

Meeting CIM Council Meeting
Date Wednesday 22 January 2025
Time 10.00-12.00
Venue Microsoft Teams

Notes of the Meeting

	Item	Actions
1	<p>Introductions and apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Present</u>: Theresa Channell (Chair), Bev Bull, Emma Cranidge, Katy Harding, Modestus Okafor, Amy Oliver, Alston Owens, Sean Prosser, Colin Sharpe, Kelly Watson, Lee Yale-Helms. <u>In attendance</u>: Victoria Davitt (CIPFA Midlands Liaison Officer) <u>Apologies</u>: Andy Cardoza, Holly Hancocks, Martin Jones. <p>TC welcomed KH to her first meeting and reflected on the breadth and quality of Council members. KH thanked TC and said she is keen to help links with central Government colleagues in particular, also she is a sponsor of the Government Finance Function in the Midlands.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes:</p> <p>The minutes of the Council meeting held on 17 July 2024 were approved. There were no matters not covered elsewhere on the agenda.</p>	
3	<p>Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Autumn Regional Forum</u>, held in Nottingham in October 2024 – This had been a success which the Region had been proud to host. Noted the accounts are to be finalised, TC and BB will meet. <u>CIM Development Plan and Business Plan</u> – Noted this is due for submission by 31 January 2025. TC, AOw and VD to meet. <u>Sixth Form Management Games</u> – HH had circulated an update email in her absence. Colleagues who may be able to help with this extremely worthwhile and enjoyable programme were asked to contact HH following the meeting. VD and AOI in particular said they were keen to help, VD will look to arrange a discussion. The 	<p>TC & BB</p> <p>TC, AOw, VD</p> <p>All VD</p>

	<p>Region has funds to meet the necessary costs. Two dates had already been confirmed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Wednesday, 4 June, DMU, Leicester ➤ Friday 27 June, Nottingham Trent University. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Mentoring</u> – KW and SP reported that new matches have been paused, due to other priorities, will hopefully restart soon. SP will take the lead into the future. • <u>Student participation</u> – This remains a significant concern and in need of development. MO and TC led the discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Student meetings are needed in both the East and West Midlands, so students in each can build a network. ➤ ICAEW benefit from established student leads and there are a lot more students in any given locality. ➤ It would be good to have a pilot event on <i>how to network</i> for CIPFA and ICAEW students, as the art is in danger of being lost and students generally do not see the value of engaging. ➤ CIPFA students are invited to ICAEW events. ➤ Student engagement works well in the South East, where there are more CIPFA students and (importantly) F2F lectures; it struggles in other areas. In the Midlands, perhaps 6 or 7 students are ‘active’ out of 160 or so. ➤ We need to rescope and redesign our local network(s), also understand what is the CIPFA core offer and how can we contribute/support’. VD will pick up with central colleagues, noting this was discussed at the Regional Forum. VD will also enquire about the possibility of F2F teaching in the Midlands. TC will raise at the Student and Members Board. ➤ AOI and LY-H offered use of their offices and will encourage their students. • <u>Finances</u> – BB expects to complete the 2024 accounts soon. The Autumn Forum costs are still to be finalised with TC. The bank balance has increased over the year. • <u>CIPFA HQ</u> – An announcement from the Government regards the Apprenticeship Levy is awaited, the cost to employers of Level 7 apprenticeships is expected to increase. Work on the membership offer is progressing. The relationship with ICAEW continues to evolve. Work is ongoing to update the finance system and processes. • <u>Local links with ICAEW</u> – The ICAEW has a well-oiled events machine. All CIPFA members can attend their events, VD will share the upcoming list (circulated after the meeting). We are specifically invited to networking events on 18 March near 	<p>VD & TC</p> <p>AOI & LY-H</p>
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	<p>Leicester and 20 March in Birmingham. TC would like further guidance / clarity on how our local relationships should develop.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Administrative support</u> – this has not yet progressed, will be picked up by AOw as needed, as he becomes President. Also links with how the region works with VD. • <u>Comms / social media strategy / regional dashboard</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ A regional dashboard access/reporting template has not yet been shared. CS and VD will report back to a future meeting in more detail. ➢ The regional main LinkedIn account has been deleted by LinkedIn due to verification issues. Any replacement is with CIPFA HQ to progress. ➢ We should seek to make better contacts with FDs in the area; the reporting from HQ was not complete in this respect and hence of limited use. All to contact FDs in their networks. 	<p>CS & VD</p> <p>All</p>
4	<p>EY Foundation Employability Skills Workshops:</p> <p>This initiative was welcomed, AOw will look to progress longer term.</p>	AOw
5	<p>Regional AGM and Council Membership 2025/26:</p> <p>The AGM will be an all-day in-person event on 27 March, at KPMG in central Birmingham. Council discussed potential speakers. TC and AOw are progressing arrangements. Council members were asked to prioritise attendance for themselves and their teams/networks.</p> <p>The Regional Council membership for the forthcoming term was discussed. Any member interested in the role of Vice-President was asked to speak with TC and/or AOw. The opportunity to stand for election to Council has been promoted on the Midlands website. CS asked that colleagues review his email of 3 January 2025 and respond accordingly. EC said that with regret she would not be continuing on Council owing to work commitments, and was thanked by colleagues for her contributions and support.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>
6	<p>Events planning / Events group:</p> <p>AOw shared his thoughts regards Midlands engagement at PF Live on 24 & 25 June in Birmingham. Perhaps a breakfast meeting or roundtable, Council supported something innovative. Would be good</p>	AOw / All

	<p>to maximise attendance from Council and the Midlands in general. Any thoughts to be shared with AOw.</p> <p>Council noted that the Regional Autumn Forum will take place in Wales on 2 & 3 October 2025.</p> <p>An events programme will be required for 2025/26.</p>	AOw
7	<p>AOB:</p> <p>CS will work with AoW to set Council meeting dates for 2025/26.</p>	CS