

Draft Notes

CL 03 06 21B

Board	CIPFA LASAAC Local Authority Accounting Code Board
Date	29 th March 2021
Time	14:00 – 15:30
Venue	Microsoft Teams

Present

Chair	Conrad Hall	<i>London Borough of Newham</i>
CIPFA Nominees	John Farrar	<i>Grant Thornton</i>
	Lucy Hume	<i>North Norfolk District Council</i>
	Collette Kane	<i>Northern Ireland Audit Office</i>
	Paul Mayers	<i>National Audit Office</i>
	JJ Tohill	<i>Mid-Ulster Council</i>
LASAAC Nominees	Nick Bennett	<i>Azets</i>
	Gillian Woolman	<i>Audit Scotland (Vice Chair)</i>
Co-optee	Leigh Lloyd-Thomas	<i>BDO</i>
Observers	Jenny Carter	<i>FRC</i>
	Matthew Hemsley	<i>MHCLG</i>
	Emma Smith	<i>Welsh Government</i>
	Peter Worth	<i>Chair of the Local Authority Accounting Panel</i>
In attendance	Steven Cain	<i>CIPFA</i>
	Richard Lloyd-Bithell	<i>CIPFA</i>
	Sarah Sheen	<i>CIPFA</i>
	Easton Bilsborough	<i>FRC (Housing consultation group member)</i>

17	Report on the results of the consultation on Housing Tenancies and Leasing Standard and COVID-19-related rent concessions	
17.1	<p><u>Housing Tenancies and Leasing</u></p> <p>FRC made comments on disclosures, suggesting that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - it might be better to refer simply to these being not required, rather than not relevant. In the unlikely event of e.g. Right To Buy sales becoming material, disclosure of this would be needed under more general requirements. - While it is vital to explain that the scope of this material relates only to HRA, it should be possible to draft the text more clearly with fewer repetitions of HRA etc. <p>The Board considered the report and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - noted that the Secretariat were content to pursue the FRC drafting suggestions - noted the disappointing response rate but determined that there was no need for specific consultation on these matters in the 2022/23 Code consultation. If stakeholders have concerns on how this is being progressed, they can raise them through their representatives on CIPFA LASAAC. - other than these changes agreed the approach outlined and the interpretation proposed in the paper - agreed other aspects of the paper. <p>These points to be progressed in the 2022/23 Code.</p> <p>The Board also agreed to include the new interpretation in Appendix F to the 2021/22 Code (which sets out the Board's agreed provisions on the adoption of IFRS 16).</p> <p><u>COVID-19-related rent concessions</u></p> <p>The Board agreed with the Secretariat's recommendation not to make any changes to the Update of the 2020/21 Code or 2021/22 Codes for COVID-19-related rent concessions.</p> <p>No action required.</p>	<p>CL Secretariat</p> <p>CL Secretariat</p> <p>n/a</p>
18	Finalisation of the 2021/22 Code next steps	
18.1	<p>The Board noted the further steps which will be required for final agreement of the text and the approach to the outcomes of the consultation with FRAB, PFMB, LASAAC and provision of signature by the FRAB chair.</p> <p>Secretariat to progress these and other steps of the production process.</p>	CL Secretariat

19	Feedback from FRAB 25 March 2021	
19.1	<p>The Board noted the matters covered in the FRAB meeting.</p> <p>FRAB comments on the CIPFA LASAAC strategic plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - expressed concern in case matters around measurement were progressed without reference to other UK public sector discussions of these issues e.g. at FRAB. CL Secretariat explained to FRAB that we do not anticipate being able to propose changes in relation to measurement but CIPFA LASAAC does need to examine concerns raised by stakeholders - noted PFI PPP issues are generally relevant. CL Secretariat welcomed HMT and NHS prospective membership of the PFI sub-group. <p>Secretariat to provide a copy of the report which CL secretariat provided to FRAB in relation to the CIPFA LASAAC's work on Code development and its updated strategic plan.</p> <p>The Board noted the FRAB discussion of best practice examples, and discussed CIPFA identification and promulgation of best practice in financial reporting.</p> <p>The Board noted that FRAB papers are not generally available until agreed minutes are produced.</p> <p>The Board noted the FRAB paper on climate change, and that there was an interaction between discussions in this paper and other papers on grant accounting and insurance, in relation to when government announcements and legislation give rise to liabilities. CIPFA had volunteered to provide a member of the working group on climate change.</p>	<p>CL Secretariat</p> <p>CL Secretariat</p> <p>CIPFA</p>
20	Sustainability Reporting – Standing Agenda Item	
20.1	The Board noted the financial reporting implications of the FRAB project on climate change.	
21	Any other business	
21.1	<p>The Board noted that the joint CIPFA / CIPFA LASAAC technical update days are likely to take place from 13-15 July and Board participation on these as speakers/chairs would be welcomed.</p> <p>The Chair emphasised the value (and his appreciation) of the contribution which Board members can make to these technical updates, and encouraged those members who have time available to participate to discuss with Secretariat.</p>	<p>CL Secretariat/ CIPFA/ CL Board</p>