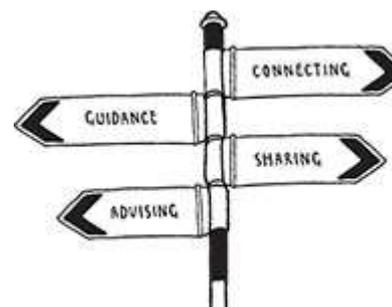


Finance Advisory Network

Newsletter



Advisor Update

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

As usual, the newsletter includes details of our planned events and workshops, together with the latest updates on consultations and other 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](#).

David, Caroline and Sandra

CIPFA Special Councillor Conference

CIPFA recently ran a half day conference aimed at local government Councillors in order to provide them with an understanding of the impact of Covid-19 on their council. The day saw many speakers present on a range of topics including financial pressures, emergency funding, CIPFAs response to the crisis, governance, procurement, revenue collection and far more.

If you did not attend on the day, a recording of this highly informative session can be found [here](#).

Whole of Government Accounts (WGA) – support for local authorities

HM Treasury are running a number of webinars to assist authorities with this year's data collection process. Four dates have been provided for English authorities (two in July, which are almost full, and two in August) plus there are dates for Welsh and Scottish authorities. WGA contacts should have already received details of these webinars, but if there are any queries please contact the HM Treasury WGA Team on

Events

Covid-19: How has it impacted on Local Government Social Care

[26 June, Webinar](#)

Councillor's Guide to Understanding your Councils Financial Reporting Requirements

[7 July, Webinar](#)

[8 September, Webinar](#)

Introduction to Budgeting and Financial Planning for Budget Holders within Social Care

[16 July, Webinar](#)

Demand Led Services: Plans that Better Match Reality on the Ground

[21 July, Webinar](#)

PTN PFI Exit Strategies

[27 July, Webinar](#)

[30 July, Webinar](#)

[16 September, Webinar](#)

Introduction to Local Government Finance

[17 November, London](#)

[18 November, Leeds](#)

Lg_wgareturns@hmtreasury.gov.uk who can provide further details.

Also please note that the 2019/20 local authority guidance to the Data Collection Tool data submission via OSCAR II was published this week and is available on the [GOV.UK website](https://www.gov.uk).

Councillor's Guide to Understanding your Councils Financial Reporting Requirements

FAN is running two workshops (7 July and 8 September) designed specifically to provide local authority elected members with greater insight into the financial reporting requirements of their authority, giving them the knowledge and confidence to deliver effective engagement, scrutiny and challenge of the Statement of Accounts as part of their overall governance role. The workshops also consider the latest developments in local authority accounting and how that might impact on the financial statements members are required to approve. For details of the programme and to book on, please see the links in the events listing

PTN PFI Exit Strategies

The Property Training Network are running a series of events aimed to provide you with an essential roadmap for the successful handover of PFI assets in a fair and equitable way which ensures continuity of service delivery. You will learn the contractual, financial and operational challenges to look out for and the expertise that you will need to deploy to deliver successful PFI exit strategies. Our legal, financial and PFI management experts will share with you their considerable knowledge and experience of this sector. For details of the programme and to book on, please see the links in the events listing

CIPFA statement on S114 of the local government finance act 1988

CIPFAs CEO, Rob Whiteman, has released a [statement](#) in relation to the statutory responsibilities of local government Chief Finance Officers if they are faced with the possibility of having to issue a S114 notice for their council.

Whilst nothing has changed during the pandemic to alter those responsibilities, the CIPFA statement recommends to CFOs that they should make informal contact with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government as early as possible in order to advise them that there is a possibility of a S114 notice having to be issued. It is hoped that in doing this and by having early discussions between councils and the MHCLG that between them they may be able to find a solution which avoids the need to progress on to a formal S114 situation.

Introduction to Collection Fund Accounts

[20 October, London](#)

[21 October, Leeds](#)

Introduction to Local Authority Capital Accounting

[22 July, Webinar](#)

[8 October, London](#)

Introduction to Accounting for Groups and Collaborative Arrangements

[25 November, Leeds](#)

[26 November, Birmingham](#)

[27 November, London](#)

CIPFA Public Finance Live event

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Public Finance Live event had to be postponed until later in the year but the new dates of 21st and 22nd October have just been announced.

With the events of the past year continuing to reverberate, the event will address both the big picture and the practical issues. This year's event will see content themes of Trust and resilience, Talent and skills, Data and technology, People and places. New for 2020, are special spotlights on Health and social care and Counter fraud.

Delegates will be able to gain an insight on the wider, economic and global contexts with a number of tailored workshops on funding, fraud, auditing and much more will allow you to get to grips with the latest issues and updates.

Booking for this event can be found [here](#) with early bird rates available until 24th July.

Brand new CIPFA and Xantura partnership: Covid-19 OneView service

Local authorities are currently working around the clock to determine how best to support vulnerable groups during the COVID-19 outbreak. While support systems and operational processes are being rapidly mobilised, councils also need to work out how to prioritise different levels of support for different groups. This requires not only assessing the impact on current service level requirements but also managing the impact on what this means for funding as cost and demands both rise. The task is considerable and presents serious challenges.

As part of CIPFA's ongoing programme to deliver immediate and practical support to councils during this unprecedented crisis, we have partnered with public sector data specialist Xantura to deliver a service that can quickly identify which vulnerable groups are in most critical need of support. In line with all relevant data protection regulations, Xantura will integrate the data you already have about vulnerable groups into one place, and then provide a multi-agency triage tool and case management system – COVID-19 OneView – identifying those whose support needs may escalate as a result of the crisis.

You can find out more about this new service [here](#).

MHCLG have released a summary of the data collected from local authorities on the financial impact of Covid-19

MHCLG has published figures from its monthly data collection exercise to gather information on the impact COVID-19 is having on council finances.

The data collection is designed to provide the government with ongoing financial management information on financial pressures councils are experiencing due to the pandemic. It is not a formal return but best estimates to inform work in government on supporting councils.

The published information which has been collected from councils in mid-April and mid-May shows their combined spending and income pressure to the end of May has been £3.24 billion with additional funding provided from the government of £3.14 billion. However, the returns also indicate that councils will have a further £6 billion of cost and income pressures for the remainder of the financial year.

You can access the published data [here](#).

Additional COVID-19 advice and support for local authorities

CIPFA has set-up 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 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](#) or the join the [FAN LinkedIn Group](#).

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

News stories are part of the subscriber service only.

Publications

1	IFRS 16 Leases: An Early Guide for Local Authority Practitioners
2	Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020/21
3	Financial Management Code
4	Financial Management Code Guidance Notes
5	Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom: Disclosure Checklist for 2019/20 Accounts
6	Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities (2020/21 Edition)