

NORTH WEST REGION

Chair: Alison McKenzie-Folan (Wigan Council)

The region's activities are picking up pace after a period of planning and review.

The annual Northern Personnel Briefing was held in September 2010 and as always was fully subscribed. The region sponsored this event.

The branch held a very well attended event in Wigan MBC in January in partnership with NWEQ, themed around HR shared services. The context and background to the issue was provided by Peter Reilly from IES. Dean Shoesmith travelled up to Manchester for the event, and gave a thought-provoking presentation on developments in the London Boroughs of Merton and Sutton. Stockport and Trafford Councils outlined their collaboration with Wigan on the procurement and implementation of the new HR system, thanks go to Greg McNair and Joanne Hyde. A final lively round table event was chaired by Heather Jamieson from the MJ, who also kindly sponsored the event.

A further event was held in partnership with WaysHR highlighting best practice in career management, with Sue Stanhope from Sunderland City Council giving an insight into their approach to budget reductions without redundancies.

A further event is planned for March in collaboration with Saviles covering career transition from the public to the private sector.

Membership in the region is mostly stable, despite a few colleagues moving on to new challenges.

The region would like to thank all our contributors, sponsors and those who have attended events for their support over the past year.