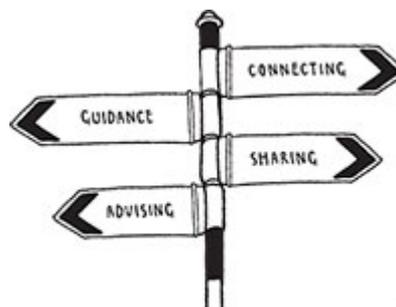


Scottish Finance Advisory Network Non-Subscriber Newsletter



25 March 2022

Advisor Update

Welcome to the March Scottish FAN Newsletter for organisations that do not subscribe to SFAN.

We have recently advertised some of our [Introduction To workshops for 2022](#) and details of those already announced are included in the event listing. We will get more of the 2022 events confirmed and available to book very soon.

We have good news to share, in that we have appointed to one of the full-time vacant FAN Advisor posts, and Jen Bevan will be joining the team in mid-April. Jen is currently Finance Manager at Bury Council, working across both their capital and the closure of accounts teams. Jen lists her interests on her LinkedIn profile as Professional Ethics, Capital Accounting and Problem Solving – sounds perfect for the FAN role, and we very much look forward to Jen joining the team.

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

Stay safe and best wishes,

David, Caroline and Somir.

Events

Introduction to Local Authority Capital Accounting

[28 April 2022](#)
[18 October 2022](#)

Introduction to local authority financial statements and closedown

[27 April 2022](#)
[8 November 2022](#)

Getting started: Introduction to public procurement

[31 March 2022](#)

Treasury Management Final Account Surgeries

[19 April 2022](#)
[20 April 2022](#)
[27 April 2022](#)
[29 April 2022](#)

Managing Surplus Property

[27 April 2022](#)

[FAN Home](#)

Network and CIPFA News

CIPFA LASAAC emergency Code consultation – Preliminary decision and feedback statement

On 17 March the CIPFA/LASAAC Local Authority Code Board issued its preliminary decision and feedback statement on the emergency Code consultation, which followed a request from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) to consider time limited proposals aimed to ease the local audit pressures in England.

After considering the significant amount of feedback on the two proposals the Code Board have made the following provisional decisions:

- **Not** to progress any option to pause professional valuation of operational property, plant and equipment, or to apply indexation to otherwise paused balances of operational property, plant and equipment
- **To pursue** the option of deferring implementation in the Code of IFRS 16 Leases, subject to consideration and review of this approach by the Financial Reporting Advisory Board (FRAB). This deferral would be for a fixed period of two years and apply to all UK jurisdictions.

The full statement can be accessed under Latest Updates on the [CIPFA/LASAAC webpage](#).

CIPFA Year-End Bulletin – Coming soon!

CIPFA's Accounting and Financial Reporting Forum recently discussed the anticipated contents of the 2021/22 Year End Bulletin and work is now underway to draft the Bulletin for publication. Whilst the original intention was to publish by the end of March, this is likely to be delayed slightly to include the final position on the proposed deferral of IFRS 16. It is hoped therefore that the Bulletin will be published in early April.

CIPFA Practice Oversight Panel - Advisory Note on Governance

CIPFA has just published an advisory note formalising key messages surrounding recent governance failures that have been identified in statutory and non-statutory reviews and public interest reports. It reinforces the good practice principles local government bodies in the UK should adopt, and signposts relevant documentation. The panel expects all organisations to be aware of and learn lessons from recent examples of failure, and this advisory note highlights this message. It applies to all local government bodies in the UK. The advisory note can be accessed from the [CIPFA website](#).

Public Finance Live - Liverpool 13-14 July 2022

Public Finance Live returns to ACC Liverpool following two tumultuous years since our last face to face conference. The government has staked its reputation on reducing regional inequalities and improving the standard of living across the country. CIPFA's annual conference 2022 will be taking place at the midpoint of the current UK electoral cycle; set against the background of the COVID pandemic, continuing Brexit fall out and re-negotiations and, of course, the severe and growing challenges of the global climate emergency.

