



REGIONAL NEWS *(ISSUE 1)*

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Here at CIPFA North East we would love to hear from you with comments, queries and suggestions, please get in touch via the contact links throughout this newsletter.

SECTION 1 - WELCOME

"Welcome to our first e-newsletter!"



Thank you for pausing from your busy day. We are very excited to launch this e-newsletter which we hope will inform and inspire you.

It is filled with useful information, helpful hints and tips, events, news and even an article from our Secret Accountant!

We want this e-newsletter to be valuable to you so please, please share your feedback and suggestions to help us improve. We would also welcome contributions to the next edition.

The North East Executive are a committed group of volunteers and organise some fantastic events that have been very well attended, for example, in the past 12 months, some of the highlights have been -

- Women in Leadership event. Over 100 attendees at Newcastle Civic Centre - a list of great speakers and very positive feedback from delegates
- Students Games both north and south of the Tyne. I have attended the last 3 years and it is a privilege to be involved. Seeing 6th formers do what they do is incredible and to see some of them growing during the day is very satisfying.
- The Annual Conference continues to go from strength to strength, with last year being the best I have attended. This year's is being held at The Sage on 22 November and has a very strong list of speakers. More information available from Jane Cuthbertson and Angela Waring.

The Executive will continue to organise up to date relevant events, however there is always space on the calendar for anyone willing to share their experiences and tell the region what you have been up to... or if anyone wants to be more involved with the Executive more widely then please let me know...

Each e-newsletter will also be posted on our website, Facebook page and Twitter.

Happy reading.

Jim Dafter
President

SECTION 2 - UPCOMING EVENTS



CIPFA in the North East - Annual Conference

22nd November 2019

At The Sage, Gateshead Quayside

The event promises to deliver another thought provoking day providing insight into the challenges and opportunities facing local communities and the economy, the programme will be chaired by Paul Woods, former CFO of the North East Combined Authority.

Confirmed speakers include:

- Gareth Davies, the Comptroller and Auditor General of the National Audit Office;
- Jon Ritchie, Executive Director of Corporate Services, Sunderland City Council;
- David Chandler, Deputy Chief Officer & Chief Finance Officer, Sunderland CCG;
- Gemma Carling, Regional Counter Terrorism Security Advisor, North East Counter Terrorism Unit;
- Mark Davies, Market Development Director, CCLA

Bookings are now open, through the CIPFA Website, £95 per delegate

<https://www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-north-east-events-20191122-north-east>



Other upcoming events:

- **5 November 2019 - Half Day Finance Business Partnering event.** Discover what the role of a Finance Business Partner is, the skills required of the post and the benefits to the organisation. Learn from the experiences of Senior Professionals in implementing and developing the role. Further details to be confirmed.

Where: The Word, South Shields 12.30pm - 4.30pm

Register with Lauren.liu@newcastle.gov.uk

- **15 November 2019 - Lunchtime networking event: In conversation with two public finance leaders & tips for success.**

Michael Brodie, Chief Executive of the NHS Business Services Authority and **Kevin Laing**, Head of Finance at Northumbria Police, will talk about their career journeys and what they believe are the key tips for success. An inspiring event, a networking opportunity and a chance to pose questions you have always wanted to ask.

Where: Newcastle Civic Centre, 11am to 1pm

Register with Lauren.liu@newcastle.gov.uk

- **November 2019 - Case Study Exam** - pizza and Pre-seen. Further details will follow.
- **Following the great success of the 'Women in Leadership' day last year we are hosting the 'Inspiring Women' event early 2020!** Keep watching the website for progress.

[Keep up to date with CIPFA events in the North East](#)

SECTION 3 - CIPFA UPDATES

In case you have missed them CIPFA have published the following items recently, check them out there is some interesting stuff here:

- [CIPFA's Response to social care funding](#)
- [Simplifications for local government finance](#)
- [Financial Management Code consultation](#)
-[and many more](#)

For those that subscribe to the Technical Information Service ([TIS Online](#)) there has been a range of new releases, such as;

- [Pecuniary losses on Insurance](#)
- [Internal Audit Shared Services and outsourcing](#)
- [Financial Planning](#)

As well as lively discussions on the forums covering VAT, Fraud and Capitalisation of development costs.

