



Finance Advisory Network Non-Subscriber Newsletter

July 2021

Advisor Update

Welcome to the July FAN Newsletter for practitioners in organisations that don't subscribe to the FAN service.

We hope you find the newsletter and updates helpful.

Don't forget that you and your colleagues can add or remove yourselves from the network mailing lists via the [MyCIPFA Preference Centre](#). Just make sure that any settings are confirmed so that the mailing list update process picks up your requested changes.

The non-subscriber newsletter includes details of our upcoming events.

Please note that we can deliver any of our [Essentials](#) 'Introduction to...' events exclusively for your authority, so please do get in touch with a member of the FAN team if interested in a 'local' delivery.

Best wishes,

David, Caroline and Sandra

Events

Councillor's Guide to Understanding Your Council's Financial Reporting Requirements

[10 August, webinar](#)

Local Authority Accounting Conference

[8 September, webinar](#)

Local Authority Capital: Hot Topics and Leases Workshops 2021

[14/15/16/23/28 September, webinar](#)

Introduction to Local Authority Capital Accounting

[20 October, webinar](#)

Developing and Stress Testing Your 30 Year Housing Business Plan

[12/13 October, webinar](#)

Introduction to Local Government Finance

[8/9 November, webinar](#)

Introduction to Collection Fund Accounts

[15/16 November, webinar](#)

Introduction to Local Government Reporting – Principles and Practices

[16 November, webinar](#)

[FAN Home](#)

Network and CIPFA News

Local Authority Accounting Conference (webinar) – 8 September 2021

This essential technical update for local government practitioners will take place on 8 September via Webinar. It will feature updates on proposed changes to the Local Authority Accounting Code, the latest position on the outcomes and actions arising from the Redmond Review, plus insight into the expected changes to the Prudential and Treasury Management Codes and what that means for local authorities.

The [conference](#), which is open to practitioners in England, Scotland and Wales, will also focus on the key actions required in preparation for the introduction of IFRS 16 Leases as well as a reminder on COVID-related accounting issues and the latest views from the audit community on how the regulatory background and auditing standards will impact on the 2020/21 audit opinion and reporting.

For more information and to book your place see the link in the events listing.

Would you like to become a member of the new CIPFA Forums?

CIPFA is reforming its technical panels and boards. In an exciting development, CIPFA for the first time in its history will move from a sector specific focus to now consider all public sector issues through a specific specialist subject matter lens. This offers the opportunity to consider matters that are both domestic as well as international and bring together expertise.

We have designed a new suite of technical Forums (or Fora) to drive CIPFA's interests forward. We anticipate that each Forum will be populated by expert public finance professionals from across all public services. Our proposed Forums will cover a range of areas which CIPFA has identified and we will have a separate professionally managed Forum for each of the following:

- Accounting & Financial Reporting
- Public Policy & Reform
- Sustainability
- Governance and Assurance
- Finance Workforce
- Fraud Prevention and Anti-Corruption

We are now seeking to appoint Forum members on a volunteer basis from across all public services and we are specifically interested to appoint representatives from local government bodies.

If you are interested, you can formally express your interest to CIPFA in becoming a Forum member. It's not essential to be a CIPFA member but it's likely that you will be an experienced qualified accountant currently working in local government finance. It may be that you are already in a senior position or you may aspire to hold a senior position in the near future. It may be however, that you are looking for a professional development opportunity to further your

career. Of more importance will be your willingness to offer your expertise for the benefit of public finance.

As a Forum member you will attend four Forum meetings per year by virtual link. You will consider detailed technical papers or papers on matters of policy as well as providing an input into the forward public finance agenda. You will also get the opportunity to interact with fellow public service professionals from across the wider public services and to be at the heart of the advice to CIPFA and to global finance professionals on a dynamic policy and technical agenda.

We have retained a Forum for Charities and Public Benefit Entities as the single exception to a subject matter focus to take forward our global ambition in this sector, given some differences of emphasis. If you have any interest in being part of this Forum we would be interested to hear from you.

If you are interested you can email policy.technical@cipfa.org providing brief details of your experience and indicating the Forum you think would benefit from your expertise.

Get up to speed on ethics: a new e-learning module - free to all CIPFA members and students

As part of CIPFA's commitment to supporting our members, students and the wider public finance profession, we have developed a short, accessible e-learning module on ethics. Using videos, Q&As, case studies and background reading, it offers a practical insight into how ethics can impact public finance professionals. It also highlights the additional resources on ethics that are available from CIPFA. The e-learning module is free of charge for all CIPFA members and students – to access it, please login to the website and complete your purchase using your member role.

When your purchase is complete, you will be able to access the module via the 'CIPFA Learning' button in the top right corner of the CIPFA website. [Learn more](#).

Professional Ethics Survey - still time to have your say

On the topic of ethics, all UK and Irish professional bodies that make up the CCAB have Codes of Ethics against which we hold our members accountable. As professional bodies, we play a role in supporting our members to do the right thing. We have created a simple 10-minute, anonymous survey to identify underlying workplace cultures that may be encouraging behaviours that could be seen as unethical.

This [survey](#) is an attempt to take the ethical temperature of the accountancy profession over the last 3 years and as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey is open from 28 June to 8 August. Please feel free to share details with any other professional accountants in your organisation or network.

Question for Major Precepting Authorities

As many of you will know, CIPFA provides Collection Fund Excel Models to assist authorities in compiling their collection fund accounts. These models are primarily aimed at billing authorities, although they do provide the position for each major preceptor, for that particular billing authority.

We have been toying with the idea of producing a model that will provide, for precepting authorities, the overall council tax and NDR accounting position from all of their billing authorities, if this is something that major precepting authorities would find useful. If you already have your own model for producing and summarising your council tax and NDR position from your billing authorities, then you may see no need for such a model.

Caroline would be interested to hear from major precepting authorities whether or not they think such a model would have benefit to them. so please do drop her a line at caroline.newman@cipfa.org.

CIPFA Insights: Post-COVID-19 scenario planning: a survey sponsored by Unit4

This [report](#) brings together the results of research conducted by CIPFA and sponsored by Unit4 into how local government and others have approached budgeting during the pandemic and how they intend to move forward in a post-COVID-19 world

Additional COVID-19 advice and support for local authorities

CIPFA has an [online hub for COVID resources](#).

Essential guidance for local authorities on all aspects of the coronavirus support can be found on the [GOV.UK 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, Sandra and Caroline regularly tweet details of relevant news stories, FAN event updates, CIPFA consultation alerts, COVID-19 updates, 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](#).

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](#)

[Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities 2021/22](#)

[Capital Strategy Guidance: A Whole Organisation Approach](#)

[Prudential Property Investment Guidance](#)

[Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom Guidance Notes for 2020/21 Accounts](#)

[Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom: Disclosure Checklist for 2020/21 Accounts](#)

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