



## **PICTFOR's 7th Annual DEI Rally**

Dr Paul Sant represented CPHC at the PICTFOR DEI Rally on 15 July 2025 at the Houses of Parliament.

The Rally was an excellent event at which we were able to hear from a wide range of role models whose stories were inspiring. It was clear that they, along with all who attended, are fully dedicated towards removing barriers (both real and perceived) in relation to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion within both the education and commercial tech sectors.

Despite a significant amount of work, and clear gains being made, there is still a long way to go until we are able to say that Computing and Technology is a fully diverse, equitable and inclusive community.

We heard from politicians, business leaders and inspiring young professionals about their own stories, and it is clear that progress is being made. Unfortunately, the progress is not fast enough, and it was agreed that as a community (across all areas of government, education and professionals) that we need to do more. A key starting point is changing the perception from primary school right the way through to those leading in the sector - when people choose careers they often do so by trying to see themselves when they engage with those in the field. Unfortunately, the picture they get is of a male dominated sector with little chance and opportunity - we need to unite, change this perception and use more diverse role models to show everyone that they are welcome in the tech sector.

Further information including some photos of the event are on the [PICTFOR website](#).