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Local Institute Case Study

Sandra Craig, Corporate Deputy Team Leader, Lockton
Insurance Institute of **Northern Ireland**



How does being a member help you with your professional development?

The opportunities for professional development that can be accessed through your local institute are endless.

From learning how to manage your time effectively, to balance your council responsibilities alongside your day job, to speak and in front of others, CPD events, and networking and social events. There are a lot of different opportunities available to everyone.

Definitely one of the highlights of my time with, the Insurance Institute so far has to be my first award ceremony, as education secretary. We decided to have it in Belfast City Hall. So personally, I'll never forget the feeling of standing up on that stage, on the feeling of pride at delivering such a big event in such an iconic place in Belfast.

And how does being a member of your Local Institute help advance your career?

As a naturally shy person, I've found that being involved in the Insurance Institute has increased my confidence and helped to develop my career and my relationships with industry colleagues. It's helped me improve in areas like public speaking.

I'm very lucky to be supported and encouraged by a number of peers on the council, who are always on hand to give valuable advice in the lead up to something. That sort of advice on what has happened before is always good to have, especially if you're in a new role. It gives you an idea of what's worked and what hasn't, and gives you a starting point for putting your own stamp on it.

How does your Local Institute inspire you, and help you inspire others?

Being a member of my local institute makes me feel accomplished. I'm proud of my profession. I'm very passionate about giving back to the industry that that has brought me so much in my career. The support and encouragement that I've received from the council I would like to pay forward to new members as well, and hopefully make a difference to future generations.

How would you like to shape the future of insurance?

I'm trying to trying to attract people into the profession. I don't think people realize how many different roles there are available. There seems to be a perception, that it, it won't be a, an exciting career path. We have to be a wee bit bigger and bolder about the importance of what we do. And, the fact that it is a really good career path to take, you know, effectively, insurance underpins everything you do

Find out what your Local Institute could do for you

www.cii.co.uk/shape