

I.M3 Institute of Materials,
Minerals & Mining

The global network for
the materials cycle.

2024 END OF YEAR REVIEW

Dr Colin Church

FIMMM CEnv CRWM MCIWM

IOM3 Chief Executive

This year has seen some substantial change for IOM3, both in terms of the world around us following the 'year of elections' and in more parochial terms with service and team changes. Through it all, I am immensely pleased to say, the active supporters and volunteers and the IOM3 team have continued to do us all proud. From our scientific journal editors and their boards who worked so hard to make the transition to our new publishing partner work well, to the new dynamic duo of membership recruitment, Paul Skerry and Jamie Graham, through the hard work of conference organising and scientific committees and IOM3 teams running a whole host of other activities, it has been another year of real progress in supporting professionals in materials, minerals, and mining and delivering our charitable purpose. This hard work has also meant that IOM3 continues to generate an operational surplus, which means we can deliver more charitable activity whilst keeping our membership fees reasonable.

In 2024, our membership numbers remained broadly stable, though recruitment to some grades did fall back as a result of the gap without a Director of Membership and the time for the new team to get up to speed. However, our new membership development strategy, adopted by trustees at the end of 2024, maps a clear path to recover and grow further, and already signs in late 2024 are positive, with strong upticks in a number of key indicators such as professional registration applications. Our new Qualified for Minerals Reporting (QMR) registration continues to attract applicants, with over a hundred now on this register. Adding a successful Science Council Licence Review to last year's Engineering Council and Society for the Environment ones was another highlight.



IOM3 continues to work hard to provide our members and wider society with high quality technical content, whether through our webinars, in-person events, member magazines, podcasts or news items. A special mention too for the extensive range of content offered by our Affiliate Local and International Societies, who do so much to support local communities of professionals in materials, minerals, and mining, and who are fully back now into the post-COVID routine. If you haven't already signed up to receive information about their activities, I strongly encourage you to do so via your MyIOM3 account on our website!

With the help of our editorial boards, the transition of our scholarly journals to SAGE Publications completed on time at the beginning of the year, and – for such a big exercise – went pretty smoothly. Our journals now reach even more readers across the globe, representing one of the major tools IOM3 has to promote better understanding of materials, minerals, and mining. And all of these – and many other journals in our fields – are free to access for IOM3 members via our website.

Members will continue to have free access not only to the suite of IOM3 journals but also to this year's content highlights, which include:

- 18 webinars, 7 in-person events and 3 hybrid events with almost 4,000 registrations from 39 countries
- Hosting several major international conferences, including PVC (Edinburgh, April); FEMS Junior EUROMAT (Manchester, July); and the 1st International Conference on Surface Science, Engineering & Technology (Manchester, September)
- 12 episodes of the 'IOM3 investigates...' podcast were released this year, with over 3,500 plays in 2024

'IOM3 continues to work hard to provide our members and wider society with high quality technical content, whether through our webinars, in-person events, member magazines, podcasts or news items.'

'IOM3 seeks to influence society to value and use the expertise of our members. The political landscape in the UK changed significantly in 2024, and the new national government has launched a whole series of consultations, calls for evidence and initiatives relevant to IOM3 members.'

Despite a difficult economic context for training, the IOM3 professional development offering remains strong. The Training Academy successfully ran 44 courses for over 200 learners, (93 in classroom, 76 virtual, and 58 online). We also continued to provide end point assessment services for several apprenticeships via PIABC, the IOM3-owned Awarding Body and End Point Assessment Organisation.

This year again had a great interest in our professional awards, with 147 nominations across 43 categories for the 2024 IOM3 Awards & Prizes and good interest for our Student and Apprentice Awards. Our second outing for the Sustainable Future Awards, sponsored by Cornish Lithium, brought in a very impressive set of nominations. Winners were announced at the dinner following on from the Fellows Day lecture from Professor Mark Miodownik MBE FREng CEng HonFIMMM.

IOM3 seeks to influence society to value and use the expertise of our members. The political landscape in the UK changed significantly in 2024, and the new national government has launched a whole series of consultations, calls for evidence and initiatives relevant to IOM3 members. In line with the priority areas IOM3 identified before the UK General Election, the team has been kept busy co-ordinating member input on the industrial strategy, critical materials, skills, industrial decarbonisation, packaging, the school curriculum, access to finance for advanced manufacturing, deep sea mining, chemical recycling of plastics and many more. If you are interested in keeping in touch with this area of activity, do check out the Policy pages on the website.

Our influence work also covers what we do to reach out to learners at school and university to help them understand the availability and importance of careers in materials, minerals, and mining. In 2024, we were able to further increase our activity thanks to generous funding from the IOM3 Education & Outreach Trust, a separate but linked charity that exists to do what its name suggests. For example, the Polymer Study Tours have generally 'sold' out within hours of launch and have proven so successful that we are looking to extend them to other materials, minerals, and mining topics in 2025.

IOM3 has been increasingly successful in highlighting the importance of professionals in materials, minerals, and mining to the transition to a low-carbon, resilient and resource-efficient society, and we are also keen to do the right thing in our own operations too. For example, we have set ourselves the target of reaching net-zero own greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. We will crunch the numbers for 2024 early in January, but already we have reduced our so-called Scope 1 & 2 emissions by more than 90% from 170 tCO₂e in 2019 to just 10 tCO₂e in 2023, and fully expect to meet net-zero before 2030. We have also implemented a number of other measures to continue to improve our organisational sustainability, such as removing single-use items and moving our recycling up to over 65% in 2023. There is more still to do, but we are proud of what we have achieved to date.

Before I close, I would like to make particular mention of two stalwarts of the IOM3 team who have finally hung up their tools this year. Sarah Boad, Membership Development Manager, left in the spring and Nuna Staniaszek, Director of Communications, left just before Christmas. Between them, they had almost 70 years' service for the members of IOM3 and they will both be remembered fondly by their former colleagues.

My final word goes, as is only proper, in thanks: to the active supporters and volunteers who give up their time and share their expertise to support our work across a multitude of roles; and to the fantastic group of people who make up the team here at IOM3. Together, this combination delivers year after year for professionals in materials, minerals, and mining, and for society as a whole.

Kate Thornton
CEng CSci FIMMM
IOM3 President

'It has been my pleasure to be your President for the past two years. Now that my term as President and the year are coming to a close, I would like to take moment to thank the staff, volunteers and members of IOM3 for making it a unique and supportive environment. While this year has brought challenges to our members, there will have also been successes, no matter how small, and these should be celebrated. Within this report we celebrate how we have all worked together to help IOM3 achieve its goals, while looking forward to the opportunities 2025 will bring with our new President, Christine Blackmore.'



