

Minutes

CIPFA SOUTH EAST REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING - DIGITAL

Date 17 September 2020
Time 2.00pm – 3.30pm (please provide your own refreshments!)
Venue Digital – via iMPower Microsoft Teams

Present	Junior Vice President	Kathryn Long
	Regional Secretary/Vice President	John Barker
	Regional Website Administrator	Lillian Manning
	Corporate Members	Phil Butlin
		Stephanie Mitchener
		Mark Williams
	Registered Students	Honor Green
	CIPFA Council Elected Members in Region	Richard Harbord
		Caroline Russell
	Co-opted Members	
		Chris Blundell
		Nick Carroll
		Paul Clarke
		Will Goodchild
		Nick White
		Joanne Pitt

AGENDA ITEMS

Meeting chaired by Kathryn Long. Amy would be away from her CSE Council role for a while following the sudden passing away of her mother in Cornwall. Council asked that condolences be sent to Amy and to be kept apprised when she returns to CSE activities.

1. Honor Green, who is succeeding Will Goodchild as President of SE-CSN, was welcomed to her first regional council meeting.
2. Apologies were received from Amy Crowson, Nicki Cooper, Tom England, Rosanne Nulty, Eric Keighley, Trisha Brigemahone, Suresh Patel, Lorna Baxter, and Philippa Watkins.
3. Minutes from digital meeting on 8 July 2020 were agreed.

Matters for discussion or decision

Action by

4. 2020 Development Plan and September 2020 Budget v Actual Report.

(1) Council reviewed the delivery of the 2020 Plan which had obviously been affected since late March by Coronavirus restrictions. Council had agreed to substitute planned live CPD events with digital ones where possible. This had been achieved with host system support initially, as the CIPFA offer was less reliable (or accessible). Events not possible to replicate with a digital offering had been deferred until circumstances allow. Council

agreed that digital events should continue where possible, either as whole regional or hub group specific, until a target date of Easter 2021. Other regions may be offered access to these. Live events will be reinstated as soon as circumstances allow after that. The 2021 Regional Development Plan will emphasise that our regional digital events are a development of (and temporary substitute for) our traditional live programme. Council plans to develop a programme of both live and digital events for 2021. The 2021 RDP will be submitted with a narrative to explain those intentions with a provisional event plan which recognises that restrictions on live events will influence the format of hub group and major regional events in 2021. **JB/AC/KL/NC**

- (2) Budget v Actual Statement to 8 September showing actual income and expenditure to date, plus projections where known was noted. No further year end projections for some items are made because of the continuing uncertainty from the Coronavirus Emergency. Council will be updated in December. **NC**

5. Regional Forum - digital meeting 11 September 2020

Agenda pages, action points and the related papers attached were noted.

Information awaited on the planned digital Autumn Forum 5/6 November and JB will circulate when received. **JB**

6. CIPFA Conference 2020 - Public Finance Live 19/22 October

Concessionary regional access to the digital programme

During discussion at Regional Forum on 11 September Drew Cullen had advised that there would be some free and/or concessionary access to the published programme. It is likely that registrations by regions will allow their flexible use between regional council members each day. Council noted that the programme was still being developed and there was no provision for a digital Regional Stand equivalent at present.

Council agreed that members will be invited to nominate their sessions of interest. When the regional access arrangements are determined, a rota for individual access would be prepared, ideally within the initial allocated free/concessionary access made available. If sessions are oversubscribed Council may need to purchase additional access – with any budget deployment to be determined by our Regional President and Regional Treasurer.

Further information will be circulated to Council as it becomes available. **JB/KL/NC**

7. Mentoring developments – a proposed ‘road map’ for a 2021 start up

The planned 8 October mentoring evening hosted by Grant Thornton has been cancelled.

Tom England was unable to attend this meeting, but has agreed to update Council on his proposals for 2021 when it is clearer how future Coronavirus restrictions may impact on live events. **TE**

Matters for information or note

8. Events Plan 2020/21 as updated for known Coronavirus impacts was noted. **All to note**

9. CIPFA Council/Secretariat

Joanne Pitt reported that work had progressed on a range of major topics which included the annual accounting code consultation, PWLB dialogue, prudential code consultations timetable for 2021/22, submissions for the autumn spending review and business rates review,

the Redmond Review, PF Live preparations, CIPFA webinar developments and preparatory work for a planned data analytics relaunch.

Reporting on group activity

10. SE-CSN business

A verbal progress report from Will Goodchild and Honor Green covered developments re communications with students (CIPFA to facilitate), a planned survey of new students (with CIPFA comms support) and developing ideas on virtual mentoring (liaison with Tom England was suggested), Will is shortly to be confirming the PF Live Student Programme – all students will be offered free digital access.

Any Other Business

11. There was none notified or raised.

Forward Diary

All to note

12. Forward diary for 2020/21 was agreed as –

19/22 October PF Live – digital participation available for Regional Council members

5/6 November - Digital Regional Forum (to be confirmed)

Tuesday 8 December (3-5pm) at CIPFA HQ or digital

Wednesday 3 February 2021 (3-5pm) (digital or venue tbc)

John Barker

Regional Secretary CIPFA South East

csejb@live.co.uk

07885 585670

22 September 2020