

Notes

Meeting: Regional Meeting, via conference call

Date: 12 September 2019

Regions IT development project. A proposal with funding options to support improved IT services for regions had been circulated. Nearly all regions responded (11 out of 12) with helpful comments. However there was no consensus about which funding option to choose. Some regions asked for a better specification for the new service while others felt it was the responsibility of CIPFA centrally to fund and provide IT support.

Different challenges and levels of difficulty are being experienced by the different regions. Where there is at least one person familiar with the regional dashboard, it has enabled the region to access data and contact members without many problems. Data quality was highlighted as an on-going issue. Information about members is sometimes out of date.

Alastair Barr will be bidding for funds to support improved IT support for regions as part of the 2020 business planning process. Meanwhile, regions are asked to raise any issues with Camilla Hayes (Camilla.hayes@cipfa.org) in the first instance, she will liaise with the relevant departments to find a timely solution to any IT problems.

Development plans for 2020 will be issued shortly. The deadline for submitting plans is Friday 18 October. There was a request for clarity around the funding mechanism. Plans and the allocation of funding will be considered by the Student and Members Board in November. Plans will be discussed with regions at the Autumn Forum in November.

CIPFA 2020 – a review of the professional qualification is underway. Regions will play an important role in providing feedback, including from non-members and a range of employers in their area. Niall Hamilton is project managing the review. He will be speaking at the NW conference and attending a SE Council meeting. Some regions are arranging roundtable meetings to contribute to the review. Regions that have not already been contacted and would like to participate in the review should contact Niall Hamilton (Niall.hamilton@cipfa.org).

Students & Members Board (SMB). Rhian Evens, past President of CIPFA Wales, has recently joined SMB as the regions representative. The process for regions to liaise with Rhian and to give feedback from SMB are to be confirmed. It was suggested having a dedicated email address for the regions representative. A separate meeting will take place shortly to clarify the operational arrangements for the role.

Autumn Forum. Stephanie Donaldson, President of North West region updated the meeting on plans for the forum which will take place on 14 to 15 November in Chester. It was agreed the dress code will be business attire during the day and at the dinner. The event has been set up and is live on Consensus. The agenda has been finalised and Stephanie will send round an email soon to invite regional colleagues to register. It is important to know the numbers requiring accommodation and attending the dinner as soon as possible, so regions are asked book promptly.

Hedley Marshall Award. A new trophy has been designed to give to the winner of the Hedley Marshall Award. (Pictures of the new award were circulated prior to the conference call.) The award is made from crystal and comes in a presentation box. It is engraved with '*Hedley Marshall Award... for outstanding contribution to CIPFA regional activities*'... and includes an image of Coventry Cathedral to show the link Hedley Marshall had with Coventry.

The sample model of the new award bears the name of Bruce Parvin, the winner of the Hedley Marshall Award last year. It will be sent to the NE region to be presented to Bruce.

Date of next meeting: Regional Autumn Forum, 14-15 November in Chester.

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