I·M3

**2024
AT
GLANCE**



- Successfully transferred IOM3 journal portfolio from Taylor & Francis to Sage Publications Ltd, now the new home for IOM3 journals

January



- IOM3 published an energy transition policy paper outlining four critical areas essential for delivering the energy transition at the required pace
- EDI champions organised the webinar 'Inclusion Unmasked: Navigating Complexity & Realities'

March



- HM King Charles III announced as the Patron of IOM3
- Young Persons' Lecture Competition final held at The Armourers' Hall, London
- IOM3 hosted a free Packaging Data for pEPR webinar featuring Defra officials
- Sarah Boad, Membership Development Manager, retired after 30 years of dedicated service

May



- FEMS Junior EUROMAT 2024 held in Manchester, with President Kate Thornton as conference chair
- IOM3 celebrated the release of impact factors for its journal portfolio
- IOM3 Awards & Prizes winners announced

July



- AGM held at 297 Euston Road, with 22 members attending in person and 72 online
- Society for the Environment celebrated 20 years of Chartered Environmentalists (CEnv)
- Busy month for in-person events, including the International Conference on Surface Science, Engineering & Technology, the 43rd Cement & Concrete Science Conference, and Adhesion 2024, held in Manchester, Belfast, and Oxford

September



- 2024 Fellows Day and Sustainable Future Awards Ceremony took place at 297 Euston Road, London
- The Young Persons' World Lecture Competition took place virtually
- IOM3 submitted a response to the Industrial Strategy consultation
- IOM3 submitted a response to the Curriculum and Assessment Review call for evidence

November

February

- IOM3 hosted a panel session with Defra and key industry stakeholders on making a success of packaging Extended Producer Responsibility



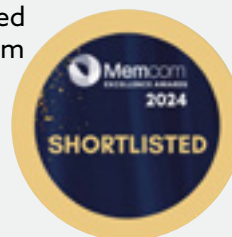
April

- PVC 2024 conference returned as in-person event, held at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre in Scotland, welcoming nearly 500 delegates from 38 countries.
- IOM3 President Kate Thornton reported on the Advisory Council meeting



June

- 2024 member survey launched
- WIM3 celebrated International Women in Engineering Day with a free webinar on 'Enhanced Engineering'
- ADM3 contributed to IOM3 podcast to discuss neurodiversity in STEM
- 2024 Starpack Student winners announced at awards ceremony in London
- IOM3 published policy priorities for the next UK government
- IOM3 shortlisted for the Memcom Awards in the 'Organisation Sustainability' category



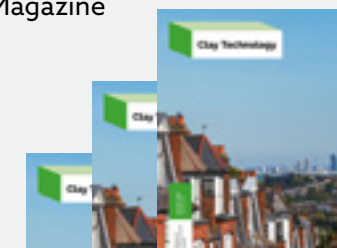
August

- IOM3 and partners sent a joint letter to the new Education Secretary, calling for minerals and mining to be included in Skills England's assessment of future skills needs
- IOM3 sent letters to the newly appointed Secretaries of State, emphasising the vital role of materials, minerals, and mining within their departments



October

- IOM3 contributed to the National Engineering Policy Centre's report on demand management of critical materials
- Finalists for the 2024 Sustainable Future Awards announced
- Three industry practitioners discussed the future of foundation industries on the IOM3 podcast
- A new free webinar series launched: 'Navigating Industry 4.0 in Materials, Minerals & Mining'
- Last issue of *Clay Technology* Magazine



December

- The 2024 Awards celebration took place at 297 Euston Road, London
- Dr Nuna Staniaszek retired as Director of Communications after 38 year's service to IOM3 and its predecessors
- Starpack Schools Celebration Event
- Dr Colleen Mann CEng FIMMM appointed as new Vice-President of IOM3



MEMBERSHIP

- New Fellows (FIMMM) – 81
- New Members (MIMMM) – 448
- New Associates (AIMMM) – 113
- New Technicians (TIMMM) – 16
- New Engineering Council registrants – 158
- New Science Council registrants – 36
- New Society for the Environment registrants – 9
- New Qualified for Minerals Reporting (QMR) registrants – 49
- A total of 1,402 new members were recruited.
- There were 118 membership reinstatements in 2024.
- The Science Council Licence was renewed for a further five years.
- 43 membership and registration workshops held in 2024 and reintroduction of the Open Membership Clinics.
- By the end of the year, we will have accredited two company training schemes (one existing and one new) and seven university programmes. This includes new programmes at Plymouth University.
- In addition, we have held two accreditation workshops, an accreditation forum for companies and universities, and five workshops for our various assessors and scrutineers.

New Fellows (FIMMM)

New Members (MIMMM)

New Associates (AIMMM)

New Technicians (TIMMM)

New Engineering Council registrants

New Science Council registrants

New Society for the Environment registrants

New Qualified for Minerals Reporting (QMR) members

QMR

QMR (Qualified for Minerals Reporting) is a new postnominal approved by the Privy Council and outlined in the updated IOM3 Charter and Bye-Laws. It recognises members who meet the necessary qualifications and professional experience to be considered minerals industry professionals. QMR aligns with CRIRSCO reporting standards, demonstrating competency in preparing or contributing to public reports on exploration results, mineral resources, and ore reserves. This designation is aimed at maintaining high professional standards across the extractive industries.

This year, the membership team focused on strengthening processes for QMR interviews and due diligence checks as part of annual registration. We also began planning to engage volunteers as interviewers, CPD assessors, and support for the Disciplinary Panel. Looking ahead, we're reviewing training and conferences to further strengthen the CPD process. By the end of the year we have over 120 members who have registered as QMR with us.

#WeAreIOM3

We launched a new campaign, #WeAreIOM3, which showcases our diverse membership under the tagline, 'Many disciplines. One community. Shaping the future.' This campaign celebrates the varied skills and experiences of our members, highlighting how IOM3 supports personal and professional growth. By sharing inspiring stories, we aim to strengthen our community and inspire new members to join us in shaping the future of materials, minerals, and mining.



#WeAreIOM3

**Many disciplines.
One community.
Shaping the future.**

Active Supporters & Volunteers (ASVs)

We have added some free training for ASVs on data protection, with EDI training to follow in 2025.

We have developed a new Active Supporter & Volunteers (ASV) social media best practice guide with the aim of supporting our members and volunteers to become advocates on social media. We thank everyone who has supported our online efforts.

