

CIPFA in the North West

Institute Council Member – Shaer Halewood



Hi everyone, remember be! Following my election to Institute Council in July – thank you to everyone that voted – I thought I'd continue with my blogging and keep you up to date with what goes on at Institute Council and how it impacts on the North West Membership.

We have 3 Institute Council members in the NW, alongside myself there is Jayne Stephenson as elected members, and Carol Culley who was co-opted. Myself and Jayne are already members of the Regional Society Council and Carol has been invited to join us in her new capacity also.

So my first Council meeting was 12th July just before the AGM in Manchester. The main focus of this meeting was to agree the elections and co-options to Council and to agree what committee's and boards the Council Members were on. I'm on the Audit Committee and as Audit isn't my functional area should provide me with some good new learning and a different perspective to offer. The Chair of this committee is my good friend Ken Finch, a former North West and North Wales President, so I know I'm in good hands.

We also had to sign any declarations of interest and had a copy of the guidelines for Council Members to adhere to.

There is a Council Induction meeting on 25th July but I'm not able to attend as I'll be on my holidays but I have been before two years ago when I became the North West Society President. At the Induction we heard all about the different Committees and Boards and the terms of reference for each, including Council, what the roles of an Institute Council Member are, who all our main contacts are and the current governance structure of the Institute. It's a bit similar to the Induction pack that I compiled for new Council Members to the North West, but a lot thinner.

My first official engagement as Institute Council Member was the President's dinner on the evening of 12 July in the Grand Hall at Manchester Town Hall. It is a magnificent venue and I had some great people on my table from a mix of students, other CIPFA regions and CIPFA staff so I was in good company. It wasn't a late one for me as I had to be on the regional stand at 7.45am the next day. It was Institute President Andy Burns first formal occasion too and he gave a great opening speech to highlight his plans for the year ahead.

So that's about it for my first blog, not that much to say as we've only had one Council meeting but I'll be doing quarterly blogs from now on to let you all know what's going on. Next up for me is the next Council meeting on 12th October and the Audit Committee on the same day, so it'll be great to catch with the other members again as after the first one it was straight to the AGM and then onto the main conference the next day.

If you have any questions about being an Institute Council member or want any further information on the role of Council, Boards and Committee's then drop me a line at cipfanwnw@cipfa.org or follow me and the rest of the North West on the social media sites below. There is a specific group page for CIPFA North West on LinkedIn which is an open group so anyone can join.

I'll be more than happy to answer any questions or queries if I can and if not, refer them up to the Institute.

But in true 'me spirit' there is always an *And Finally.....*



Look at this amazing CIPFA Pen! It's come from our international colleagues at CIPFA Japan. It's a bit small in the photo but it's in actual Japanese. Everyone was very jealous of me sporting this at the CIPFA Conference. CIPFA Japan Chair Toshihiko Ishihara gave one to all the Institute Council Members at the Council meeting on 12 July. I'm protecting it with my life from now on! I am very lucky to have a spare though that I'll be giving away at one of our regional events so keep your eyes peeled on the website for our next dates to be in with a chance of being the envy of all your friends and colleagues too 😊

Shaer

Our regional web pages are:

Twitter – search twitter.com/CIPFANW

LinkedIn – search for the Group CIPFA North West

Facebook – search for the Group CIPFA North West

CIPFA Website - <http://www.cipfa.org/members/regions/north-west>