

Facilities Management from A to Z



Based on The FM Lexicon by Martin Pickard
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The British Institute of Facilities Management (BIFM) is a professional association representing facility managers in the UK. Formed in 1993 by a merger between the Association of Facilities Management and the Institute of Facilities Management, the BIFM's stated mission is "to promote and advance the facilities management profession"

In 2012 the total membership was given as 12,431 in a variety of membership grades including 5,793 Members, 2,249 Corporate nominees, 2,227 Affiliates and 126 Fellows. This has grown significantly from the original 2,943 in 1994.

The institute is organised with 10 geographic Regions and 13 Special Interest Groups, all managed by volunteers from the membership who are represented through a committee structure up to an elected BIFM Chair. The institute employs a small staff at its Hertfordshire head office including a CEO who is responsible for delivering the organisation's strategy.

A key element of the BIFM strategy is the development and promotion of a suite of qualifications which began with a Level 3 award developed in partnership with the Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) in 2009 and was supplemented by BIFM Qualifications at Levels 4, 5 and 6 in 2010.

BIFM provides professional training and continuous professional development (CPD) through a joint venture company BIFM Training which was established in 2002 in partnership with Quadrilect. BIFM Training offers a wide range of CPD courses which are heavily promoted at BIFM events and in its official publications.

FM World is the BIFM's fortnightly magazine which has been published since 2004 by Redactive Publishing Ltd in London. They claim a total readership of over 24,000 an issue. It is sent automatically to all BIFM members and is available to others through an annual subscription. The magazine is highly regarded for its job adverts and salary survey and carries industry news and features as well as BIFM information.

The BIFM has an extensive programme of events throughout the year including an annual conference, awards ceremony and golf competition as well as a host of regional and SIG meetings, socials and conferences.

BIFM is active in a number of external bodies including Asset Skills (The sector skills council for facilities management, housing, property, planning, cleaning and parking), Global FM (A worldwide alliance of facility management membership organisations), and The Construction Industry Council (A representative forum for professional bodies and associations in the construction industry)

Information about the BIFM and membership details can be found at www.bifm.org.uk or by phoning 0845 058 1358