The Institution of Engineering and Technology

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CO(21)6

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PAPER CLASSIFICATION: OPEN

Council

REPORT TO ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

(Paper by Mr David Hogan, Chair of Council. If you have any questions on this paper before the meeting please contact Mr David Hogan by email david.hogan@ietvolunteer.org)

1. Issue

To provide a report to Council on the report to be made to the Annual General Meeting on 13 May 2021.

2. Timing

Council meeting, 25 March 2021.

3. For Recommendation

Council is invited to approve this report.

4. Background

4.1. Bye-law 53 states that the Annual General Meeting of the IET shall include "an annual report from Council".

4.2. In 2020 the Annual General Meeting will be held as part of the Members Annual Information Event on 13 May 2021.

5. Draft Report

A draft report from Council for the Annual General Meeting to be held on 13 May 2021 is attached as an Appendix.

6. Risk

No risk issues have been identified in connection with this paper.

7. Resources

No resource issues have been identified in connection with this paper.

Appendix to CO(21)6

Draft Report from Council for the Members Annual Information Event to be held on Thursday, 13 May 2021

2020 has been somewhat different as we are all too well aware and required Council to pivot to virtual meetings through Zoom. It is to both Council members and the IET staff's flexibility, working together, which has made a success of the year's meetings. As in previous years, during 2020, Council has continued to play its part in helping to develop and shape the strategy of the IET. The format of the Council meetings continues to have the usual Board level briefings with an associated 'World Café' breakout sessions to delve deeper into specific topics as part of its remit of providing thought leadership into the Board of Trustees.

This relationship between the Board of Trustees and Council continues to be affirmed every June when they hold a joint strategy meeting. In June 2020 a significant topic was, again, refining the content of the revised IET Strategic Framework.

As well as contributing to strategy, Council is also informed about existing IET strategies. Council meetings have received updates on several topics including the most recent Membership Survey.

Last year Council delivered several sets of strategic recommendations to the Board of Trustees. It has generally developed those recommendations through detailed discussions in World Café breakout sessions, as well as continuing to utilise IET's Microsoft Office 365 "Yammer" platform. This provides a good communication channel that facilitates open discussion on any topic. The use of Yammer as both a pre-meeting briefing tool and a post-meeting repository has allowed a slightly more continuous flow of debate and comments than previously. A new approach was developed in the autumn whereby Yammer 'threads' were opened up for the forthcoming meeting and old ones, archived, so enabling clarity around the next meeting's subject matter.

From both methods, inputs were collated and analysed by Council volunteers into strategic papers. Council works hard to deliver relevant papers in a timely fashion and is encouraged by the Board of Trustees' active responses to its recommendations.

- IET Strategy 2030;
- Strategy on Climate Change;
- President's Themes;
- Strategy for Operationalising IET@150.

Monitoring Governance remains an important role for Council providing inputs to Council as and when required. Council also contributed as members to the IET's Main Boards which enables Council to maintain a broad understanding of the cross-Board issues which, again, helps to inform the meetings and particularly, the World Café sessions.

The membership of Council comes from a varied set of geographic, industrial and academic backgrounds with a pan-global dimension from Hong Kong to Silicon Valley via India, the UK and Canada. This allows Council, through the Local Networks in different parts of the world and not only the UK, to reflect the IET membership views.

Some of the work of Council has to be confidential because of the implications for people or markets that the IET is involved with, but we aim to make the outcomes of the majority of discussions available on the IET website. Members of Council also regularly contribute articles to *Member News* to update members on the activities of Council.

Members of Council are all volunteers and freely give of their time for which I am grateful on behalf of Council and the IET. Thanks must also go to the IET Secretariat who always provide friendly and helpful support with the IET's One Team ethos. Many Council members gain great satisfaction from networking, albeit virtually, with members having different experiences and opinions but even greater satisfaction from knowing that they, themselves, are helping to shape the future of the IET. Hopefully the strategy meeting with the Trustees in June 2021 will be face to face as this aspect, has been missed.