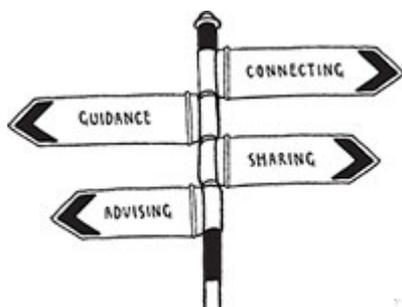


Finance Advisory Network Newsletter



April 2019

Advisor Update

Welcome to the FAN Non-Subscriber Newsletter for December.

As usual, the newsletter includes details of our planned events and workshops, together with the latest updates on issues that may be of interest to finance staff working in organisations that account under the CIPFA/LASAAC Local Authority Accounting Code of Practice. We hope you find it helpful. If other colleagues in your organisation would benefit from receiving this newsletter they can add themselves to the FAN mailing lists via the [Preference Centre](#) in [MyCIPFA](#) .

For anyone new to the sector or to specific accounting areas, FAN run a number of ` [essentials](#) ` workshops each year as open events and which can also be delivered on-site if you have a number of delegates who would benefit from the workshop. Contact us if this is of interest.

Best wishes,

David, Caroline and Sandra

Events

Introduction to Adults' and Children's Social Care for Finance Practitioners

[21 May, Manchester;](#)
[23 May, London](#)

Maximising Opportunities under the Light Touch Regime

[21 May, London](#)

NEW - Understanding your council's financial reporting requirements (councillor workshop)

[30 May, London;](#) [5 June, Leeds](#)

Introduction to Local Government Finance

[5 June, London;](#) [6 June, Manchester;](#) [20 November, London;](#) [21 November, Leeds](#)

Introduction to Budgeting

[18 June, Leeds;](#) [19 June Birmingham;](#) [20 June London](#)

The Value For Money Challenge Essential Skills For

Successful Procurement Projects

[2 July, London](#)

Introduction to Collection Fund Accounting for Local Authorities in England

[10 July, Manchester](#); [11 July, London](#); [22 October, London](#); [23 October, Leeds](#)

Introduction to Local Authority Capital Accounting

[23 July, Leeds](#); [24 July, London](#); [5 September, London](#)

Introduction to Public Sector Treasury Management

[24 September, Manchester](#); [26 September, London](#)

[FAN Home](#)

Network and CIPFA News

CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice (SeRCOP) 2020/21: Service Expenditure Analysis (SEA)

The SEA sets out a framework for reporting local authority service expenditure and is an important factor in determining and defining the information collected in CIPFA statistics and government returns. The annual revisions to the SEA are driven by practitioners who advise the Institute across its network of statistical working groups, editorial boards and panels.

CIPFA is keen to get feedback on whether the expenditure divisions reflect how services are delivered and organised in practice, whether the service divisions provide the basis for robust, reliable, consistent and comparable information, and whether the number of mandatory and discretionary levels are about right. Feedback is also welcomed on whether the analysis is well balanced in terms of the proportion of total costs in each division, and to what extent the current breakdown helps in benchmarking, policy or value for money analysis?

You can view the details of the consultation [here](#). Any thoughts or contributions will be gratefully received – submission deadline 10 May 2019.

The future of Local Government Funding

The mechanism for how local government is funded will be subject to a fundamental change from the 1st April 2020, this paper by Adrian Blaycock, Lead Revenues Advisor at CIPFA, gives an overview of the current position with regards to the fair funding review.

Download the full version [here](#).

CIPFA Pensions Network Briefing Note

The CIPFA Pension Network has today published a Briefing Note to assist preparers of accounts (both Pension Fund and Employing Body) with the implications of the recent McCloud judgement on public sector pension liabilities.

As noted in CIPFA Bulletin 03 (paragraphs 75-78) a ruling has been made regarding age discrimination arising from public sector pension scheme transition arrangements. Court of Appeal judgements were made in cases affecting judges pensions (eg McCloud) and firefighter pensions (eg Sergeant) which had previously been considered by employment tribunals. The rulings have implications for the LGPS, Police and Fire schemes since similar reforms were implemented.

The final situation in terms of employer pension liabilities and financial impact is not clear, since the government may appeal and any remediation process, including cost cap considerations, may affect the resolution and financial impact for entities. Timescales for the resolution of this matter may be lengthy and outcomes may be challenging for entities to assess and quantify, especially at Fund or Authority level.