New appointments:

January

- Dr Alexander Norori-McCormac CEng CSci MIMMM co-opted as a Trustee.
- Dr Ilija Rašović MIMMM as the new Chair of the IOM3 Student & Early Career Group.
- Seven elected representatives for IOM3 Advisory Council:

- Brendan Costello
- Nilmini Dissanayake
- Gemma Dixon
- Lucy England
- Caitlin Fitzpatrick
- Tiziana Marrocco
- Paul Withey

May

- Dr Richard M Oblath CEng FIMMM FEI as Chair of the Technology Communities Board (TCB).

July

- Joane Copping elected to IOM3 Advisory Council to represent Affiliate grade.

September

- Dr Jitendra Patel CEng FIMMM as the new Chair of the IOM3 Iron and Steel Group.
- Professor Dr Sally Beken FIMMM as Chair of the IOM3 Polymer Group.
- Tony Palmer CEng FIMMM as Chair of the IOM3 Energy Transition Group.

October

- Jim Hannigan CEng FIMMM co-opted as a Trustee.
- Dr Robert Bowell MRSC EurGeol FIMMM as Chair of the IOM3 Applied Earth Sciences Group.



02 | Materials World June 2024

This month's contributors

On p23, Dr Mark McBride-Wright talks about taking learnings from health and safety to enhance equity, diversity and inclusion within engineering.

Dr Marcus Caine MIMMM and co-author explore technological advances to aid compliance with medical device regulations on p28.

On p38, Dr Sparwan Mehal Zaki MIMMM and co-author examine hydrogel polymers for modern healthcare.

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02 | Materials World April 2024

This month's contributors

On p23, Cheryl Pitt FIMMM and colleagues present a vision for a cleaner future for non-ferrous and light metals.

Martha Needs MIMMM reflects on three years of the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management on p40.

On p43, Brinhan Kanesalingam and co-authors delve into the valorisation of waste coal fly ash.

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02 | Materials World March 2024

This month's contributors

On p21, Louise Gale MIMMM and others share their experiences in switching roles due to the energy transition.

Rowan Carstensen MIMMM reflects on the potential of electric vertical take-off aircraft for urban air mobility on p48.

On p53, Dr Masoumeh Faraji MIMMM explores the latest advances in titanium welding.

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02 | Materials World February 2024

This month's contributors

On p21, Sarah Le Greasley takes us behind the scenes of the Hydrogen for Back Manufacturer project at Michelmersh.

Flavie Lowres FIMMM, along with other experts, shares how materials reuse is becoming increasingly popular in construction on p31.

On p44, Haub Abdulrazaq discusses the common materials failures during three major earthquakes in 2023.

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Diversity & inclusion

The Executive Board (the IOM3 trustee board) is 19% female, compared to an overall membership of 16% women. The IOM3 Advisory Council, which gives strategic advice to trustees, is 42% female.

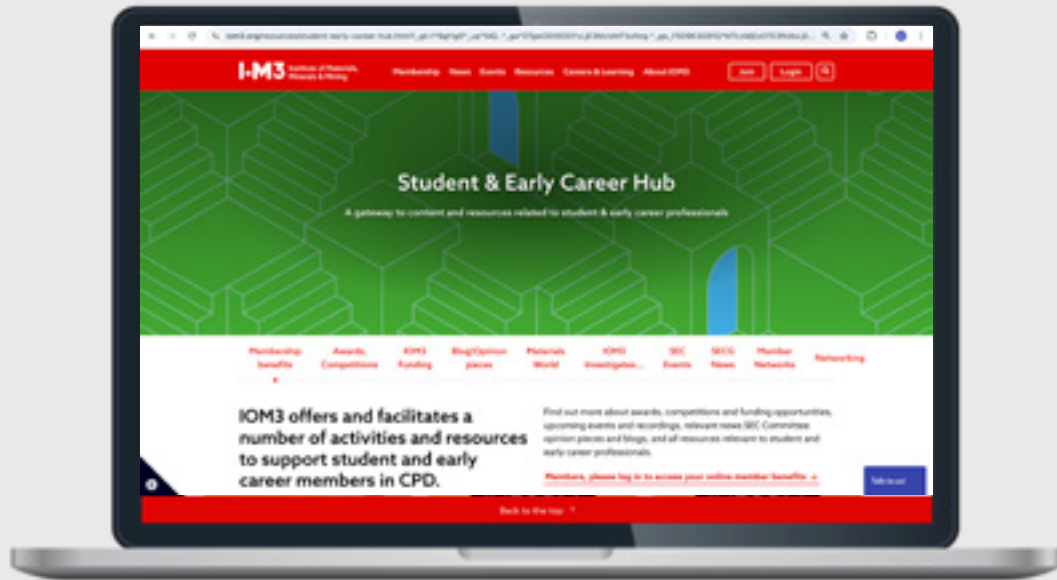
The five member network groups (ADM3, EMM3, PRIDE, SEC, and WIM3) continue to promote diversity within the fields of materials, minerals, and mining. They participate in various content formats, including *Materials World* articles, hosting events, blog posts, and podcasts.

Throughout 2024, we observed several important awareness days, including National Inclusion Week, Black History Month, World Mental Health Day, Pride Month, UK Recycling Week, Women in Engineering Day, UK Disability Month, and many more.

Work is underway to implement a secure EDI data collection questionnaire for members and IOM3 customers, which will include an EDI capture form.

Materials World

A diverse range of contributors is increasingly requesting to write for the magazine or feature in the professional development section, including more early-career members. There is a steady stream of content addressing issues around equity, diversity, and inclusion (EDI). Examples include an article on the mental health of postgraduate researchers, a podcast on neurodiversity in STEM, and coverage of EDI issues in the Foundation Industries. Contributions have come from the IOM3 Pride and Aply Different networks, the Student & Early Career Group, and profiles of women in materials, minerals, and mining.



Student & Early Career (SEC)

SEC Committee members joined forces again to publish a collective piece titled European Communities and My Career, reflecting on how European connections have influenced their careers.

Former SEC Group Chair, Dr Aimee Goodall, concluded her blog series on her journey to professional registration.

Dr Aimee Goodall CEng CSci FIMMM, Judith Gilpin IEng MIMMM, Dr Hollie Cockings CEng FIMMM, and Paul Skerry CEng FIMMM were the key presenters at this year's online Road to Chartership, where they discussed various types and routes to registration and becoming Fellows.

Dr Nicoletta Palladino, Research Engineer in Soft Materials at LVMH Gaia, delivered the annual online Art Lecture on 19th & 20th Century Zinc White Paints: Multidimensional Physico-Chemical Characterization.

