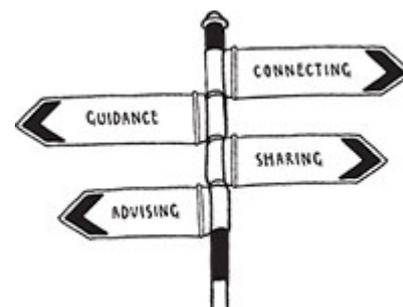


Finance Advisory Network Non-Subscriber Newsletter



Advisor Update

We trust you found last month's first CIPFA Finance Advisory Network (FAN) Newsletter, specifically designed for authorities that don't subscribe to FAN, useful. If you missed it, all previous newsletters can be found on the [FAN website](#). We just thought it might be helpful to have a summary of all of our upcoming events in one place as well as details of CIPFA consultations that are open to all authorities and this month, details of our six and eighteen month offers open to you to join FAN and get access to all the benefits of FAN membership.

If you no longer wish to receive such updates, or indeed you wish to add other colleagues to these newsletter mailings, please do let us know by return of email.

CIPFA Code of Practice 2018/19 Consultation

The 2018/19 Code will apply to accounting periods starting on or after 1 April 2018. The proposed amendments in the 2018/19 Code cover changes in accounting standards and other issues on which CIPFA/LASAAC wishes to seek interested parties' views.

The [consultation](#) will close on 6 October 2017. Please do have your say, even if it is only on a few specific questions that you feel are most important to you.

CIPFA Consults on new Prudential and Treasury Management Codes

On 11 August 2017 CIPFA launched the [second stage of its consultations](#) on these Codes which will impact on all public sector bodies but predominantly with the proposed changes to the Prudential Code, this will impact on Local Government.

The initial consultation covered a number of areas which have been followed up in this second review but perhaps the most fundamental change is around prudence in respect of longer term planning, MRP, commercialisation where the current system does not support longer terms decision making and financial planning. It is therefore proposed to require a comprehensive capital strategy to demonstrate decisions are

Events

Hot Topics in Capital Accounting

Availability remaining at
26 September Leeds, 27
September Manchester,
3 October Bristol, 24
October London

[More details](#)

Introduction to Collection Fund Accounting

11 October Leeds, 27
October London

[More details](#)

Introduction to Local Authority Accounts and Closedown

17 October Leeds, 18
October London

[More details](#)

Introduction to Accounting for Groups

6 November London, 8
November Leeds

[More details](#)

Introduction to Housing Finance

28 November Leeds, 29
November London

[More details](#)

made in line with service objectives and take account of stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability.

The closing date for responses is 30 September 2017.

It is intended to publish the revised code towards the end of the year for 2018/19 implementation.

DCLG consultation on 2018/19 Local Government Finance Settlement

The [consultation paper](#) sets out the government's intended approach for the third year of the multi-year local government finance settlement. Closing date 26 October.

DCLG issues invitation to apply for next round of 100% Business Rates Retention Pilots (England only)

The [prospectus](#) invites local authorities to submit proposals to pilot 100% business rates retention in 2018 to 2019 and sets out the application process and the criteria on which applications will be assessed. Proposals for new pilots must be submitted to the department by Friday 27 October 2017.

We have previously supported authorities that are now in the current 100% rates retention pilots, by reviewing their approach under the 50% scheme and ensuring everything is in order before moving across. If you would be interested in this, do get in touch with Caroline.

Local Government Accounting Conferences – [15 November Leeds](#), [22 November London](#) – Book now and save

The CIPFA Local Government Accounting Conferences are the key events to attend to find out the very latest developments on what are important and substantial changes to local government finance, particularly local government financial reporting.

Early bird prices (available until 29 September 2017) are discounted to £210 +VAT for CIPFA members and network subscribers and £265 +VAT for non-members.

FAN Capital Hot Topics Series 2017

Every year we run a series of events focusing on matters relating to capital and asset accounting, and details of our [2017 Hot Topics series](#), are available on the website.

Reducing Demand and Securing Better Value in Social Care

18 October London, 19 October Manchester

[More details](#)

CIPFA Housing Conference

26 September London

[More details](#)

CIPFA Governance Summit

1 November London

[More details](#)

Budgeting and Monitoring of Volatile High Risk Spending Areas

8 November London, 9 November Manchester

[More details](#)

Local Government Accounting Conferences

15 November, Leeds; 22 November, London

[More details](#)

Closely linked to the capital agenda, your authority may also be interested in CIPFA's [Strategic Assets Network](#), which focuses on how local authority assets and property can be managed for maximum effectiveness and value.