SECTION 4 - STUDENTS

CIPFA North East funded two students in the region to attend the national CIPFA conference in July; Public Finance Live 2019. One of the students, Faye, produced a write up of her experience at the event and the full article can be read [here](#) or at the link at the bottom of this section.



"If students are given the opportunity to attend, I would absolutely recommend they go. I felt a sense of revitalisation towards the CIPFA course after the event and meeting other students or former students who have gone on to be leaders in finance definitely gave me a boost of motivation to continue putting in the hard work and dedication to the course. It helps you keep up to date with the latest news and topics of discussion in the public sector and this conference may also give you a better idea of where your passion lies within the public sector and what path you may wish to take within your career."

Congratulations to all our graduates and prize-winners!

We held our first ever Graduation Ceremony at the Mansion House in Newcastle on Friday 13th September 2019 to celebrate the achievements of our newly qualified graduates, members and exam prize winners.

The day started with a drinks reception followed by a speech delivered by Judith Savage, past president, congratulating newly qualified students and welcoming them to the CIPFA family. The ceremony switched to Chris Glennie, Director of Education and Lifelong Learning at CIPFA, who gave an introductory address and proceeded to present graduates and prize winners with their certificates.

Following group photos, lunch was provided and the opportunity to mingle and catch up with fellow CIPFA members. [View our photos from the event.](#)

Thanks to all who organised this fantastic event and to all those who attended to make it a celebration of ongoing success in the North East region.

Congratulations to all newly qualified CIPFA accountants and prize winners!



If you're a CIPFA student working, living or studying in the North East, we want to hear from you and how we can support you through the qualification. CIPFA events are a great way to network with other students and members, and our CPD events can be a useful complement to your studies. Let us know what kind of events you would like to see by emailing us at northeast@cipfa.org

<https://www.cipfa.org/members/regions/north-east/students>

We would like to encourage students to feedback any topics they would like covered in this section. Please get in touch at northeast@cipfa.org

SECTION 5 - SECRET ACCOUNTANT

An alternative perspective on the benefits of CIPFA membership

A conversation between 2 CIPFA Members

Always open your CIPFA emails you never know what they have inside..



"Emails - bloody hundreds of 'em, & I've only been away two minutes! Cc'd into the news Carole's spaniel has had puppies "DELETE", an invitation to Ian's leaving do.... Who is Ian? "DELETE" and what's this, an email from CIPFA..."

"Hang on you should read that one - Aren't CIPFA the world's only professional accountancy body to specialise in public services..."

"Well, yes..."

"And aren't you a CIPFA member?"

"Well yes, but I qualified ages ago and anyway, what's CIPFA ever done for me??"

"It says here that CIPFA North East hold a series of informative training events and seminars designed to support your Continuing Professional Development, often free or at low cost.

They provide important opportunities for networking and sharing best professional practice...

And locally they supported NE students by re-establishing a local base to sit their examinations

CIPFA is also recognised as a hugely influential body, providing authoritative leadership, guidance and commentary on a range of vital financial issue on an international stage ensuring the merits of the CIPFA qualification are recognised around the world.

CIPFA is also responsible for the Public Finance magazine, keeping you up to date with the latest public policy and finance news, delivered to your door on a monthly basis."

"I fill enough of my waking hours agonising over budgets, income and expenditure. When I finish I want to relax and enjoy myself, not meet with a bunch of number crunchers arguing about whose got the prettiest spreadsheets."

"Regionally, they are a surprisingly amicable bunch, holding a number of social events during the course of the year, such as the Annual Dinner and a Golf Day"

"Yes, well when CIPFA helps me get a sun lounger by the pool next time we holiday abroad that's great but apart from..."

- *holding a series of informative training events and seminars designed to support you with CPD.....often free or at low cost,*
- *providing important opportunities for networking and sharing best professional practice,*
- *supporting NE students by providing a local base to sit their examinations;*
- *providing authoritative leadership, guidance and commentary on a range of vital financial issue on an international stage ensuring the merits of the CIPFA qualification are recognised around the world, and*
- *sending me the latest public policy and finance news on a monthly basis via Public Finance magazine.... AND*
- *holding a number of social events during the course of the year, such as the Annual Dinner and a Golf Challenge..."*

"What has CIPFA ever done for me?"

"What about some "post it" notes ??"

"Wow Brilliant thanks very much !!"

Website: <https://www.cipfa.org/members/regions/north-east>

Email address: northeast@cipfa.org

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