The SEC Group Image Competition, 'Materials, Minerals & Mining in... a Sustainable Future', was launched, inviting IOM3 students and early career professional members to submit their entries for the best image in materials, minerals, and mining. Congratulations to Harry Chapman (University College London), winner of the materials category.

Visit the SEC Hub to find out more about awards, competitions and funding opportunities, event recordings, information on upcoming events, relevant news, SEC Committee opinion pieces and blogs, and resources relevant to students and early career professionals.

Technical Communities

In 2024, the revamped Technology Communities Board (TCB) came into operation, including Technical Community (TC) Chairs, Strategic Advisors (SAs), and other Institute members to oversee all technical activities across the Institute. The TCB collaborates closely with TC Chairs and SAs to foster stronger collaboration between TCs. Over the year, the TCB developed and, through stakeholder consultation, defined and rolled out strategic objectives and metrics to monitor and assess TC performance, ensuring they deliver benefits to Institute members and broader communities.

The year also saw the Technical Community (TC) structure continue to take shape, building on recent years' work with several new Chairs appointed. These Chairs, along with those already in post, are reviewing the structure and operation of their Leadership Teams in line with the TCB-set objectives and with a commitment to inclusivity.

As in previous years, an in-person TC Forum was held in June 2024, building on the successful model of previous years to provide a valuable networking opportunity for TC Chairs, SAs, and IOM3 team members to share best practices and foster strong working relationships. The 2024 theme, 'AI Opportunities and Challenges' is expected to become a key aspect of member activity in the years to come.

We encourage all Institute members to align themselves with their chosen TC via the MyIOM3 portal on the IOM3 website, selecting one primary TC and as many secondary preferences as they wish. This helps us better understand members' interests and tailor activities, content, and events to meet those needs.



TECHNICAL CONTENT

Events

Total number of events hosted by IOM3 Events:

- 18 Online & webinars
- 7 In-person (5 conferences, 2 technical networking)
- 3 Hybrid

Our events attracted a total of 3,973 delegates, of whom 1,876 (47%) were IOM3 members. Our in-person events have had a truly international reach, with participants from 39 countries.

The 2024 events programme received strong support from sponsors and exhibitors, with organisations using their presence to raise their profiles and network with industry professionals.

Sponsors and exhibitors in 2024 included the Henry Royce Institute, Inovyn, Anglo American, Lucideon, and Netzsch Instruments.

18

7

3

Highlights & looking ahead to 2025

PVC 2024 (Edinburgh, April): featured 73 papers over three days, with 482 delegates from 38 countries.

SEC Group Chair, Dr Ilija Rasovic co-chaired the Scientific Committee of FEMS Junior EUROMAT 2024 conference, (Manchester, July) and with other SEC Committee members organised and led a career planning workshop, which included guest lectures from Petra Rudolf and Sarah Glanvil on pathways through academia and industry, respectively, and a Matopoly event. The conference showcased 88 oral presentations and 70 posters over three days, with 183 participants from 20 countries, of whom 85% were students or early-career professionals.

New Webinar Series - Navigating Industry 4.0 in Materials, Minerals, and Mining (October): Launched with 269 registrations, addressing emerging trends in digital and industrial advancements

Future conferences secured: IOM3 was formally selected as the host association for two major conferences in 2026 - the World Sampling and Blending Conference and the European Conference on Constitutive Models for Rubbers.

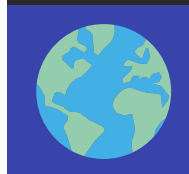
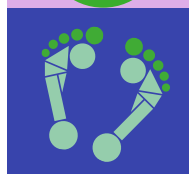
Materials, Minerals & Mining for People, Places, Planet (M3P3)

IOM3 is launching a pan-Institute convention in 2025, designed to celebrate our members' diverse interests, support collaboration, and showcase the many disciplines of IOM3 in one community, shaping the future together. The two-day convention will feature keynotes and plenary panels on Industrial Strategy, Circular Economy, the UK Skills Landscape, and the Critical Materials Strategy. The event will also offer four parallel themes delivered in three 2-hour sessions, focusing on:

- AI, Digital Transformation, Data & Industry 4.0
- Circular Economy & Supply Chains
- Infrastructure & Transport
- Society

Each day will conclude with a plenary presentation followed by a Q&A, offering valuable insights and engagement for all attendees. There will also be a wide range of networking opportunities as well as dedicated events for 16-18 learners, teachers and bite-sized training workshops. The Education & Outreach Trust have committed funding to support the activities for schools and grants to make it easier for student members to attend the convention.

I.M3



Purpose-driven planning

IOM3 event planning is centred on sustainability and human connection, emphasising a people-focused, collaborative, and community-driven experience. We adopt a person-centred approach that prioritises individual needs and encourages human engagement to create lasting memories and impact beyond the conference walls. Participants are placed at the heart of planning as we aim to build legacy through thoughtful design, asking for, learning from, and responding to attendee feedback.

Our events are designed to improve accessibility and inclusivity, with features such as prayer rooms, quiet spaces, family-friendly accommodations, and activities that reduce barriers to participation. Creative community-building ideas, including selfie and photo competitions, WhatsApp groups, and social runs, help to establish connections and memories. Interactive elements like our 'Power of Play' lock-and-key networking game and informal social venues like a dedicated pub create spaces for relaxed and meaningful networking.

Sustainability is embedded in our practices. We've transitioned from plastic pull-up banners to 100% recyclable eco-banners made of paper and cardboard, signposted social enterprises like Invisible Cities and social enterprise cafés, and reduced printed materials in favour of a conference app. This commitment to sustainable practices ensures that our events not only support participants but also contribute positively to the community and the environment.

'The conference was amazing. I met a lot of PhD colleagues. The organization was outstanding. The idea of using the key and lock game gave me opportunities to know people in an easier way since I am a shy person.'

Participant at FEMS Junior EUROMAT.



'This was a highly successful conference. I have attended small and large fairs, professional meetings, congresses and conferences over several decades, but I never before experienced anything as well organised as PVC 2024. Thanks, and congratulations!'

Participant at PVC 2024, April 2024



'I recommend this conference due to the high quality of networking opportunities, the ability to connect more closely with a smaller group of people, and the impressive expertise of the presenters. The diverse studies presented also provided a broad learning experience.'

Participant at Surface Science, Engineering & Technology, September 2024



Magazines

Strong multidisciplinary content across materials, minerals and mining from academia and industry in *Materials World* magazine was supplemented with daily news on the website. The variety of content types, from news, features, professional development, event reports and thought leadership pieces seeks to deliver member value and interest. This translates to good traction on social media, engagement through letters and continued interest by contributors in sharing their work in the publication.

