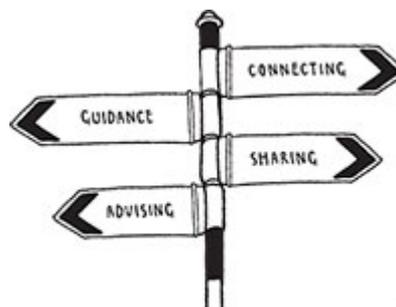


Finance Advisory Network Non-Subscriber Newsletter



28 October 2021

Advisor Update

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

The non-subscriber newsletter includes details of our upcoming events along with CIPFA news and updates that will hopefully be of interest to practitioners.

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.

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.

We hope you find the newsletter and updates helpful.

Best wishes,

David and Caroline

Events

Introduction to Housing Finance

[2 November, webinar](#)

Introduction to Public Procurement

[4 November, 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](#)

Introduction to Accounting for Groups and Collaborative Arrangements

[17/18 November, webinar](#)

Introduction to Local Authority Financial Statements and Closedown

[30 November, webinar](#)

[FAN Home](#)

Network and CIPFA News

Local Authority Accounting Conference – 2 December 2021

We are currently finalising the programme for the traditional post-consultation local authority technical accounting update, and the date has now been confirmed as **2 December**. This extended half-day webinar (approximately

9.30am to 1.30pm) will provide an update on the changes that will be brought in to the 2022/23 Code, will explore the impact of the proposed changes to CIPFA's Prudential and Treasury Management Codes, consider the key issues impacting on local government finance in a post-COVID world, examine the lessons that can be learned on the levelling-up agenda, and finally will revisit a number of technical and practical focus points for the introduction of IFRS 16 on 1 April 2022.

Further details including a full programme and how to book will follow separately once the finer points have been agreed, but for now please keep this date free in your diaries.

2021/22 Accounts Closedown and Financial Reporting Workshops – Survey Feedback and Initial Plans

Many thanks to everyone who submitted their preferences for the upcoming accounts closedown series. We received a total of 160 responses to the survey which revealed that at this point in time approximately 72% of respondents would prefer to attend the series via webinar, with 28% favouring a return to face-to-face delivery for this series. I know many of you will have missed the usual interaction in person as a result of the COVID restrictions, and it is promising that around one in seven respondents would like to get back to physical workshops again.

However, with the winter COVID situation still open to potential restrictions, and to minimise the risk of disruption to the series and late changes made to travelling logistics, we have made the decision to deliver this series via webinar again. We have taken on board your feedback on how you would like these to be run, with more interaction, the ability to ask questions, etc, and this is being factored into our plans.

We don't have a finalised workshop programme yet, but we hope to be able to advertise the series in the next couple of weeks. We anticipate the events will commence week commencing 17 January 2022 and run for around five weeks. Provisions are being made to cover for the recent departure of Sandra in the team...further details will follow shortly.

Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2022/23

The 2022/23 code consultation closed on 15 October – details of the outcome from the process are anticipated to be confirmed by CIPFA/LASAAC in the winter Local Authority Accounting Conference (see reference above).

Prudential Code and Treasury Management Code Consultation (phase two)

The final stage of CIPFA's consultation on changes to the Prudential and Treasury Management Codes was launched on 21 September and will close on 16 November. A summary of the proposed changes being introduced in the latest update was included in David's recent Capital Hot Topics events.

Further details of the proposed changes, draft versions of the revised Prudential Code and Treasury Management Code, along with early guidance on changes to the classification of investments and draft Treasury Management Code Guidance can be found on CIPFA's consultation pages for [Prudential Code](#) and the [Treasury Management Code](#).

Survey on internal audit in public services (closing date 29 October)

CIPFA is running a [survey examining the impact of internal audit and client expectations](#) of internal audit. It is open to internal auditors, plus the clients and stakeholders of internal audit.

This research is part of CIPFA's commitment to supporting the internal audit profession, good governance and strong public financial management. The findings and conclusions of our research will be published by CIPFA in early 2022 and considered along with findings from other research and discussion groups.

All feedback will be aggregated and therefore individual responses will be anonymous. The survey should take no longer than 10-15 minutes to complete. Please pass the details to any colleagues who might be interested in sharing their views, however note the closing date is this Friday.

Redmond Review - Local Audit Framework Technical Consultation

Details of CIPFA's response to the recent Technical Consultation can be found on the website. Local audit offers a critical test and a vital source of assurance for the systems of local democracy and public accountability. Auditors provide an independent professional opinion on the financial statements of organisations that are responsible for spending billions in public money, in addition to providing assurance around the arrangements these organisations have in place for achieving economy, efficiency and effectiveness in their use of resources. [Read the full response here.](#)

Building Back Better – Our Plan for Health and Social Care

Following the Prime Minister's recently announced plan for health and social care, [CIPFA's Health and Social Care Policy Manager, Dr. Eleanor Roy responds](#), calling on the government to accelerate the reform that the sector has long needed and to determine what manner of social care system it wants and how to fund it.

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's Chief Executive Rob Whiteman comments "With the nature of the workplace changing, we have looked at new and innovative ways to support you. We hope this really adds value and we look forward to your feedback on the content."

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.

Value in Public Finance peer learning group

As the economic situation following the COVID-crisis has exacerbated budgetary pressures, there has been growing public demand to demonstrate the 'value' of public expenditure. Join the first meeting of the Value in Public Finance peer learning group (11am, 18 November), co-organised by CIPFA and Oxford's Government Outcomes Lab, to explore value creation in public expenditure. The group aims to create an inclusive, international community of individuals and

organisations interested in improving public finance and how economies perform. If you are interested in joining the first meeting, please [fill in this form to sign up](#).

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](#).

Recent articles cover topics such as the challenges and risks of exiting PFI contracts and the impact of price rises and the Spending Review on public services – here's a flavour of [that article](#)...

When McDonald's runs out of milkshakes and Nando's has no chicken to grill, public sector procurement teams and senior leaders need to pay attention.

Despite having world-class supply chains, strong supplier relationships and extensive logistics networks, these well-known brands have been caught out by the truck driver shortages that have gripped the UK in recent weeks. With unprecedented increases in the cost of raw materials (the prices of steel, timber, PVC and chemicals have rocketed since the start of the year), existing pressures caused by the pandemic, new health and safety measures and – of course – Brexit, it's inevitable that public sector contracts are going to come under severe pressure.

There is also an interesting article by CIPFA's Local Government Policy Manager Joanne Pitt called '[The art of reorganisation](#)' which looks at local government restructure and the drivers for change. CIPFA will be producing an Art of Reorganisation publication in the Autumn to capture the lessons learnt, speaking to those who have been involved and benefiting from their experience to improve the process for others. There is a [free briefing paper](#) that sets the scene.

Follow FAN on Twitter and connect to us on LinkedIn

David 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](#) 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](#) 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 Guide](#)

[Financial Management Code Guidance Notes](#)

[Code Of Practice On Public Sector Pensions: Finance Knowledge And Skills](#)

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