



ACES Council April 2024
Head of Engagement Report

FACES

Now have 150 people signed up (I reported 140 in January). Further updates:

- Sara hosted the FACES panel session at the Local Authority Property and Estates conference in Manchester last month. Was well received again.
- RICS APC training day was held at LSH offices in London on February 6th. Again well received and LSH did us proud.
- The online “Ask the expert” Teams session in March was attended by 40 from the ACES community. Sara Cameron, Bernard White, Helen Stubbs and Georgi Hill from RICS joined me in answering questions. Plans are afoot to host another one possibly focused on “how to think as a surveyor, and not just as a public sector surveyor”.

EG Public Sector Forum

At the time of writing, the draft the document is with the Estates Gazette for editing. This initiative is with Estates Gazette, Jackie Sadek, Local Partnerships and six local authority CEOs. Sara and I will have attended the last meeting on April 18th prior to joining the launch event at UKREiiF at 15.00 on May 22nd.

Offices for Good

We have now held two webinars (at the time of writing), three by the time you read this. The first featured our Fellow, Jackie Sadek talking about the vitality of places and how that relates to offices.

The second had our very own President plus Alice Stacey from DLUHC talking about some of the drivers behind office changes and what pressures the public sector faces.

The third, on April 18th will focus on Culture and features the Maxine O’Mahoney and Ralph, Burton, CEO and Head of Property at Breckland Council plus Gordon MacFarland and Steve Davies, the President and Secretary of the PPMA (HR professionals).

The fourth and final one on 9th May should feature GPA and Remit looking at the use of data and benchmarking.

More information including recordings of the sessions to date and sign ups can be found here:

<https://localpartnerships.gov.uk/resources/offices-for-good/>

This will all come together at an event at UKREiiF (1030 on 22nd May) and other conferences later this year.

UKREiiF

In connection with the above Manifesto, the President and I will be representing ACES at UKREiiF in May 2024. It will include the launch of the Public Sector Forum Manifesto and the Offices for Good session referenced above.

MIPIM

Jessie Leung of South Gloucester Council attended MIPIM on the under 30s programme with 15 others. Based on her experience she has written an article in the Terrier and will be presenting to the south-west branch at a future meeting. She has been very good at promoting ACES every step of the way. Sara and I have other ideas how she may be able to help.

Corporate Memberships

A comprehensive paper is coming to Council so it is best that is used as the forum for update and discussion.

On top of this I am in discussion with Montagu Evans to possibly host one online webinar and an in-person event at their London office. Avison Young are proving a little slow in getting the Espressos programme up and running. I am also in conversation with ECF who are offering some free training on consultation which could qualify as CPD.

Outside of the above, and our existing corporate members, if members have some ideas of organisations with whom they have a good working relationship it would be good to have a conversation about Corporate Membership.

Government Property Function

We continue to engage with Lynda Rawsthorne, the new Head of Profession. She has given us a contact for their roadshows and Marcus and I are in touch.

Community Assets – Power to Change

As part of some work I am doing outside of ACES, I was invited by the above organisation to attend, on behalf of ACES, an online roundtable on 17th April - How does privately owned space function as social infrastructure? I will feedback in due course.

RICS

Sara and I attended the Public Sector Forum (yes there are two!) on February 6th. Focus was on recruitment/retention, apprentices and healthy buildings.

Other news via Sam's update.

#Love Local Government

A second event took place on March 20th and Alan Richards and his colleague, Ben Harrison presented on Southend's (ACES Award winning) Retrofit House. It was well received and another event is planned.

Revo/LSH report launch

Marcus and I attended in person and we know others did so online. At this session I asked a question and mentioned our work with Local Partnerships and the EG Public Sector Forum. As a result of which a Revo Board member asked if would collaborate further with them. I am finding out some more details.

CIPFA Diploma

I have secured a meeting with Simon Corben to discuss the potential for the expansion of the Diploma into the health estates arena. Malcolm and I are meeting them on April 18th so we can provide a verbal update at Council.

Branches

Trevor, Marcus and I have regular catch up meetings to coordinate branch liaison activity. Our last one was 12th April.

Communications/Social Media

Still under consideration.

Neil Webster

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