We have strong engagement with and contributions from IOM3 Technical Communities and Strategic Advisors, as well as other prominent networks and organisations, including the Henry Royce Institute, Innovate UK, UK Atomic Energy Authority and Glass Futures.

We craft regular content that showcases our sectors' efforts towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient society, championing the role of mining and metals in the energy transition, along with discussions around critical materials and minerals supply.

Key IOM3 policy areas and outputs are covered in *Materials World*, including critical skills in mining, the energy transition, the creation of a national materials strategy, and the transformation of the Foundation Industries. An article promoting IOM3 policy work and the skills gained by members participating in this work has received positive feedback and promotion on social media.

'I wanted to compliment you on your September issue – pertinent not just to my own career experience, but to positioning the critical role of materials in today's product world... overall, a cohesive, informative and topical issue. Well done!'

Materials World reader, IOM3 MIMMM member

'IOM3 is a great voice and advocate for all things energy transition, and this article highlights some of the ways we need to think about skills. Take a look and consider joining IOM3.'

Materials World reader, IOM3 FIMMM member

'A huge thanks to the IOM3 team for the opportunity to share my thoughts and raise awareness for safe and responsible tailings management in the mining industry'

Materials World contributor, IOM3 MIMMM member

'Great article from IOM3 about youth engagement, sustainable development, and inclusion in geoscience...in order to increase awareness of the good that geoscience has to offer, it is essential that we as an industry take time to engage those outside the mining bubble'

Materials World reader, IOM3 Affiliate member

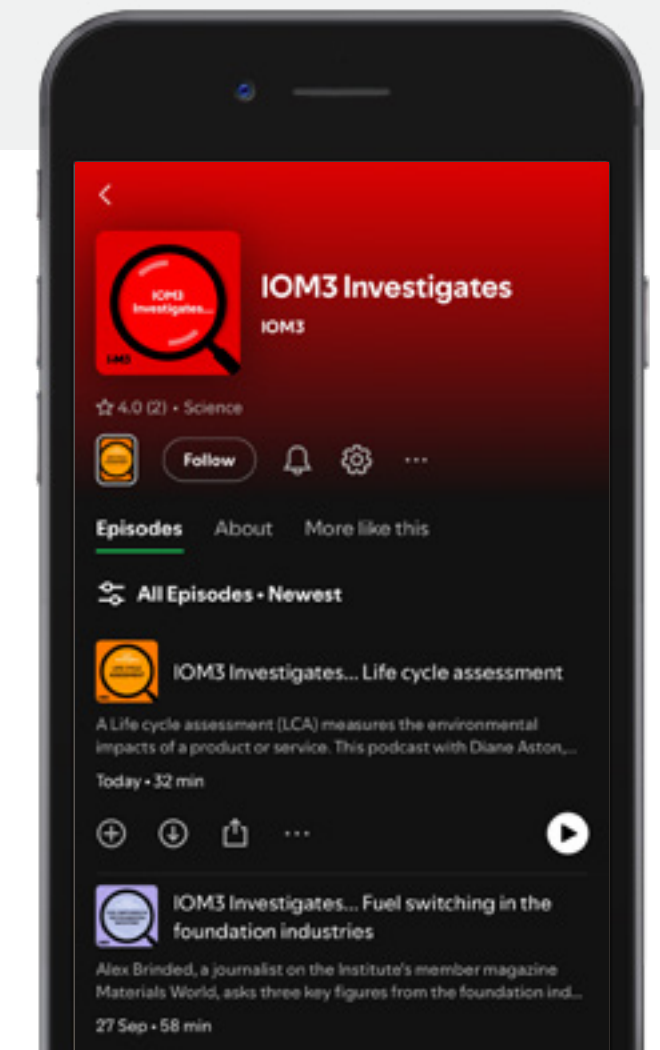
Online Industry News

Interaction with online industry news remains strong, making it one of the most popular sections of the website in terms of regular engagement. We publish multiple items on weekdays to cover the breadth of our membership interests and keep members up to date with policy developments. This year, our most popular items have focused on the changes occurring in the UK steel industry, metals for the energy transition, and plastics.



Podcasts

Twelve episodes of the 'IOM3 investigates...' podcast were released this year. These episodes gained over 3,500 plays between January and the start of December. Topics covered included the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), EDI issues and LCA.



Journals

After significant preparatory work at the end of last year, from January 2024, IOM3 moved its journal portfolio to its new publishing partner, SAGE Publications. Members continue to have free access to the whole portfolio, in addition to 70 other related publications. The transfer of our journal portfolio was smooth, and the editors have adapted well to the new systems in place. While some journals struggled to meet year-end targets, the overall picture remains positive and the portfolio has performed better than expected in its first year with SAGE. We thank our editors for their continued excellent work.

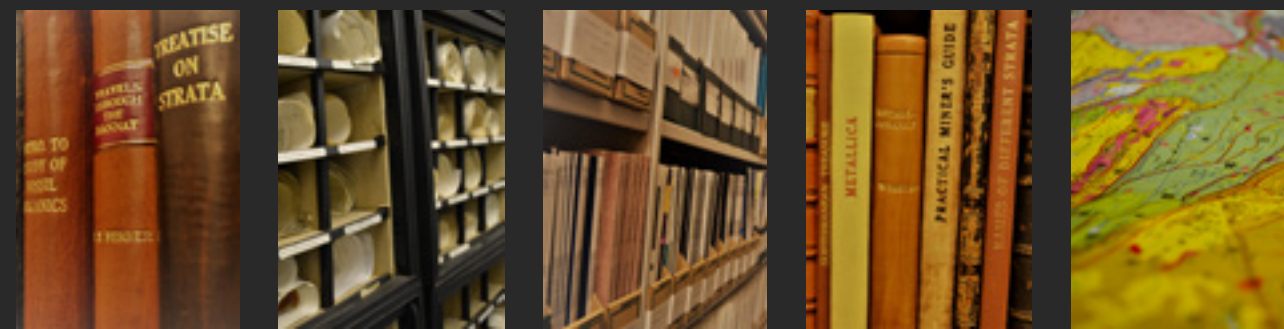
The IOM3 Scholarly Publications Committee (SPC) continues to monitor our journal portfolio and to suggest improvements.



Library

We have now finished the main cataloguing of the extensive IOM3 collection, and our online library catalogue, ICON, now has over 170,000 bibliographic records, including books, journals, articles, maps, reports, theses, and webinars. Our library team continues to answer technical enquiries for members and non-members, provide a postal book loan service, assist with book research, offer scans of papers, and welcome in-person visits.

