

Region/SIG Funding

Frequently Asked Questions about the new proposals

1. Why are the arrangements for funding being changed?

At its meeting in January 2009 The Forum (which is composed of representatives of each Region and SIG) agreed that the existing funding arrangements should be simplified. A task group was created by Resources Committee for this purpose and developed a proposal for a new way Regions and SIGs could be funded.

2. What is the new funding system?

Regions and SIGs will be funded on an annual basis via a simple equation.

The variables in this equation will be:

- a) The number of members in the Region/SIG
- b) The geographical size of the Region/SIG*
- c) The number of CPD hours provided in the previous year by the Region/SIG

*The notional size of each SIG will be calculated as twice the geographical size of the South West region.

The funding available for Regions/SIGs in any year will be divided up as follows:

Variable	% of funding pot
Number of Members	50%
Geographical Size	20%
CPD Hours	30%

3. Does the number of members include *all* members, or just those who are required to do CPD?

It includes all members. Regions/SIGs should aim to support all of their membership, including Students, Retired Members etc.

4. Why has geographical size been included?

Since the introduction of the new Regional network we have found that larger Regions have experienced more difficulties in providing service for their membership.

5. How are "CPD hours" calculated?

This figure will reflect the number of CPD hours which have been made available to members over a year.

I.e.: $H \times A = \text{CPD hours}$

(*Hours of CPD provided multiplied by the number of Members attending each hour.*)

So if 12 members attend 5 hours of training, this would equate to 60 CPD hours.

6. Should CPD hours for Regions include those provided by Branches?

Yes.

7. How can I increase the funding for my Region/SIG?

Funding from the central CIEH "pot" can be increased by providing more CPD events or recruiting more members.

External funding can of course be generated via revenue from events such as weekend schools, or from sponsorship.

8. What should Regions and SIGs provide to ensure they receive their funding?

The previous system required the submission of a full business plan. The new system requires a simple two page annual report including details of the number of CPD hours.

(Regions' and SIGs' annual submission of accounts remain as before and meet the necessary legal requirements.)

9. Who assesses the submissions?

These are compiled by CIEH staff and presented to Resources Committee.

10. What about funding for innovative projects over and above the usual activity of the Regions and SIGs?

If extra funds become available then Resources Committee will have to ability to solicit bids from Regions and SIGs.

11. What is the timetable?

Submissions from Regions and SIGs must be received by 1st of October each year so that they can be collated and brought to Resources Committee. The Council meeting in December will then confirm the budget for the subsequent year and the funding allocation for Regions and SIGs.