

NOTE OF PROCEEDINGS

Committee	COUNCIL	
Date	13 September 2007	
Time	3.30pm	
Venue	Dublin Castle conference centre	
Attendees	John Butler Caroline Mawhood Mike Barnes	(President) (Vice-President) (Treasurer)
	Jennie Adair Caroline Al-Beyerty Ken Barnes Lynn Bradley Diane Colley Jane Cuthbertson Tim Day Ken Finch Claire Gravil Scott Haldane Richard Harbord Chris Harris	Neil Hunter Curtis Juman Andrew Lovett Mark McBride Decaln McDonagh Jaki Meekings Mike Owen Tony Redmond Martin Sinclair Mal Singh Gerald Vinten Lee Yale-Helms
Executive	Steve Freer Ian Carruthers Tom Lewis Barry Mather	Chief Executive Policy & Technical Director Asst Director Council Secretary

- 1 After noting apologies for absence and declarations of interest, the President welcomed Jennie Adair, the NSF nominee to Council, and Neil Hunter, as the replacement as NE regional representative on the resignation of George Clark. Mark McBride was also welcomed as the regional representative for the 'offshore' regions.
- 2 Council reconfirmed its own Terms of Council and approved those of The Board.
- 3 Council received reports –
 - on the appointment of Diane Colley as Chair of the new Nominations Committee and the imminent process for the election of three committee members;
 - on progress with the strategic partnership with the ICAEW, and possible names for appointment to each other's main forums;
 - on progress with populating the Role of the Public Sector Director of Finance Panel (amended title).

- 4 Eighty-one applications for membership were approved.
- 5 Council noted the latest list of disciplinary cases and formally approved changes to the AIDB regulations reflecting its name change to the Accountancy and Actuarial Discipline Board.
- 6 Council received its first report from The Board (previously Management Committee); apart from summarising the administrative proceedings of its own first meeting, a report provided a summary of the main strategic issues and reviews currently underway across the Institute e.g of the cross-group marketing strategy, of *Public Finance*, of Conference, and of Education & Training.
- 7 Council received its latest progress report on the implementation of the Practice Assurance Scheme. It approved, subject to final drafting amendments by a working group, the Council Statement on the application and scope of the scheme, endorsed the delegation to the M&SD Board of final approval of the set of associated Regulations, and approved the figures for application and annual fees.
- 8 Council's strategic debate at this meeting concerned the future role of the regional structure; Council members had earlier contributed alongside regional delegates to a plenary debate on this matter during the concurrent Conference for the Regions. That earlier debate had concluded unequivocally that the Regions' core role was to support the CPD needs of their membership, ideally with low cost or free events locally; there had been enthusiasm for engagement with local, as opposed to national, employers providing there was capacity and support to do so; there had been recognition that regions had a unique contribution to make in terms of networking opportunities; and a degree of interest in contributing to responses to technical papers and input to Institute Panels.

Council members unequivocally endorsed the role of regions in providing a local interface with the Institute's members and students, and without being too prescriptive concurred with the priorities listed above; Council valued and placed great store on the volunteer ethic and on the role of volunteer members in providing those local services; recognised that engagement with employers must be led from the centre, supporting and resourcing local engagement by regional volunteers; Council members should be far more involved with their regional councils. Decisions on how these priorities should be resourced remained with the Regions and the Board for the Regions.
- 9 Council endorsed the recommendation from a member for a policy on how complaints against and criticisms of Council members and senior staff should be handled, and this was remitted to The Board for further discussion.