

CIPFA North West Society

Presidents Blog – December



Happy Christmas everyone!

I hope everyone is looking forward to the festive season and a good break from work, if you manage to get one. I've been reflecting over the past couple of days on the year and all the things we've done as a region. I think it's fair to say it's probably been one of our best years ever in terms of activity and events. We've had some great feedback from delegates and I hope we can continue to replicate that going forward.

We have some exciting things ahead for us next year, not least with the new regional elections for National Council that I know a few of us are standing for on our regional council. This is great news as whoever gets elected will hopefully mean that we can continue to support and influence the regional role within the Institute to ensure that support and information and developments are cascaded down to a local level.

Regional Development Plan

We have just submitted our regional development plan to CIPFA for 2017, which highlights our vision and objectives for the forthcoming year. We have quite a few ambitious targets in the plan but we have an excellent team of committed and dedicated volunteers so I'm confident that we can achieve them. The plan lists all our planned activities as well and the entire members on the Society Council. You can view on the website by copying and pasting this link: <http://www.cipfa.org/members/regions/north-west/useful-documents>. You can also find out events calendar for 2017 here too – some of the actual dates have not been set as yet but at least we have a plan!

Induction pack for volunteers

For 2017 we are also working on an Induction pack for volunteers within the North West. With so many changes going on at regional and national level we are going to compile something that sets out the governance structures at both levels and how they link into each other. We will also have a series of role statements, like job descriptions for each of the positions on our Society Council and a volunteer matrix which highlights what skills you can gain from different volunteering activities. There are many activities that volunteers can get involved in from as little as being a speaker at an event or writing a thought leadership piece or article, to becoming a member on the Society Council or sub group. If you did want to volunteer, we'd be more than happy to have you on board. Drop us an email at cipfanwnw@cipfa.org and one of us can pop round for a cuppa to have a chat to you about how you'd like to get involved

Society Constitution

To link in with the changes at CIPFA Nationally, we are changing our constitution next year to take into account a new Junior Vice President role on the Society Council. The

Constitution governs what we do and how we operate as a region and it can only be changed by agreement at the AGM so we're getting in early to make sure we're all ready for when the AGM takes place in March. We did update it a few years back but as the pace of change is so quick, we need to stay on top of things to make sure we can support members and students adequately so we're having another review to make sure it reflects our current operating practice.

CIPFA Chester Office is open for business

Well, technically it always has been! Not many people know that there is a CIPFA office in Chester in the North West. It's on Sealand Road for those of you who know the area and is home to CIPFA Property and Asset Management Services. As the Institute becomes more local though, the office is available for rental for meeting space and some of the more regional staff will be based there from time to time also. We are going to try it out for our Society Council meeting in April and the CIPFA team are going to give us an update about the service they provide from the office, so we can feedback to you anything of interest and any new developments from on our doorstep

And finally.....Well, I thought I'd ask my Chief Exec in work if she'd like to organise a Christmas office decorating competition. Of course, who wouldn't....so I'd like to share the amazing Christmas tree that the corporate finance team made that came as one of the top three best decorated offices. Its genius!



*Have a great Christmas
and fantastic new year
everyone and see you in
2017*

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