

The City CIO Club

Membership Rules

citycio.co

March 2026

MEMBERSHIP RULES

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1. Chatham House Rule

All Club events operate under the Chatham House Rule. Participants are free to use the information they receive, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker, nor that of any other participant, may be revealed outside the room. Any breach will be treated as a serious matter likely to result in removal from the membership.

2. Respect and Good Faith

The Club welcomes vigorous debate, honest disagreement and direct conversation. Members are encouraged to challenge ideas, share contrarian views and speak candidly. That freedom depends on every person in the room extending genuine respect to every other person, regardless of whether they agree with them.

Challenge the idea with everything you have, but treat the person who holds it with courtesy. Derogatory language, personal attacks, condescension and deliberate attempts to belittle or humiliate another member are grounds for removal. The ability to disagree well is the hallmark of the kind of leader the Club was built for.

3. Confidentiality

Beyond the Chatham House Rule, members should treat everything they learn about other members and their organisations with appropriate discretion. Where someone shares commercially sensitive information or a personal difficulty in the confidence of the room, that information should be held with care.

4. Attendance and Commitment

The value of the Club depends entirely on who is in the room. When a member confirms attendance at a dinner or session, that confirmation is a commitment to the other people who have made time in their diaries to be there. Your peers are coming in part because you are coming.

Where a member cannot attend an event they have committed to, they are expected to let the Chair know as early as possible and to make every reasonable effort to send a suitable delegate: a senior colleague who can contribute meaningfully to the discussion.

Where a member repeatedly confirms and fails to attend, or stops responding to invitations, the Club will stop extending invitations for those events. If the pattern continues, the Chair will have a private conversation about whether the membership is still the right fit.

5. No Selling or Solicitation

The Club is a space for peer support and honest conversation. Members should not use events or the network to sell products, solicit business or recruit from other members' organisations.

6. Guests and Delegates

Members may bring a guest or send a delegate with the advance agreement of the Chair. All guests and delegates are bound by the same rules and the same Chatham House Rule as full members. The introducing member is personally responsible for their guest's conduct.

7. Social Media, Photography and Recording

No social media posting or recording of any kind inside Club events. Photographs in the drinks and reception areas are fine, but please ask any members in the photograph whether they are happy for it to be posted before sharing it.

8. Dress Code

The Club meets at the Walbrook Club, which requires business attire or smart casual. A collared shirt is expected for men. Smart jeans are acceptable. Sportswear, trainers, leatherwear and very casual attire are not permitted. When in doubt, err on the side of caution.

The Annual Dinner in November is our flagship charity evening. Dress to impress. The Summer Drinks in July are casual.

9. Membership Fee

Annual membership is £2,000 per year, covering access to all private dinners, webinars, research briefings, peer networking and professional development across the programme. Founding members and Agora-introduced members are offered preferential terms.

10. Inclusion

The Club is committed to building a membership that reflects the breadth of talent across the City. We welcome applications from technology leaders of all backgrounds, and we actively seek to ensure that the room represents the diversity of experience, perspective and identity that makes for better conversation and better decisions. Discrimination of any kind is incompatible with membership.

11. Enforcement

Any member who witnesses or experiences a breach of these rules is encouraged to raise it with the Chair privately. The Chair has the authority to issue a warning, suspend or terminate a membership depending on the nature of the breach. The Club operates on trust rather than bureaucracy, but the trust has to be protected.