The IOM3 Library is part of a network of engineering institute libraries that offer reciprocal library services, including in-person visits, to our members.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Awards & Competitions

IOM3 judging panels reviewed 147 nominations across 43 categories for the 2024 IOM3 Awards & Prizes. The winners were presented with their medals, prizes, and certificates at the 2024 IOM3 Awards Day on 5 December at 297 Euston, London.

The Student & Apprentice Awards, recognising excellence among IOM3 members who have recently completed a qualification or apprenticeship in materials, minerals, or mining, were launched with new category names. Following online interviews, the winners were announced at the Special & Publication Awards Lunch Reception, part of the 2024 IOM3 Awards Day in December. Congratulations to Ameer Zaki from Queen Mary University London, the winner of both the IOM3 Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Studies and the 2024 Royal Charter Prize.

Over 90 entrants from five countries and regions participated in the local, regional, and national heats and finals of the Young Persons' Lecture Competition and Young Persons' World Lecture Competition. Congratulations to Emilia Russell, who won the UK final, and to Sebasa Theresa Ramahlare from South Africa, who won the world final.

A total of 109 entries across six categories were submitted to the Starpack Students Competition, celebrating its 60th anniversary. The judging panels awarded 41 Certificates of Entry, 10 Highly Commended, 20 Bronze, 13 Silver, 12 Gold, and 8 Sponsors' Awards.

The second IOM3 Fellows Day welcomed new and existing Fellows to the Institute's London offices, where Prof Mark Miodownik MBE FEng CEng FIMMM delivered a talk titled 'The Death of Consumerism'. The day concluded with a dinner during which the shortlisted nominees for the 2024 Sustainable Future Awards were presented, and winners announced.



INFLUENCE

Education & Outreach

The appointment of a new Education & Outreach Co-ordinator has strengthened our activities for schools.

In 2024, we ran four Polymer Study Tours at WHS Plastics in Larkhall, Victrex, Bericap, and Biffa Polymers to improve the subject knowledge of 38 secondary school Design & Technology teachers.

We also hosted three Materials Matter one-day conferences for approximately 150 Year 12 learners, showcasing careers at Rolls-Royce plc in Derby and Bristol, as well as at Luxfer MEL Technologies. These events were run in conjunction with the Student & Early Career Committee and the Non-ferrous & Light Metals Group.

The Magic of Materials course was run in collaboration with St Paul's School in London for 35 Year 10 learners. Additionally, IOM3 exhibited and presented at the inaugural Careers for Next Generation Minerals event, organised by the Critical Minerals Association at the Natural History Museum.

The Education & Outreach Trust, formed in 2022 through the amalgamation of a number of historic restricted funds, provides financial support for a number of initiatives which develop interest, recognise excellence and support professional development in materials, minerals and mining. In the first category, our recently launched resource development grants are available to members wishing to develop resources/activities to enrich and enhance the topics in the 5-19 curriculum related to the materials cycle, while our STEM Intervention Access grants are designed to help schools to provide exciting educational opportunities for their learners. The prizes for the Student & Apprentice Awards are provided by the Trust and are highlighted in the Awards & Competition section. In 2024 the Institute supported 24 student and early career professional members to attend conferences to present their work through the Grants to Support Knowledge Exchange and our undergraduate bursary scheme (Bursaries to Support Learning) continues to develop.



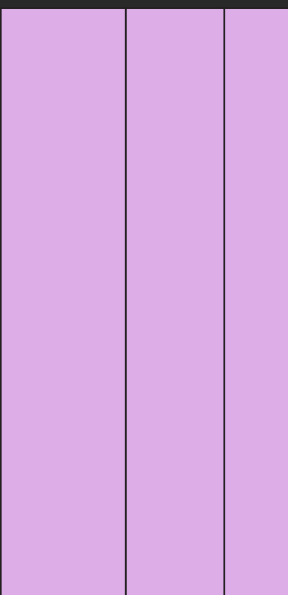
Training & Apprenticeships

The training market has remained under pressure throughout 2024. Despite these challenging conditions, the Training Academy successfully ran 44 courses (19 classroom, 15 virtual, and 10 online/distance learning/blended), with a total of 227 learners participating (93 in classroom, 76 virtual, and 58 online). New courses on additive manufacturing and structural integrity challenges for nuclear energy have been introduced, and several additional courses are already planned for 2025.

Two INFORM webinars took place, attracting a total of 409 registrations. These webinars covered 'The Evolution of Graphene and Other 2D Materials' and 'The Role of Glow Discharge Mass Spectrometry in Materials Analysis.'

PIABC has continued to recruit and train assessors to support End Point Assessment activities, conducting eight assessments for the Level 3 Composites Technician standard and four assessments for the Level 7 Materials Process Engineer standard.

