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## ITEM 17

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### **Update Report for ACES/CIPFA Diploma in SAM**

The course continued to be successful, and 228 delegates have already taken the course and at the time of writing a further 7 delegates have already signed up for the autumn/winter iteration of the course. It is pleasing to note that 3 of the recently signed up delegates are from the “blue light” services of which we are keen to attract.

A big thank you to the ACES members who have all agreed to present the next iteration of the course. Unfortunately, Richard Wynne has had to step down and he will be missed but it offers opportunities for other ACES members to become involved in this rewarding course which offers personal growth.

A joint washup session was held in Birmingham on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June where course content was reviewed together with ideas for attracting other public facing services staff to consider undertaking the diploma.

The possibility of widening the collaboration between ACES and CIPFA was discussed with reference to Asset Valuations where CIPFA have not been able to offer webinar sessions or written advice since Donna Best left CIPFA for a role within the RICS.

It was agreed subject to Council approval that ACES members Helen and David would provide the technical input into several webinar sessions on “valuation pitfalls” in November/December 2025. All the administrative heavy lifting and advertising would be undertaken by CIPFA and ACES would provide the technical input. In this instance it is proposed to split the revenue income generated 50/50.

The proposal is to run the webinars at the end of the year as a pilot scheme to test its viability and to ensure that the proposed fee income split is equitable and if so, it could be added to a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the parties.

The current MOU time expired at the end of 2023 and needs revamping but having regard to the above it seems sensible to hold off on a new MOU until the above pilot scheme has been completed and reviewed.

With Council's approval it is proposed that a joint letter of understanding be produced to cover the above actions which can be hopefully formalised in early 2026.

CIPFA would like ACES to become involved in answering technical questions around Asset Valuations that arise during the year and update/rewrite the Asset Valuation protocols and guidance notes which have not been reviewed for 9 years. This area needs more consideration by Council, and it is suggested that the work involved might require CIPFA providing a lump sum to ACES to cover the work and time involved.

ACES have another opportunity to highlight its technical expertise in becoming involved with CIPFA “Lunch and Learn” initiative. CIPFA run several lunch time online sessions for people to receive current best practice on issues related to the built environment. These are run throughout the year and last for one hour and qualify for CPD hours.

The programme is booked up to the end of 2025 but opportunities are available for 2026. A thought is that ACES have several over ready topics from the submissions for the Presidents Best Practice Awards over the years.

**ACES Council are asked to approve:**

- 1) The pilot Valuation pitfalls webinar with an initial 50/50 split of revenue to be reviewed in January.
- 2) Consider the amount of technical work required to answer technical valuation questions that arise during the year and input into a rewrite of the guidance notes and provide CIPFA with a lump sum (perhaps with a min and max collar)
- 3) Consider the lunch and learn initiative and delegate the working up of this initiative to ACES Secretary and ACES Dip in SAM coordinator
- 4) Delegate the production of a letter of understanding to cover the next iteration of the diploma and the proposed pilot study to ACES Secretary and assisted by The course coordinator.

**Malcolm Williams Course Coordinator**  
**July 2025**