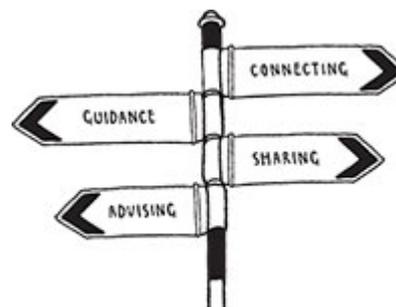


Finance Advisory Network Newsletter



Advisor Update

Welcome to the FAN Non-Subscriber Newsletter for October.

One last reminder in respect of GDPR which since its implementation earlier this year has placed a number of restrictions on our ability to contact members and practitioners. If you have not already done so, please visit the new Preference Centre area of the CIPFA website as your previous settings may have removed you from our mailing lists. You can do this by logging in to [MyCIPFA](#) and checking that you are happy the settings for the various CIPFA Networks are as you would like them. Please ensure that FAN is set to On...as your preferences will dictate whether or not you hear about our events and receive our newsletters in future. Please can you also encourage your colleagues to check their preference centre settings to make sure they don't miss out on CIPFA updates that might be relevant to them?

Finally, don't forget that all of our '[essentials](#)' workshops are available for on-site delivery, which at only £1,250 + VAT and expenses for FAN subscribers, provides excellent value for money if you have a number of delegates who would all benefit from the course.

That's all for this month's advisor update.

Best wishes from the FAN team.

David, Caroline and Sandra

Network and CIPFA News

Undertaking the 2018/19 Accounts Closedown

Bookings are now open for this ever popular series, which for 2018/19 will consist of 27 events, running from 8 January to 19 February.

The FAN team will be presenting the series this year in partnership with our associate Graham Liddell of LPFG Ltd. Graham has worked extensively across the public sector, is a recognised thought leader on financial reporting

October 2018

Events

Local Authority Capital Hot Topics Practitioner Workshops

[25 October Birmingham](#)

Introduction to Collection Fund Accounting for Local Authorities in England

[26 October, London](#); [1 February, London](#)

CIPFA Governance Summit

[31 October, London](#)

Getting to Grips with accounting for IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

[02 November, London](#)

Introduction to Local Authority Accounts and Closedown

[13 November, London](#); [14 November, Birmingham](#); [15 November, Leeds](#)

Autumn Budget and 2019 Comprehensive Spending Review

[14 November, Manchester](#); [15 November, London](#)

Introduction to Local Government Finance

[15 November, Manchester](#)

Local Government Accounting Conferences: Building Public Trust and the Role of Effective Financial Reporting

and brings with him many years of audit experience gained within local government, Grant Thornton, Touche Ross and the Audit Commission.

As ever, the series will provide delegates with a programme which covers all the key changes impacting on the production of the financial statements, including two new accounting standards; IFRS9 and IFRS 15, and the outcome of the IFRS 16 leases consultation process.

Some dates are already close to selling out, so please book your place early in order to secure your choice of date and location. Further details and booking details can be found on the [CIPFA website](#).

CIPFA Statement on Borrowing in Advance of Need and Investments in Commercial Properties

Rob Whiteman (CIPFA Chief Executive) and Richard Paver (Chair of the CIPFA Treasury and Capital Management Panel) have released an important statement in respect of the above which all authorities need to be aware of.

Following the recent review of the Prudential and Treasury Management Codes, this statement has been released to clarify CIPFAs position and remind users of the Prudential Code that the code sets out clearly that the prime objectives of a local authority's treasury management investment activities is the security of funds, and that a local authority should avoid exposing public funds to unnecessary or unquantified risk. The full statement can be found on the [CIPFA website](#).

Local Government Accounting Conferences - Building Public Trust and the Role of Effective Financial Reporting November/December 2018

These key conferences in Manchester, Edinburgh, London and Cardiff, which Caroline will be speaking at, will help finance practitioners understand the important financial management issues and reporting changes that face local authorities and the crucial steps necessary to make in order to be prepared for those changes.

The essential updates, insight and material provided at this conference will be especially relevant in a period of uncertainty and sustained resource constraint.

Prices are £235 + VAT for CIPFA members and network subscribers and £295 + VAT for non-members. See events listing to book.

CIPFA Local Government Conference 2018: Resilience and Financial Sustainability

CIPFAs Autumn Local Government Conference has just been confirmed for Tuesday, 4 December in London. The focus of the day will be on helping local authorities and police meet the increasing challenges of maintaining a balanced budget over the medium term.

The event is intended to provide an update and awareness on what many organisations are doing to continue to drive down costs, increase revenue or introduce more efficiencies in service delivery, including looking at ways to increase revenue collection rates.

