

**PPMA Southern & South East Region  
Meeting 8 July 2011**

**Summary Note**

**Present:**

Nigel Fairburn, Kent County Council, Chair  
Deborah Moon, HR Consultant, Secretary  
Teresa Crowther, Hampshire Probation Service  
Chris Daltry, Buckinghamshire County Council  
Mark Garton, Kent County Council  
Patrick Glencross, Outset UK Ltd  
Lucasta Grayson, Crawley Council  
Ed Howarth, East Sussex County Council  
Tony Madden, Bracknell Forest Council  
Tricia Palmer, Medway Council  
Carol Sharp, Can Do People Ltd  
Diane Shepherd, Chichester District Council  
Richard Wood, Touchstone Renard Ltd  
Sharon Brown, Hackney Council  
Lynne Butler, Lynne Butler Associates  
Gerri Green, Brent Council  
Marj Keddy, Redbridge Council  
Marie Rance, Southwark Council

Anne Gibson, Norfolk County Council, President, PPMA

**CIPFA:**

Anna Bishell  
Gill Kelly  
John Maddocks

Apologies had been received from a number of members who had been unable to attend.

**1. Welcome and Introductions**

Nigel welcomed everyone to the meeting, including some members from the London Region. Particular thanks were expressed to CIPFA for providing the venue and speaker for the event. A warm welcome was extended to Anne Gibson, PPMA President.

**2. Big Society and Social Enterprise: presentation from John Maddocks, CIPFA**

By way of introduction, John used a quiz to test attendees' knowledge and understanding of this highly topical issue. He then went on to provide a very useful, interesting and informative presentation, covering the following key themes:

- Definitions of Big Society and Social Enterprise, with a number of policy examples;
- Different models of a social enterprise and their characteristics;
- Practical examples of the above.

CIPFA was about to produce a new publication on Social Enterprise and Service Delivery and information on where/how to access this was also provided.

Copies of the presentation have subsequently been sent to attendees.

Following the presentation, a round table discussion took place on the issues raised, with an opportunity to pose further questions to John on some of the key challenges in this area.

### **3. Future development of PPMA**

Anne shared with the meeting an outline of the proposed future operating model for PPMA and the key areas she would be focussing on during her year as President. She was very keen to stimulate greater member engagement and receive views on the ways in which the organisation can help/support members, particularly during these challenging times.

PPMA had previously developed a business plan and Anne identified the key themes within this and their continued relevance. A business plan for the presidential year 2011/12 was set out in the paper *Future Direction*, available on the PPMA website. Anne outlined the four key themes within this, identifying some of the main issues and inviting views/comments on these. Particular issues identified and discussed included:

- The lack of awareness/use of the new website and the reasons for this;
- The type of support most valued by members;
- The role of PPMA as a “thought leader” and whether members felt their views were accurately represented;
- Developing links with/influencing the work of the CIPD and areas of interest for potential research;
- The role of and support for conferences and other types of events;
- Ensuring the constitution reflects member needs, in view of the changing nature of public services, and developing links with HPMA;
- Reasons for joining PPMA.

The importance of member involvement was emphasised and members were encouraged to provide feedback and comments to either Anne or Nigel.

### **4. Round-up of topical issues within member organisations**

A range of issues were raised by and discussed with members, including:  
Current position on and approach to pay and reward within authorities;  
Current industrial relations climate and whether the review and proposed reform of the LGPS might act as a “tipping point” with regard to any potential action.

### **5. Dates for future meetings**

Members were reminded of the following future meeting dates:

Friday 14 October 2011;  
Friday 13 January 2012.

Members views were invited on potential themes/topics, with industrial relations suggested as one possible area.

As mentioned at previous meetings, there was a continuing need to build on the core interest, seeking to actively engage more members from across the Region. Attendees were asked to assist with this, as appropriate, when speaking with colleagues from other councils/organisations.