

Southern and South East Region

Chair: Nigel Fairburn (Kent County Council)

The July Regional meeting was hosted by CIPFA. The focus of the meeting was Social Enterprise and Public Service Delivery presented by John Maddocks from CIPFA who has researched and at the time was about to release a publication on the subject. John outlined what a social enterprise is and went on to describe the different forms of social enterprise and mutuals and their characteristics. A number of examples were given of where and how social enterprises have been established. This highlighted how the public service delivery landscape is changing and potential opportunities for the future.

Following the presentation there was a question and answer session and a roundtable discussion.

The Region was really pleased to welcome to the meeting Anne Gibson, PPMA President. Anne shared and discussed with members the proposals on the future operating model for the PPMA. Anne outlined issues within the 2011/12 business plan and invited views. Areas of discussion included:

- The lack of awareness/use of the new website and the reasons for this
- The type of support valued by members
- The role of the 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 the PPMA

Before the meeting closed there was discussion on the hot issues for members. These included the approach employers are taking to pay and rewards within the economic environment and, the employee relations climate particularly given the proposed pension reforms.

The next regional meeting will be on Friday 14 October 2011 and will be hosted by DLA Piper. The meeting will include trends arising from HR Benchmarker and an employment law update.

September 2011