A full copy of the agenda and further detail on how to book can be found [here](#).

CIPFA Funding Advisory Service Grant funding, revenue modelling and F.M. assessment events - an update and some answers from your Institute

[14 November, Manchester](#); [20 November, Edinburgh](#); [28 November, London](#); [3 December, Cardiff](#)

Introduction to Group Accounts Part 2 – Preparing Local Authority Group Accounts and Accounting for Collaborative Arrangements

[28 November, London](#); [30 November, Leeds](#)

Grant funding, revenue modelling and F.M. assessment - An update and some answers from your Institute

[29 November, York](#); [30 November, London](#)

CIPFA Local Government Conference 2018 – Resilience and financial sustainability

[04 December, London](#)

Undertaking the 2018/19 Accounts Closedown

[Various dates and locations throughout January and February](#)

[FAN Home](#)

These Funding Advisory Service events will provide an update to practitioners on the latest funding position being considered under fair funding and business rate retention. It will also introduce councils to a brand new revenue funding model developed by CIPFA that should make it easier to project likely resource levels for councils over the short to medium term. The series will also outline progress on CIPFA's new Financial Management Code of Practice and financial resilience index. Work shopping and general discussions around the future funding for councils will also help practitioners share their thoughts on future changes to their councils and how they might best address these.

Early Bird price of £165 available until 31 October 2018 – or if you subscribe to the Funding Advisory Service you can use your pre-paid places for this network. See the events section for links to further details and booking options.

CIPFA Governance Summit – 31 October, London

CIPFA's Governance Seminar considers current challenges to effective governance in the local authority sector and hears from leading speakers on the key practices. The seminar will provide insights into leadership, ethical standards, corporate responsibility and the governance and assurance over local enterprise partnerships.

Subscribers to the Better Governance Forum and the Finance Advisory Network can use prepaid places to attend. Details and booking options can be found on the [CIPFA website](#).

MHCLG is seeking the views of Local Authorities with HRA responsibilities on Removing the Housing Revenue Account Borrowing cap – Closes 24 October

Following the recent announcement by Theresa May, the MHCLG has issued a letter to local authorities with HRA responsibilities setting out the next steps on the lifting of the borrowing cap. The letter seeks the views of those authorities towards the wording of a draft determination abolishing the HRA cap.

Given the anticipated positive response to the proposals, there is a very short consultation period, closing on 24 October. Further details, including how to respond and a draft of the proposed determination can be found [here](#).

Public Finance Awards 2019

Time is running out if you want to get your entry in for the 2019 Public Finance Awards.

The awards are the ideal way to be rewarded for your achievements within the public finance and governance sector, recognising the people, products and services that demonstrate excellence and originality within public finance.

The deadline is 26 October 2018 and entries can be made [here](#).

CIPFA's Professional Accountancy Apprenticeships

After the introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy in 2017, many authorities are still confused about what they can and can't spend the money in their levy account on.

The levy can only be used to fund apprenticeship programmes which began after 1 May 2017 and the role being funded must be a genuine apprenticeship, backed up by an apprenticeship agreement which sets out the arrangements between the apprentice and yourself, including an individual learning plan and agreed outcomes.

CIPFA is ideally placed to maximise the opportunities that your authority can gain from the levy through its Education and Training Centre (CETC). Our in-house team provide a range of support to help employers plan and implement an apprenticeship programme, from setting up your apprenticeships account to seeing your apprentice through to successful qualification. Further details of the support that CIPFA can provide your authority with can be found [here](#).

Follow FAN on Twitter and connect to us on LinkedIn

David, Sandra and Caroline regularly tweet details of relevant news stories, FAN event updates, CIPFA news, stories from Public Finance, etc. We encourage subscribers to follow us on Twitter for the latest news, so even if you don't 'tweet' yourself, it's a great way to keep updated on key issues affecting local authority finance and accounting. Click to find [David Sandra](#) and [Caroline](#) on Twitter, or search for all our network advisor tweets using the hashtag

#cipfanetworks. We can also be found on LinkedIn and increasingly will be using social media for additional FAN updates, so if you are on LinkedIn then please feel free to connect to us: [David](#), [Sandra](#) and [Caroline](#).

News Roundup

News stories are part of the subscriber service only

Publications

[Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19](#)

[Code of Practice On Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom: Disclosure Checklist for 2018/19 Accounts](#)

[Code of Practice On Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom: Guidance Notes for Practitioners 2018/19](#)

[Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities \(2019/20 Edition\)](#)

[Treasury Management in the Public Services: Guidance Notes \(2018 Edition\)](#)

[The Prudential Code For Capital Finance In Local Authorities: Guidance Notes For Practitioners \(2018 edition\)](#)

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