



Delegate feedback shows “Excellence as Standard” as living up to its name

This year’s [IFP annual conference](#) “Excellence as Standard” was held at Celtic Manor Resort at the end of September. With over 600 attendees including almost 400 Financial Planners it was the biggest and most successful IFP event ever held, and is testament to the growth in the Financial Planning profession that so many delegates attended.

After the conference, all delegates were sent a detailed questionnaire to gauge feedback, and from this IFP judged that the event was a huge success. Over 60% of delegates provided their feedback. It revealed that the main reasons for attending the event in the first place were Professional Development (59%), the programme (57%) and networking opportunities (39%) – all of which IFP events are well known for delivering.

The exhibition was a particularly strong feature this year with over 94% of delegates rating it “good” or better.

As for the event overall, 89% judged it to be good value for money and an overwhelming 97% would recommend the conference to others based on their experience. The programme came in for much praise, and delegates reported added value was high from the majority of the sessions.

While it is hard to pick out particular successes, there were five speakers where more than 70% of attendees rated their sessions as “very good”. This was the highest category possible and achieving such high proportions is quite a feat by any standard. Michelle Mone scored the highest, with 91% rating her “very good”. Dr Graeme Codrington came close with over 85%, while Dr Chris Shambrook (73%) Prof. Thorsten Hens (71%) and Andrew Milligan (70.5%).

This year’s conference website was judged a success, with over 95% of respondents rating it as “good” or better. The 5* luxury of the venue was also appreciated, with over 99% agreeing it was “good” or better. The paraplanning track was a real hit with paraplanners and others new to Financial Planning. As ever, the sharing of ideas and experiences were evident, which given the turmoil in global markets was even more useful than usual. If you weren’t able to attend this year, then do make a point of looking at it for next year. It’s something you’ll be glad you did – and so will your clients!