



## Finance Advisory Network Newsletter

September 2019

### Advisor Update

Welcome to the September FAN Newsletter for practitioners that don't subscribe to the FAN service.

If as part of your 'taking stock' of closedown 2018/19 you think you would benefit from a review of your approach to collection fund accounting and processes before 2019/20, please do give Caroline a shout. You may also be interested in purchasing the Excel council tax and NDR accounting models to help you in this area. Alternatively you may wish to take out a FAN subscription now, which not only would get you the 2018/19 models to check your approach but also the 2019/20 ones and access to asking us advisors technical queries about any aspect of local authority accounting, not just collection fund, amongst other benefits. If you would be interested, do get in touch.

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](#).

As per previous months, please [click here](#) to indicate safe receipt. We have received feedback that some of you are not receiving our communications and therefore clicking on the link will help us

### Events

#### Local Authority Capital Leasing Practitioner Workshops

[17 September, Liverpool](#); **New Dates added** [3 October, London](#); [10 October, Leeds](#)

#### Financial Planning

[17 September, London](#); [18 September, Birmingham](#); [19 September, Leeds](#)

#### Introduction to Public Sector Treasury Management

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

#### Finance and Accounting Developments for Police and Fire Services

[1 October, York](#); [2 October, London](#)

#### Introduction to Education Finance

[1 October, Sheffield](#); [2 October, London](#)

#### Adult and Children's Social Care: Optimising The Use Of Resources In Service and Financial Planning

[8 October, Manchester](#); [9 October, London](#);

#### Treasury Management and Investment for Councillors

[14 October, London](#); [16 October, Leeds](#)

#### Introduction to Local Authority Accounts and Closedown

understand how many of you are receiving the emails and how many of our communications might be getting blocked through firewalls, etc. Many thanks for your assistance.

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.

That's all for this newsletter.

Best wishes from David, Caroline and Sandra

[15 October, Leeds](#); [17, October Birmingham](#); [18 October, London](#)

### **Taxation Implications of Alternative Service Delivery Models**

[15 October, London](#); [22 October, Birmingham](#); [24 October, Leeds](#)

### **Introduction to Collection Fund Accounting for Local Authorities in England**

[22 October, London](#); [23 October, Leeds](#)

### **Introduction to Housing Finance**

[22 October, Leeds](#); [23 October, London](#)

### **Introduction to Accounting for Groups and Collaborative Arrangements**

[12 November, Leeds](#); [14 November, Bristol](#)

### **Introduction to Local Government Finance**

[20 November, London](#); [21 November, Leeds](#)

[FAN Home](#)

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## **Network and CIPFA News**

### **Consultation on the Code of Practice 2020/21 – last chance to have your say**

CIPFA/LASAAC has issued an [invitation to comment](#) on the Code of Practice 20/21 - Note: the consultation closes on 27 September 2019.

The 2020/21 Code will apply to accounting periods starting on or after 1 April 2020. The proposed amendments in the 2020/21 Code cover changes relating to clarity and streamlining, accounting standards and other issues on which CIPFA/LASAAC wishes to seek interested parties' views.

### **Local Authority Capital – Leasing Practitioner Workshops (September and new October dates added)**

CIPFA FAN autumn capital series focusing on IFRS 16 and the impact of the new leasing standard on local authority accounting is pretty much sold out apart from the dates under the events listing so two additional October dates have been added. Please book now to avoid disappointment.

IFRS 16 is one of the most significant accounting standards to be introduced into the Local Authority Accounting Code and due to its anticipated impact it has

been subject to substantial review and consultation. In December 2018 the CIPFA/LASAAC Local Authority Accounting Code Board issued a statement confirming that the implementation date would be deferred to 1 April 2020 to ensure consistency across the public sector, however there is much to consider with this standard and in practice the preparation time available remains limited.

These FAN capital workshops will explore what the changes are likely to mean in practice and how authorities can best prepare for this standard. For further details and to book your places see the links in the event listing.

### **CIPFA Local Government Accounting Conferences – Dates for your diary**

Details of the November accounting update conferences will be released soon, but dates for your diary are 26 November, Edinburgh; 28 November, London; and 4 December Leeds.

### **Consultation on CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice SeRCOP 2020/21 Service Expenditure Analysis SEA**

Following the Invitation to Comment stage earlier this year, CIPFA's second [consultation on the 2020-21 CIPFA Service Reporting Code of Practice \(SeRCOP\)](#) is now running.

In summary, the main proposed changes to the SeRCOP SEA for England and Wales are limited to the following SEA sections:

- Adult Social Care (England)
- Police Services
- Public Health (England)

CIPFA also welcome any other comments you have on the SeRCOP SEA.

Please send any responses to this consultation to [sercop@cipfa.org](mailto:sercop@cipfa.org), by Friday 13 September 2019.

### **Have you heard about CIPFA's new range of Housing analytical products?**

Three new integrated Housing analytical solutions offering insight and foresight without the hassle of providing any data returns!

We are looking for volunteers in local authority housing to help test the products prior to their release – if you would be interested please contact [Ben.Lockett@cipfa.org](mailto:Ben.Lockett@cipfa.org) (020 7543 5683), [Vijay.Pillai@cipfa.org](mailto:Vijay.Pillai@cipfa.org) (020 7543 5755) or [Benchmarking@cipfa.org](mailto:Benchmarking@cipfa.org) (020 7543 5600).

The key to analysing your housing service is to include key performance indicators for the strategic activities of organisations. Together, the CIPFA Housing Interactive Profile, Housing Scorecard and Housing Future Resources Model consider past and present measures and offer foresight to plot your likely future performance across strategic and operational service areas.

Created for local authorities in England, CIPFA's three Housing products combine to provide a robust model that addresses the impact of recent government policy issues. The introduction of these tools has been triggered by the removal of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) borrowing cap and the extension of the Value for Money regulatory standards to local authority housing services.

Based on statutory returns, CIPFA experts have created a powerful solution to help you improve services and evaluate your compliance and resilience against standards and compare with your peers.

Using interactive dashboards, CIPFA's new Housing models inform:

- The shaping of medium-term financial planning
- Improved decision making underpinned by sound trend assumptions
- A projection model for HRA resources into the mid-2020s.

### **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 issues specific to [local government](#).

### **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](#).

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## **News Roundup**

News stories are part of the subscriber service only.

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## **Publications**

[Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom: Guidance Notes for 2019/20 Accounts \(online\).](#)

[Streamlining the Accounts](#)

[Local Authority Capital Accounting - A Reference Manual for Practitioners](#)

[Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom: Disclosure Checklist for 2019/20 Accounts online](#)

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

[A Practical Guide for Local Authorities on Income Generation \(2019 edition\).](#)

[An Introductory Guide to Housing Finance in England and Wales \(2019 Edition\).](#)

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