

CIPFA Benefits and Revenues Service  
(CBRS)

# Your network membership

2023/24

# The network offer

The CIPFA Benefits and Revenues Service (CBRS) was established in 1988 for the introduction of community charge and national non-domestic rates and aims to support the public sector in informing and promoting good practice in benefits and revenues services.

The two network advisors have in excess of 60 years' combined experience of working in the area of benefits and revenues which they can draw on to support practitioners in their current and future challenges.

By offering a range of valuable events as well as expert support and guidance in all aspects of benefits and revenues we ensure practitioners are aware of changes in the sector and are appropriately skilled to tackle the challenges they face.

Our event programme is as popular as ever with our 2022 events attracting over 1,000 delegates over the 21 events delivered between 1 January and 31 December 2022 with further events planned between the 1 January and 31 March 2023.

Our E-alerts service contains updates on changes in legislation, recent case law and comments on policy and topical issues. In addition, ad-hoc notifications are issued where information needs more urgent communication. The 29 alerts issued during 2022 helped to ensure practitioners were kept up to date with relevant developments.

Our website contains documentation to accompany the events along with briefing notes, newsletters and archive material, all of which is available free of charge to network subscribers.

For those with specific questions, our subscriber enquiry service is there to help. Our highly skilled and dedicated advisors deal with over one thousand queries each year and can be accessed, free of charge, by subscribers to the network via email or telephone.

# How to join?



If you would like further information about the benefits of subscribing to the CBRS, please contact our network advisors who will be delighted to assist you.

[Adrian Blaylock](#) – 020 7543 5708

[Sheldon Wood](#) – 07747 788654

## **Joining CIPFA's Benefits and Revenues Service**

If you are interested in joining CIPFA's Benefits and Revenues Service or have any questions, please contact [Adrian](#)

# Features and benefits

- Attendance at a wide selection of network events, open training courses for this networks and topical conferences either using pre-purchased places or on a pay-as-you-go basis at a reduced rate
- Technical support and guidance from expert advisors
- Timely updates on relevant political, financial and legislative issues giving you all the facts and information on how these will affect your job role, service delivery and your wider authority
- Opportunities for networking, career development and CPD
- Sharing of knowledge and best practice with peers to create an environment where the key financial and policy issues can be debated and addressed
- Exclusive website access – network websites contain a wealth of published information including regular briefings, newsletters and updates, as well as current and past event presentation materials to allow you to engage with colleagues and members in your area and share best practice
- Regular and ad-hoc E-alerts to keep you updated on the latest Benefits and Revenues issues affecting your area of activity
- Discounts off any CIPFA Essentials training events run by other CIPFA Networks
- Access to other network events when bought under a corporate membership arrangement.

## What our members say



“Your updates are vital, they are concise, plain English and cut through all the details to get to the “nitty gritty”, your support has been invaluable.”



“Sheldon has an excellent technical knowledge and the course was really informative and a positive experience.



“I just wanted to say the presenter was absolutely amazing and I could tell he had extensive background and experience in this field.”

# Programme of events

Our planned headline events below are complemented by alerts and briefings, monthly newsletters and dedicated advisor support for practitioners in subscribing organisations. Prepaid places can be used to attend any events set out in this service plan.

New events may be added during the year and details of these, along with options for use of pre-paid places, will be confirmed as part of the event promotion materials, CBRS newsletters and alerts.

Our technical events, held throughout the year, will cover provide updates on current issues, best practice, regulatory and case law updates relevant at the time. Areas expected to feature include: updates on the welfare reform process, universal credit, council tax and council tax support, changes to non-domestic rating and business rates retention.



## **January 2023** **Benefits Technical Update**

This event will provide details on the benefits related elements contained in the Autumn statement 2022 including details of the 2023/24 annual uprating. This is followed by an update on universal credit including the migration process and timetable and an update on local housing allowance and benefit sanctions.



## **February 2023** **Introduction to....**

Our "introduction to.." events are aimed at those new to the revenues team and give a basic overview of billing, discounts, exemptions and recovery.



## **March 2023** **Completing and accounting for the NNDR3 2022/23**

This annual event provides up to date details on completing the NNDR3 form as well as the accounting implications of each section of the return.



## **March 2023** **Benefits Technical Update/ Revenues Technical Update**

These events provide updates on the latest technical and strategic issues, developments in legislation and case law affecting benefits and revenues.

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**April 2023**

**Completing the 2022/23 Housing Benefit Subsidy Claim Form**

This annual event provides up to date details of the 21/22 housing benefit subsidy arrangements and the accurate completion of the claim form.



**July 2023**

**Introduction to....**

Our “introduction to..” events are aimed at those new to the revenues team and give a basic overview of billing, discounts, exemptions and recovery.



**July 2023**

**Benefits Technical Update**

These events provide updates on the latest technical and strategic issues, developments in legislation and case law affecting benefits and revenues.



**September 2023**

**Benefits Technical Update  
Revenues Technical Update**

These events provide updates on the latest technical and strategic issues, developments in legislation and case law affecting benefits and revenues.



**November 2023**

**Introduction to....**

Our “introduction to..” events are aimed at those new to the revenues team and give a basic overview of billing, discounts, exemptions and recovery.



**November/December 2023**

**Benefits Technical Update  
Revenues Technical Update**

These events provide updates on the latest technical and strategic issues, developments in legislation and case law affecting benefits and revenues.



**December 2023**

**Completing the 2024/25 NNDR1 Return**

This annual event provides up to date details, and a line-by-line walkthrough, of the 2024-25 NNDR1 return.

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Full details of these events will be available at [www.cipfa.org/events](http://www.cipfa.org/events) or contact one of the advisors for further details.

# Further support

## **On-site delivery**

All CBRS events are available as an on-site delivery. Contact us for more information.

## **CIPFA Essentials**

In addition our 'Introduction to ...' Essentials programme is designed to help support those who may be new to the sector, or perhaps working in a new role, and may also benefit non-finance staff and elected Members. These interactive workshops are a great way to help develop knowledge and awareness of a specific service area and are proving increasingly popular with staff development programmes.

## **Specialist support**

The CBRS can also offer peer-to-peer support. Examples of support provided to date includes reviews of tax base calculations and reviews of performance and monitoring.

# Our networks

## **Looking for more support from our networks?**

We offer a number of other networks across a range of topics. We also offer corporate subscriptions for your organisation allowing you and your colleagues to access events and support across multiple CIPFA networks according to your needs.

For any other network enquiries, or for details about our corporate network support package, please email [cipfanetworks@cipfa.org](mailto:cipfanetworks@cipfa.org) or call CIPFA on 020 7543 5600.

## **Our current networks are:**

- Alternative Service Delivery Network
- Better Governance Forum
- Benefits and Revenues Service
- Social Care Finance Advisory Network
- Finance Advisory Network
- Insurance Network
- Pensions Network
- Police and Fire Network
- Procurement and Commissioning Network
- Treasury Management Network



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**[cipfa.org](https://cipfa.org)**

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