Courses



Classroom

Virtual

Online/blended

Learners



Classroom

Virtual

Online/blended

Policy

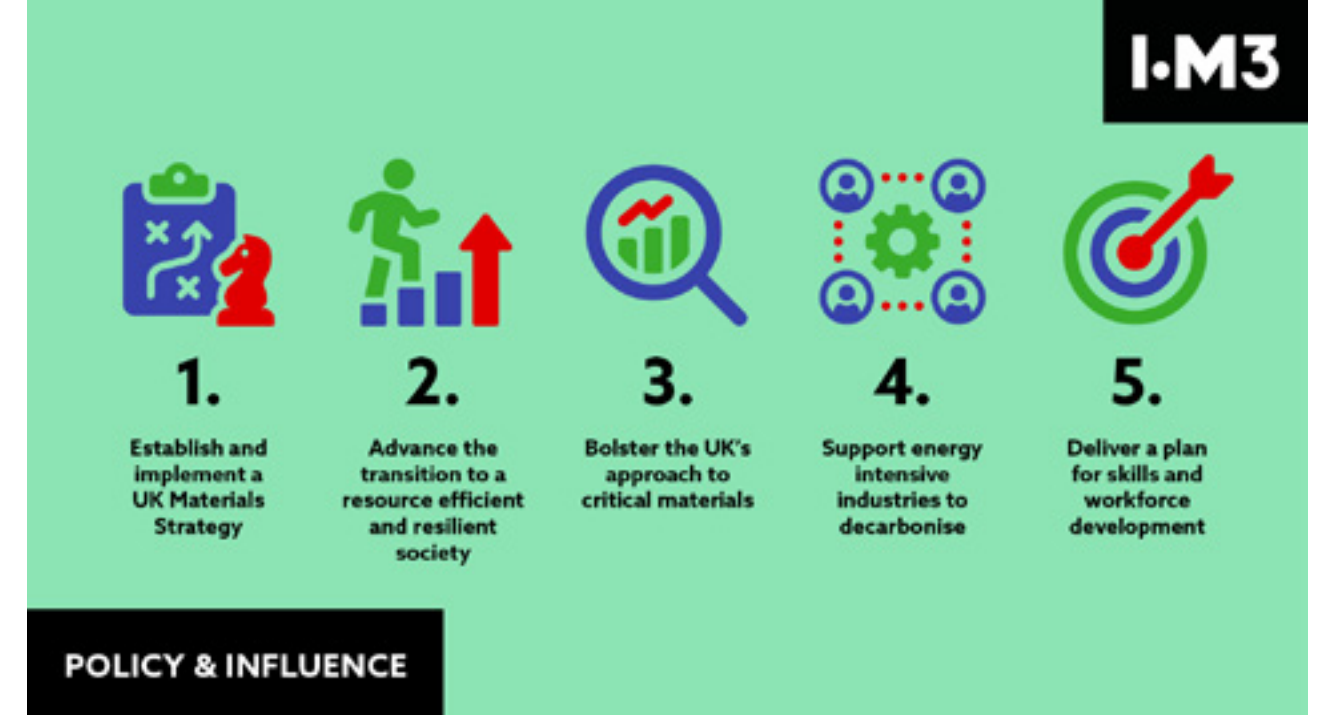
IOM3 has developed its policy and influence strategy, identifying five key themes to focus efforts where it can drive positive change and support the transition to a low-carbon, resilient, and resource-efficient society: materials strategy, critical raw materials, packaging policy reforms, transitioning the foundation industries, and skills.

Ahead of the general election, IOM3 outlined priority areas for the incoming government and provided a digest of the main UK party manifestos regarding materials, minerals, and mining.

Following the election, IOM3 wrote to the relevant new Secretaries of State, highlighting the vital role of materials, minerals, and mining across their respective departments.

To help inform the new government and build relationships, IOM3 has met with officials from the Department for Business and Trade (DBT), the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), and the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT).

IOM3 has continued to seek member input to inform policy decisions across a range of important agendas, including the development of the modern Industrial Strategy, the transition to a circular economy, and skills development.



IOM3 has collaborated with partners, including the National Engineering Policy Centre (NEPC), the Environmental Policy Forum, and the Science Council, to amplify messages and showcase the expertise of its members.

As part of the NEPC *Materials Working Group*, IOM3 contributed to a report on demand-side resource efficiency measures for critical materials, as well as follow-up briefings for media and policymakers.

IOM3 has also continued to contribute to the conversation on packaging Extended Producer Responsibility, supporting members through panel discussions at trade shows and a webinar with Defra officials.

The first policy paper led by an IOM3 Technical Community Leadership Team was published this year.

Materials World has featured increased policy content, including information on IOM3 policy activity and members' experiences of getting involved.

Communication regarding IOM3 policy activity is evolving, with a new approach to media outreach and dedicated marketing campaigns.

IOM3 influence has continued to grow, with contributions across a range of publications, from the *Financial Times* to industry newsletters and trade press

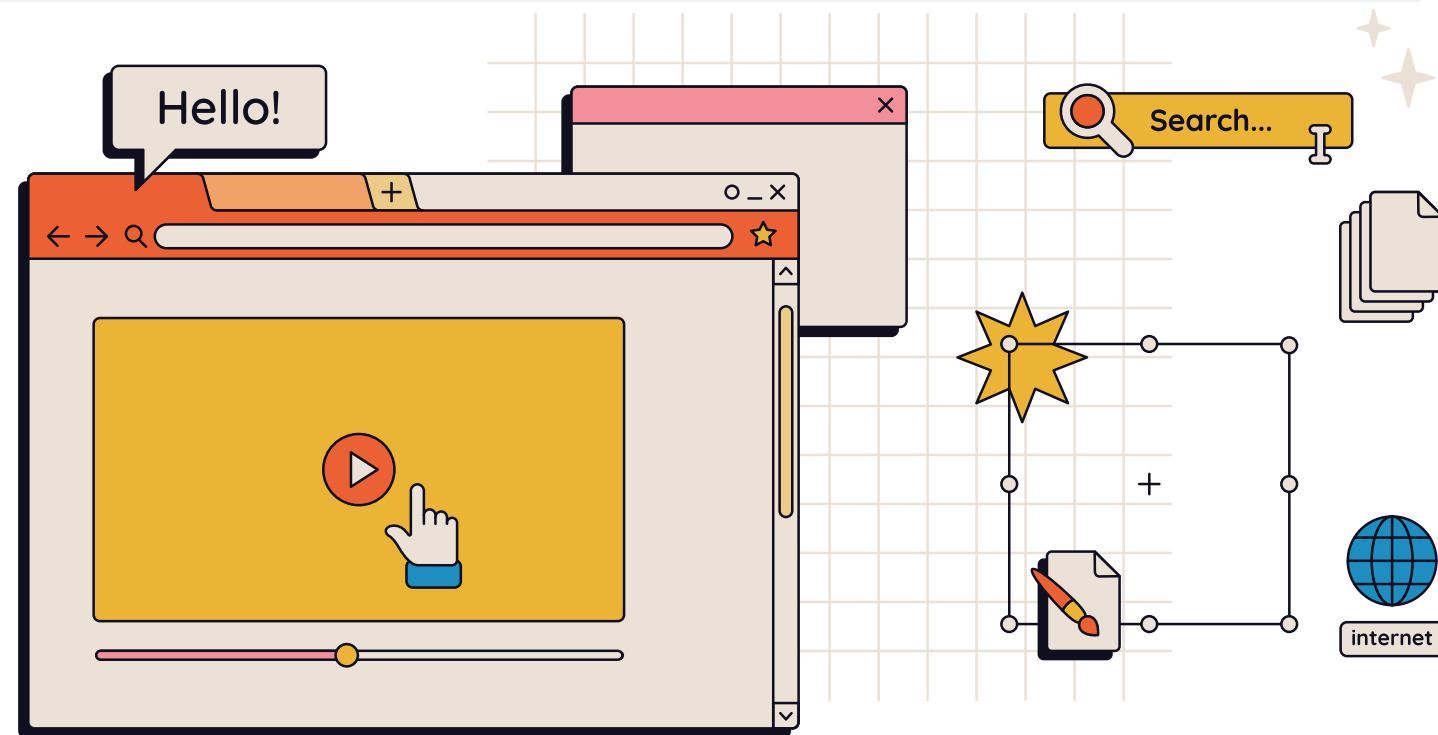


UNDERPINNING INFRASTRUCTURE

Building

We continue to work towards our goal of net-zero by 2030. In 2023, our overall carbon output was reduced to just 10 tCO₂e for scope 1 and 2. We also used 2023 as our baseline year for scope 3 emissions, now estimated at 506 tCO₂e, including investments, and 93 tCO₂e excluding investments. In line with best practice, we commit to an absolute reduction in our total scope 3 emissions. Due to the complexities of managing investment-related scope 3 emissions within charity law, we are not setting a specific reduction target for this area but aim for an absolute reduction by 2035. For the remaining 93 tCO₂e, we are committed to a 20% reduction by 2035.