FAN Open Training Programme 2017

In addition to our scheduled workshop line-up, FAN are running a number of open training courses in 2017, designed to provide an introduction to those new to local authority accounting or new to specific technical aspects of the work, or who would value a refresher in those areas.

These courses, which are now brought together as part of our wider '[Essentials](#)' support offering, can be viewed (and booked) on the website.

Coming up later in the year are courses covering Collection Fund accounting (October), local authority accounts and closedown (October), group accounts (November) and new for 2017, Housing (November).

Don't forget that most of these training course are also offered as an on-site delivery option. Our typical consultancy rate for these events is £1,250 per day (exc. VAT) plus expenses. But should your authority subscribe to any Network, then this cost reduces to £950 per day plus VAT and expenses. Do get in touch to discuss on-site delivery options.

CIPFA Housing Conference – [26 September](#) London

CIPFA's Annual Housing Conference comes at a time when the housing crisis is forever deepening and is the first opportunity post-election and post-Grenfell to consider the changing landscape for local authority housing.

This conference is for local authority housing and housing finance staff working in local authority council-housing services, arm's-length management organisations and strategic housing functions.

Follow FAN on Twitter

David, Sandra and Caroline tweet relevant news stories, FAN event updates, the latest CIPFA headlines, stories from Public Finance, etc. Do follow us on Twitter for all 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 on the links to see [David](#) [Sandra](#) and [Caroline](#) on Twitter, or search for all our network advisor tweets using the hashtag #cipfanetworks.

Half Price Subscription to FAN AND Wales FAN offer

We are offering authorities that don't currently subscribe to FAN or Wales FAN (WFAN), the opportunity to try it for half price until 31 March 2018. We can also offer you the chance to sign up until 31 March 2019 and this will get you two complimentary pre-paid places to FAN events and training courses, which can be used through to 31 March 2019, plus access to the FAN Collection Fund Accounting Models (England only - details below) to check your 2016/17 Collection Fund closedown approach and the 2017/18 models. If you have already purchased the models, we can deduct the update price from the offer rate.

A similar offer applies to other CIPFA Networks and further discounted rates start to apply for three or more networks.

FAN subscription benefits include:

- Exclusive website access – www.cipfa.org/services/networks/finance-advisory-network - which contains a wealth of published information including regular briefings, newsletters and updates, as well as current and past event presentation materials
- Access to updated collection fund models, which have proved invaluable in assisting authorities in this very complex accounting area (England only)*
- Regular newsletter to keep you updated on the latest financial and policy issues affecting your authority
- Exclusive access to a FAN LinkedIn group as well as a dedicated Twitter account (#cipfanetworks)
- 15% discount on all other open training events (i.e. those not assigned to this network)
- 25% discount on having any of our 'essentials' training events run on-site e.g. Introduction to Capital, Introduction to Local Government Finance
- Attendance at a wide selection of regional network events and FAN open training courses (using pre-purchased places if you opt to purchase, or a discounted price if you don't)
- Technical support and guidance from expert advisors
- Timely updates on relevant political, financial and legislative issues giving you all the facts at your fingertips, and information on how these will affect your job role, service delivery and your wider authority
- Opportunities for networking, career development and CPD

Further details can be found on the [FAN and WFAN service plan](#) for 2017/18. For 2018/19 we are already planning new

events specifically covering Financial Planning and preparation for IFRS 9: Financial Instruments.

*FAN developed the Collection Fund Accounting Models as key tools in giving authorities (and their auditors) assurance on year-end accounting transactions and treatment of Council Tax and Business Rates. Many external auditors consider the models good practice. The [2016/17 models](#), if you would like to check your own approach against these, are £2,500 each + VAT, or £4,000 for the pair, but if you subscribe to FAN under the offer until March 2019 come free, along with the models for 2017/18 closedown. Here's an example of some feedback from an authority that is already using the model and benefited from on-site support and training that we can also provide:

"The Collection Fund model, training courses and on-site support provided by Caroline White and CIPFA has been exemplary – as a team we feel well equipped and supported in taking forward how we undertake Collection Fund accounting thanks to Caroline's sharing of her expertise and knowledge.

"Nina Philippidis, Deputy S151 and Head of Finance, South Gloucestershire Unitary Authority.

If you would be interested in subscribing to FAN, WFAN (or any other network) under either the six or eighteen month offer, please do feel free to get in touch with any of us.

Kind regards

Caroline, David and Sandra

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