

Meeting CIM Council Meeting
Date **Wednesday 30 April 2025**
Time 10.00 - 11.30
Venue Microsoft Teams

Notes of the Meeting

	Item	Actions
1	<p>Introductions and apologies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Present</u>: Alston Owens (Chair), Bev Bull, Holly Hancocks, Martin Jones, Modestus Okafor, Colin Sharpe. <u>In attendance</u>: Victoria Davitt (CIPFA Midlands Liaison Officer) <u>Apologies</u>: Andy Cardoza, Theresa Channell, Katy Harding, Amy Oliver, Sean Prosser, Kelly Watson, Lee Yale-Helms. <p>Colleagues welcomed Alston as the new President.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes:</p> <p>The minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 January 2025 were approved. There were no matters not covered elsewhere on the agenda.</p>	
3	<p>Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Regional Council 2025/26</u> – The composition of Council was noted. The co-option of Richard Walton was approved. <u>AGM 2025 reflections</u> – The AGM on 27 March had been well-received and was a good building block from which to widen future engagement and representation. Council supported AoW's desire to aim for an AGM/conference followed by a President's Dinner and award ceremony in 2026 – planning will need to start in September, if not earlier. <u>CIM Regional Development Plan 2025</u> – Noted this is still to be finalised and submitted. The latest draft is understood to be with TC, AoW will follow up as it is significantly overdue. Aim to bring the 2026 draft plan to the November meeting. 	<p>AOW</p> <p>AoW</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Sixth Form Management Games</u> – Progress is being made with the June 2025 programme, VD is supporting HH. Aspiration to develop a new game for future years, with a regional final. • <u>Mentoring</u> – Deferred in the absence of SP. • <u>Student participation</u> – This remains a significant concern and in need of development. Council discussed the importance of student participation and the potential for leveraging ICAEW events. VD suggested a dual-branded event with ICAEW to engage new students and provide networking advice. MJ reflected on his experiences as a student, when CIPFA offered a wider range of networking activities including a management game. AOw emphasised the need for a consistent programme of activities to keep students engaged throughout the year. PF Live is an opportunity for student engagement, although concerns that some employers are not supporting attendance. • <u>Finances</u> – AOw and BB reflected on the budget for the AGM and the need to manage expenses better in the future, also the importance of financial management and having a clear budget and spending plan linked to activities. • <u>CIPFA HQ</u> – Nothing specific. • <u>Local links with ICAEW</u> –The next joint meeting will be on 23 June in central Birmingham, 12 noon -2pm, ahead of PF Live. Council members able to attend should inform AoW and CS. • <u>Regional Dashboard and Reporting</u> – CS reported he had recently accessed the dashboard and as a starter had shared some headline membership information. VD is seeking access. AOw emphasised the importance of the dashboard for engaging with students and retired members; and suggested building up its use over the course of the year and leveraging Sean Cremer's expertise in the Southwest region. • <u>Social Media and Comms</u> - AoW discussed the importance of social media for communication and engagement, with a mix of content and platforms, together with consistent and regular updates. <p>He emphasised that having someone with high-level social media engagement skills to oversee the activities would be beneficial.</p>	All
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	<p>He has created new regional LinkedIn groups and it would be good to have someone to manage these, possibly a student interested in the space. VD said there is ongoing discussion about a central CIPFA LinkedIn account managed by the comms team.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Administrative support</u> – This is needed for events and the annual conference/dinner; Council members do not have the capacity. The various regions have different models and VD's role continues to evolve. To be carried forward to the next Council meeting. 	
4	<p>Events planning / Events group:</p> <p>Council noted the planned events as set out on the agenda. Attendance and the regional presence at PF Live was discussed, with discounted rates available for regional council members. AoW would like to invite the National Council members from the Midlands to support our activities.</p>	
5	<p>Presidential badges and chains of office:</p> <p>Council agreed that new badges and chains of office should be procured for the President, Vice-President and Junior Vice-President.</p>	AOW
6	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Council agreed that MJ could bring a visiting international lecturer to meetings.</p> <p>CS was asked to develop a 'skills template' which Council members would be invited to complete - what are our super-powers and what are we missing?</p>	CS
7	<p>Council meeting dates for 2025/26, @10am for 1.5 hours:</p> <p>9 July (updated) 17 September 19 November – in person 21 January 26 March – AGM?</p>	