

Volunteer Spotlight

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THE INSTITUTION OF FIRE ENGINEERS
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Tell us about yourself.

I am a Principal Fire Engineer at London Fire Brigade, leading a team of specialist fire engineers.

How did you first learn about the IFE?

I heard about the IFE not long after joining London Fire Brigade some 16 years ago. Many of my colleagues were already IFE members.

Tell us about your volunteer roles.

I currently sit on IFERG (Institution of Fire Engineers Registrants Group) and am the Vice-Chair of the Ethics Committee which was formed in part from the former competency and ethics SIG. The Ethics Committee is responsible for areas including the IFE professional code of conduct and we have recently developed the IFE disciplinary processes. I've also undertaken exam marking in the past.

How long have you been volunteering with the IFE?

Around 10 years now.

What made you want to volunteer with the IFE?

I feel it is important to share knowledge and expertise for the benefit of others. Some of my colleagues had been involved in various volunteer roles with the IFE so it also felt quite natural, with the support of London Fire Brigade, to do so too.

What is your favourite part of being an IFE volunteer?

I get to network with other experts on a regular basis.

Would you recommend volunteering with the IFE to others?

I would recommend volunteering. By doing so you have the opportunity to influence how the IFE is shaped in the future for the benefit of both existing and new members.

What are your highlights of volunteering?

Some of the more unusual exam paper responses!

Has volunteering impacted your career?

I believe there is personal benefit in IFE volunteering roles as it demonstrates a commitment to not only your professional development but the wider professional development of our industry. There are also skills you can develop which you might not get through your day job such as chairing meetings, participating on a committee or technical group, assessing exam or application papers etc.

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