In November 2024, we also launched our new Sustainability Strategy, which addresses both carbon and non-carbon sustainability measures.



Digital

Following the launch of our new website and database systems in 2020 as Project Optimus, we are continuing on a course of continuous improvement in digital capabilities. Enhancements made during 2024 included the following:

- New functionality was introduced to allow members to add international e-memberships, make charitable donations to the Member's Trust or the Education & Outreach Trust, or Gift Aid their membership subscription at any time of year, with the scheduled implementation planned before the 2025 subscription renewals.
- Engagement scoring was implemented on CRM to provide information about where efforts should be focused to improve member engagement.
- The IOM3 Digital Library (Capture) was integrated with the IOM3 website to allow single sign on.
- Following the change of our publishing partner for journals, the IOM3 website was integrated with the Sage journals platform for single sign on access to IOM3 journals for members.
- Diversity data collection via a questionnaire linked from the website has been set up and will help identify what resources are needed to strengthen diversity and inclusion within IOM3.
- PayPal integration was completed, allowing more flexibility in payment options.
- Improvements were made to the Events Management System to manage group bookings, in advance of the PVC 2024 conference.
- Email layouts were improved and adjustments made to how Awards and Events listings are presented on the website.
- The CRM was configured to manage the new Association Partner Programme effectively.
- The process for QMR registration administration has been reviewed, and tests are ongoing to use existing CRM functionality to track and approve QMR registrations more efficiently.
- Significant progress was made with data deduplication and cleansing.
- Amendments were made to the website portal to ensure that organisation data added by members was consistent and complete.
- Efficiency improvements were introduced by automating manual processes in membership processing, in particular a custom import tool for student data.



People

New Team Members in 2024

Winter/Spring

In January, Paul Skerry CEng FIMMM FICE FCIInstCES joined as our new Director of Membership.

In February, we welcomed Caroline Stewart as our Education Outreach Manager and Kovida Mehra as our Communications Manager.

In March, Fabiola Franco joined as our new Head of Marketing to develop a new marketing strategy.

In May, Jamie Graham succeeded Sarah Boad CEng CSci FIMMM as Membership Development Manager, after Sarah's retirement in the spring.

Summer

In July, Fungai Mundoma joined in the new role of Business Systems Manager, taking over responsibility for our Optimus digital platforms from Dr Nuna Staniaszek FIMMM, Director of Communications, who retired at the end of the year. We also welcomed Sarah Daniels as Librarian.

In August, Tolu Dada joined as Graphic Designer.

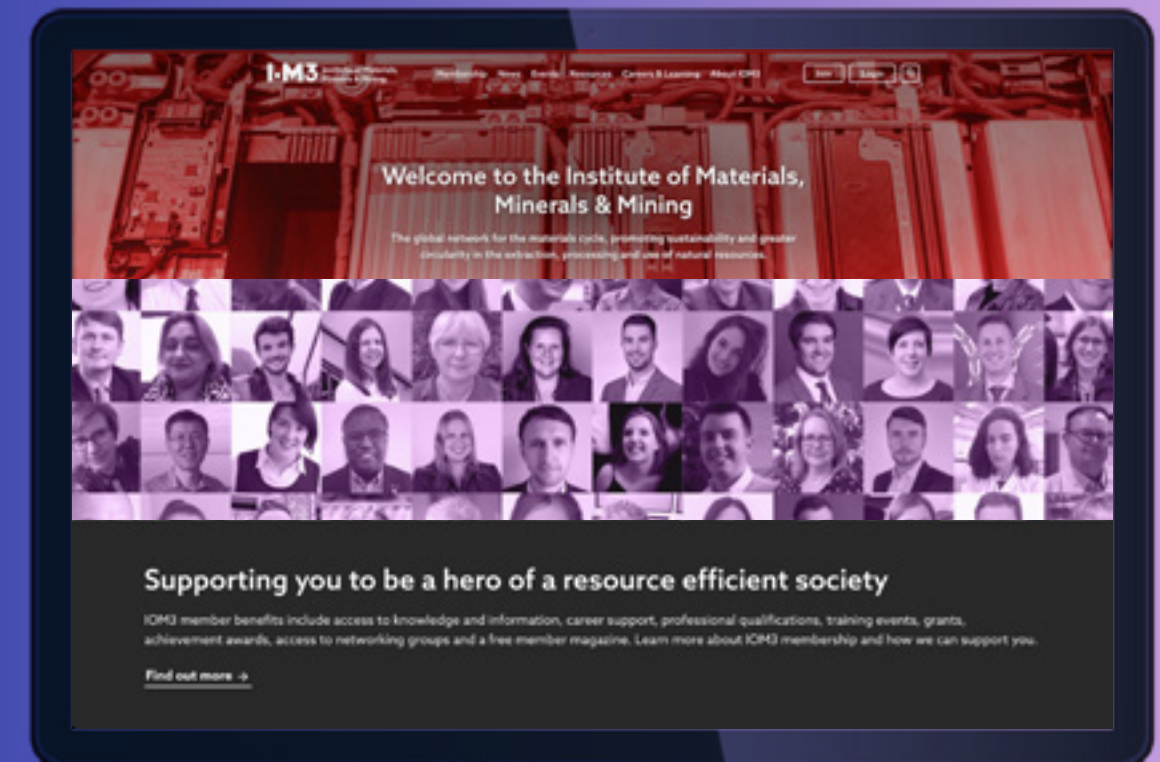
Autumn/Winter

In October, Tina Byrne joined as Front of House Executive for the London office.

In November, we welcomed Debra Close as Technical Communities Administrator, and the Policy Team grew with the addition of Aoife Burke as Policy Officer.



I·M3 Institute of Materials,
Minerals & Mining



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