

What Council members have to say about joining Council and their experience

These are quotes from current Council members for 2023-24:

1. Why did you join Council?

- *To give something back to the institution and members who have supported me throughout my career. Hopefully my contributions will help CIHT grow and meet the needs of current and future members.*
- *I was invited to join Council by a colleague who wanted to encourage voices under-represented. I learnt a huge amount, and hopefully paid that back in my service since then.*
- *To make sure there was adequate Public Sector involvement in the work of CIHT and so I could help to influence the strategic direction of CIHT.*

2. Did joining Council meet your expectations?

- *I have found it very rewarding. It helps you appreciate all the work that goes on behind the scenes and the value of the membership.*
- *Early days, but yes it has so far because you get the opportunity to get involved in a lot of things.*

3. What has surprised you the most from being part of Council?

- *I have enjoyed the networking and meeting new colleagues who are just as passionate about CIHT and our industry. Sometimes we don't always agree, but I think that is very healthy.*
- *I was surprised that people at all levels in the profession can bring value to the role and get benefit from understanding the profession more widely than their 'day-job' allows.*
- *How quickly I have felt embedded into the work of the council.*

4. What have you gained from being part of Council?

- *Hearing other peoples' contributions and experiences, the high level of debate is enlightening.*
- *It is an opportunity to meet more CIHT volunteers and staff and to contribute your opinion on CIHT strategy.*
- *Personal development and time to focus away from my day job and think strategically.*

5. Why would you recommend joining Council?

- *Making CIHT as diverse and inclusive as we can, and to make sure that through our technical excellence, members feel valued and engaged.*
- *If you want to get more involved with CIHT, Council is a great way to do this. It is not a huge commitment in terms of your time, as the meetings are only three per year for main Council. It is a very welcoming forum, made up of people with a wide range of experiences.*
- *Serving Council is a privilege and an opportunity, and I commend it to others – *especially* (not 'even') if you might think 'that's not for people like me' (whether that's gender; disability; ethnicity; social background; role in our industry etc.) In the same way that our design community needs to look like the transport users we serve, so our Council needs to represent the membership; all transport users, and society as a whole.*
- *You have to be in it to shape it – also so you can bring your experience, knowledge and views to the table.*