Through carefully programmed plenaries and workshops, Public Finance Live will offer insight, ideas and guidance on what the government has set out to achieve, how we can measure progress and manage challenges. CIPFA's annual conference is ideal for those looking at the big public policy picture and for more hands-on updates, discussion and insights into public finance and public service management. For details and to book places see the [conference webpage](#).

Sustainability reporting in the public sector

The climate crisis sits at the top of global, political, and economic agendas. The practice of sustainability reporting, which draws together not only environmental

but also social and economic measures, is now widespread in the private sector.

Yet sustainability reporting in the public sector is in a markedly different place. CIPFA recently surveyed public sector practitioners from around the world to explore what public bodies globally are doing to report their impact on the climate.

In June 2021 we published the results of these findings in 'Evolving Climate Accountability: A Global Review of Public Sector Environmental Reporting.' The report is intended to provide a baseline from which the evolution of public sector sustainability reporting can be measured.

To read the report and sign up to sustainability updates see the [CIPFA Protecting Place and Planet webpage](#).

Managing Surplus Property (Webinar - 27 April 2022)

The pandemic has changed our world irrevocably, with one of the major impacts being to our working lives. Employers across both the public and private sectors are carrying out reviews of their property assets, with the former driven by a further period of austerity as the government grapples with the high level of debt left in the wake of COVID-19.

The guest presenters at this CIPFA Property workshop will share real-world examples of surplus public sector property management that has generated added value over and above what could have been achieved through traditional approaches. For further details and to book places please see the events listing.

Value in Public Finance - Peer Learning Group (Webinar – 30 March 2022)

Can social value be monetised? Defining the 'value' of a public policy has been notoriously challenging, but there have been some recent advances made in two very different domains - healthcare (e.g., value-based pricing) and climate / carbon (e.g., carbon pricing). CIPFA-GO Lab's Value in Public Finance PLG invites you to join the conversation as we consider innovative pricing methods, their transferability and what this all may mean for pricing social outcomes. We will be joined by experts from organisations such as the World Bank, HM Treasury, and Global Pricing Innovations to explore pricing practices. For details and to book your place see the [event webpage](#).

Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub

CIPFA's [Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub](#) is a free online resource for anyone that needs help, information or support. It is free to use, anonymous, and no registration is required.

At the heart of the hub is Talking Heads, an always-growing collection of short videos where members of the CIPFA community and beyond share their experiences. The library also provides links to trusted local support services and resources relevant to the videos you view.

CIPFA hopes its CIPFA Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub will assist in providing the support you, your friends or family might need in these challenging times.

Additional COVID-19 advice and support for local authorities

All the latest official information as well as guidance and resources from COSLA and key partners including weekly briefings for Elected Members.
<https://www.cosla.gov.uk/covid-19-information-for-councils>

Essential guidance on all aspects of coronavirus can be found on the [Gov.Scot website](#)

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 and also those issues specific to [local government](#).

Follow FAN on Twitter and connect to us on LinkedIn

David regularly tweets details of relevant news stories, FAN event updates, CIPFA consultation alerts, COVID-19 updates, etc. We encourage subscribers to follow CIPFA network subscribers 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 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 David](#).

LinkedIn Discussions

CIPFA has its own [LinkedIn group](#) where you can find up to date announcements and discussions on all the latest issues in the public sector. Why not join in one of the discussions or start a conversation of your own?

News Roundup

This service is for Subscribers only

Publications

[Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22](#)

[The Prudential Code For Capital Finance In Local Authorities \(2021 Edition\)](#)

[Code Of Practice On Local Authority Accounting In The United Kingdom: Guidance Notes For 2021/22 Account](#)

[Treasury Management In The Public Services: Code Of Practice And Cross-sectoral Guidance Notes \(2021 Edition\)](#)

[Code Of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK Disclosure Checklist for 2021/22 accounts](#)

[Service Reporting Code Of Practice For Local Authorities 2022/23](#)

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