To view the Briefing Note please visit our [website](#)

Streamlining the Accounts: Free Guidance for Local Authorities

Don't forget there is [free guidance](#) available on the CIPFA website to assist local authorities streamline both the format of their published financial statements and the year-end processes that underpin them.

Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) training and support

At the time of writing the WGA Data Collection Tool (DCT) and guidance has not yet been published. This is expected in the next couple of weeks and will be available on the [GOV.UK website](#) pages.

The training video for 2018/19 has been published and is available to watch on the HM Treasury's YouTube page. A live training webinar was recorded on 18 April (which had some technical difficulties with the sound but eventually took place in the afternoon) and a link to that will be sent out by HM Treasury shortly.

CIPFA Local Government Conference: The Latest Developments in Financial Reporting – Leeds 14 June; London 27 June

These CIPFA Local Authority Accounting Conferences are the key events for practitioners to attend to find out about the very latest developments and consultation proposals for changes to local government financial reporting and how best to prepare for them.

Delegates attending this event will benefit from:

- hearing the latest updates on proposed changes to the Local Authority Accounting Code, enabling practitioners to better prepare for those changes, and have direct input into how those future changes are implemented in the Code
- gaining an insight into the actuarial process that supports local authority accounting for pension costs and how to ensure pension reporting for their authority is both timely and materially accurate
- understanding the latest policy developments affecting the sector including business rates retention, fair funding and gender budgeting and what that

means in practice

- hearing how CIPFA's ongoing work is supporting authorities in resilience of service delivery and awareness of risk, given the increase in commercial activity in the sector
- gaining early insight into how the streamlining and simplification agenda might impact on the Accounting Code requirements
- understanding the key audit considerations likely to impact on local authority practitioners and reflecting on how the faster closedown timelines are changing audit workload planning.

Please note that prepaid places are not eligible for this conference as it falls outside of the network service plan, however there is a special early bird price: [book by 10 May to save £50](#).

CIPFA Property Regeneration 2019 Conference – Birmingham, 10 July

CIPFA Property's Regeneration 2019 conference examines how those responsible for delivering Regeneration can create long term, sustainable change to ensure the continued growth of our local communities. Through the four key sub themes of town centres, housing, infrastructure and economics it will provide practical advice and strategies that give both thought leaders and practitioners the tools they need to fulfil their roles better.

With key note sessions from inspiring thought leaders and prominent figures in both the public and commercial sector, this event goes further to examine in detail how projects that effect change are actually delivered. Through best practise case studies delivered by inspiring public/commercial project partnerships, delegates will be immersed in that which has been delivered across the country. Regeneration 2019 delivers real insight, guidance and advice to meet today's challenge; the creation of better places to live, work and prosper.

Booking available [here](#).

CIPFA's Annual Public Finance Conference 2019

The CIPFA Annual Conference and Exhibition this year remains the UK's premier conference for professionals working in public finance and accountancy. Now known as Public Finance Live, hear from global economists, thought-leaders, tech pioneers and change management experts discuss and debate the opportunities and challenges presented by the impact of technology.

Attracting over 700 attendees and with sessions on everything from tech culture to fraud, this two-day conference is not to be missed. Plus this year you have the opportunity to attend sessions at CIPFA Regeneration 2019, a CIPFA event running alongside which addresses the issues around public property and asset management. [Click here](#) to book your place.

FAN Tax Advisory Services (FANTAS) Update

If you have any enquiries regarding the FANTAS tax updates or suggestions for topics to be covered by FANTAS, please contact Jen Thompson (jthompson@deloitte.co.uk / 0115 9363749) or Ben Powell (bpowell@deloitte.co.uk / 07881 804171). Further information for subscribers to the service can be found at our dedicated [website](#) area.

CIPFA Thinks

Don't forget to periodically check [CIPFA Thinks](#) to see the latest set of articles, comments and publications covering topical aspects of public finance. [Recent articles](#) include a conversation about business rate fraud, how to bring together

all the elements of good public practice and an article on accounting for pensions by Alan Birmingham. The [Local Government section](#) includes recent articles on Health, Brexit and Devolution.

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 use 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

[Local Authority Capital Accounting – A Reference Manual for Practitioners \(April 2019\)](#)

[An Introductory Guide to Local Government Finance \(Feb 2019\)](#)

[The Guide to Local Government Finance \(April 2019\)](#)

[Code Of Practice On Local Authority Accounting In The United Kingdom 2019/20 – Publication date April 2019](#)

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

[Practitioners' Guide to Capital Finance \(March 2019\)](#)

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