



**The Chartered  
Institute of Logistics  
and Transport**

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**CONFIDENTIAL: FOR CILT TRUSTEES ONLY**

Dear Trustees,

I wish to address with you the status of the Join Up work that has been progressing since the Manchester Convention in June 2019.

As agreed at our November meeting I have consulted widely within the international community of CILT. This consultation has included the International Reference Group that met with Alan, Paul, Kevin, Keith and me on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

I have further convened meetings in December and January with senior CILT figures from every region, as well as past Presidents & Trustees and past IVP's. I have also spoken informally to a number of senior individuals across the CILT world.

Unfortunately, I have to report that there is a very strong and united view across all those who have spoken that the current work plan for the Join Up should be put on hold for now. This is not the view of one or two individuals but the common agreed view of all those senior people I have spoken to.

I believe this view is driven by two factors. Firstly, the wider global situation that arose with Covid-19 in 2020, which has had different impacts on CILT International and CILT UK. For both it has dramatically changed the environment we operate in, compared to when we started on this journey in 2018. Secondly there has developed an increasing international concern that the current work is not being progressed in a representative way that will build a consensus across the wider organisation.

This is a difficult position for me to have to report as I know how hard Alan & others have worked to seek a solution over the past 9 months. If we do persist with join up I now believe that we are in grave danger at present of destabilising both CILT UK and CILT International, diverting both teams from pressing important survival tasks, and, delivering a solution that will drive a permanent wedge between the two organisations.

We are in fact two very different organisations from where we started in 2018. Income has increased internationally through education and we are no longer as dependent on CILT UK financially, as their membership contribution has fallen as other countries have risen.

Now, as International President, I believe we have an opportunity to say it is time to recognise we have exhausted our efforts to formally merge and we should, instead, focus our energies on building a world class education offering and taking the opportunities to build on the excellent progress we have been making in establishing presence in new parts of the world, leading the Covid and sustainability agendas and continuing the strong representation of the CILT brand.

This means that I would like us to continue the education track work that has made progress under Jon and Tania. This can continue in partnership with CILT UK with peer to peer leadership, reference to the IESC and the UK governance bodies, with the task to create a global offering that aligns with our core objectives and our Charter. It also means we put our energies as an International organisation to deliver training and education relevant for wherever our members and our students are in the world.

At a membership level, the services we are providing to members whose life and livelihoods are threatened has been superb throughout the last 12 months. Alongside this our industry has a position of leadership in many of the key areas of economic survival and public health. Again, we are providing support for members and flows of information. This needs to have our priority and focus in 2021 and we now need to turn that focus to the post Covid strategic areas I have identified, such as sustainability and digitisation.

So, whilst this is not a message I wish to deliver to you, I do ask that you, as Trustees, review the path we have been on since Manchester. We need to recognise that we are not able at present to meet the goals we set ourselves. There are some fundamental internal and external obstacles that we need to reflect on and are not immediately solvable. We have had nearly three years to resolve the internal ones and have not succeeded.

Faced with the wave of external pressures my recommendation as your International President is that we should pause the work and focus the two organisations on the objectives set within our 2021 budgets and strategies, whilst agreeing on how we might progress the education track successfully together with CILT UK. We should consider this in detail at our meeting on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

With my best regards



**Dato' Ts Abd Radzak Abd Malek FCILT**  
CILT International President