

Update from House of PMO ¹



By Lindsay Scott

House of PMO
Manchester, UK

PMO Conference – London / 14th and 15th June

The PMO Conference London 2023 was kicked off by Antonio Nieto-Rodriguez in the opening keynote speech, **'PMOs Rest in Peace – Welcome Chief Project Officer'**

A daring session one would think for a PMO Conference however the message was clear – projects and change will remain constant for organisations now and in the future and PMOs as we know them today will change to support the project economy.

Delegates had the option to attend over 15 different sessions throughout the day – with themes ranging from award-winning PMOs, benefits management, AI and technology, zero carbon, special measures, risk management, data and a whole host of different case studies from organisations such as Deloitte, VirginMedia O2, NATS, Atkins and Openreach.

The post-lunchtime kicked off with a live version of the House of PMO's HotHouse – we featured the favourites – Hot Skills, Hot or Not, Hot Seat and plenty of audience participation.

The closing keynote saw journalist, author, podcaster, and ex-ping pong champion Matthew Syed take to the stage to talk about performance, failure, growth mindset and a reminder for all of us that in a role like PMO, lifelong learning really is the key for a productive, happy and successful career.

The PMO Conference is also about getting PMO practitioners together so they can meet other like-minded people. Throughout the conference, there is an exhibition with over 20 different providers of PMO related products and services. We also like to have a little fun and always try to provide a photo opportunity! (see photos next page)

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All the sessions from the conference are available to members of the House of PMO – they can watch those they missed or rewatch and download the decks.

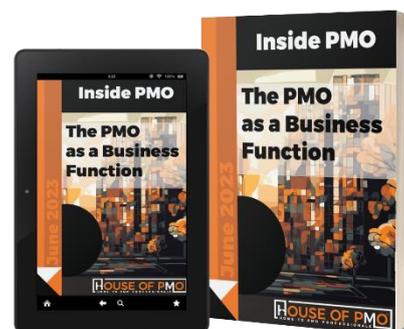
If you would like to attend a PMO Conference, why not take a look at the next conference coming up on the 1/2nd November 2023 in Edinburgh.

Link - <https://houseofpmo.com/pmo-conference/tickets-edinburgh/>

The PMO as a Business Function

The House of PMO launched its seventh Inside PMO Report at the conference. 'The PMO as a Business Function' which focuses on the integrated PMO model, portfolio management, strategy execution and the crucial elements that need to be in place for the PMO to be recognised as a business critical function.

The key conclusions from the report include:



- There is still no universally agreed definition of what a PMO is – much more education is required on what a PMO can do and how to decide on what each PMO should do.
- A PMO is more effective if there is an integrated PMO model across the organisation.
- The PMO as a business function is achieved when organisations set up their firm infrastructure, and PMO is part of the default structure and process.
- A key indicator in whether a PMO is seen as a business function is not its role in strategy formulation, but its role in portfolio definition – this holds for portfolios of internal projects as well as those portfolios that comprise customer projects.
- PMO members need to upskill to perform effectively at a portfolio level.
- Data Analytics has the potential to springboard PMOs into a portfolio level position.
- For the PMO to be fully effective, there needs to be a PMO Director/ Head of P3O who reports directly into the Management Board.
- There are a number of organisations where the PMO has been recognised as a business function, but they are in the minority.
- There is a role for House of PMO to continue to drive the profession through education, challenging the status quo and showcasing good practice.

To read the full report - Inside PMO Reports - <https://houseofpmo.com/inside-pmo-reports/>

About the Author



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Lindsay Scott is the co-founder of House of PMO, the professional membership organisation for people working in PMOs today. She's the curator of the PMO Conference, the largest gathering of PMO professionals since 2015. Lindsay is also the co-founder of PMO Learning, a training organisation specialised in delivering certifications and courses for PMO practitioners. Lindsay is also the PMI's career columnist since 2016, offering career-related advice to project professionals. She has a previous career in project management recruitment & employment and previously worked as a PMO Manager earlier in her career.

Today Lindsay enjoys bringing PMO people together, building a community over the last couple of decades – to help people develop themselves, help the development of others and to help drive the profession of PMO forward. You can connect with Lindsay via LinkedIn or get in touch at www.houseofpmo.com

The House of PMO is a professional membership organisation for those working in PMOs today. Initially set up in 2013 and called PMO Flashmob, it transitioned to the House of PMO in 2021. The House of PMO was established to bring PMO people together, creating a home for PMO professionals where they can develop themselves, support the development of others and contribute to the development of the PMO profession. How is this achieved? By developing standards – such as the PMO Competency Framework; providing professional development (the Essentials qualifications); arranging events and networking opportunities (such as weekly events and an annual PMO Conference); providing a platform to learn from each other (the annual PMO Managers Lunch); publishing works, supporting research, tracking trends and providing essential knowledge for PMO practitioners working today. To learn more, visit www.houseofpmo.com