structural Engineers

📍 London, UK | 📧 Christina@wearematter.uk | 📞 07985 576822 | 02037252607
🌐 www.wearematter.uk/people

Professional Profile

Chartered Structural Engineer with over 20 years of international experience in structural design, defect investigation, and independent technical reviews. Recognised Fellow of the Institution of Structural Engineers (FIStructE), with specialist expertise in reinforced concrete, steel, masonry, timber, and seismic design.

I act as an independent expert witness in matters involving structural defects, insurance claims, and construction disputes. Experienced in preparing clear, authoritative reports and supporting solicitors, insurers, and clients with technical evidence. Known for translating complex engineering issues into clear, objective findings for non-technical audiences.

Expert Witness & Dispute-Related Experience

- Defect Investigation & Independent Reviews – Conducted independent design checks and investigations into construction issues at AKT II, Cundall, and MATTER.
- Insurance Claims & Damage Assessment – Significant experience in New Zealand (Beca Ltd) following the Christchurch earthquakes, including damage assessment and negotiation of insurance claims, all successfully settled.
- Expert Witness Exposure – Assisted colleagues at Peter Brett Associates on expert witness cases (2015–2016), inspiring my own practice. Since 2017, at MATTER, instructed to investigate and report on potential structural defects for private clients and solicitors.
- Court-Ready Skills – Skilled in providing impartial, evidence-based opinions, with emphasis on clarity, independence, and compliance with CPR Part 35 requirements.

Career Summary

CH Simple Design Ltd (MATTER) – Company Director
2017–Present, London
Founder and director of a specialist practice known for innovative solutions and forensic structural investigations. Instructed on defect diagnosis, remedial design, and independent technical reviews for dispute resolution.

Cundall Ltd – Associate
2016–2017, London
Delivered major projects (£175M Wembley mixed-use, £65M residential). Acted as internal reviewer for designs prone to disputes.

Peter Brett Associates LLP – Principal Engineer
2015–2016, London
Managed £1.2bn Thamesmead Southmere regeneration. Worked alongside expert witness colleagues, gaining exposure to litigation-related reviews.

Beca Ltd – Senior Engineer
2013–2014, Christchurch, NZ
Specialist in seismic design and damage assessment post-earthquake. Negotiated insurance claims successfully on behalf of clients.

Earlier Roles
2003–2012, London & Leeds
Conisbee, Expedition, AKT II, Arup, Buro Happold – Delivered large-scale structural projects, independent design reviews, and resolution of construction issues.

Qualifications & Professional Recognition

- Fellow, Institution of Structural Engineers (FIStructE) – 2023
- Chartered Engineer (CEng), Institution of Structural Engineers – 2009
- MSc (Eng), Structural Engineering – University of Sheffield, 2002

Awards & Recognition

- Winner, Best of Royal Greenwich Business Award (Professional Service) – 2023
- Commendation, Inspire Future Generations Award (Mentoring) – 2023
- Shortlisted, Digital Award, Best of Royal Greenwich – 2022

Technical & Professional Skills

- Expert in reinforced concrete, steel, timber, masonry, and seismic design.
- Advanced user of GSA, Robot, AutoCAD, ETABS, SAP2000, TEDDs, and other specialist software.
- Skilled in applying British Standards, Eurocodes, NZ/Australian codes.
- Experienced in technical report writing for legal and insurance purposes.