



CSE Council 20 May 2019

Paper SEO878

**CIPFA South East Spring Conference & Annual General Meeting 2019
Wednesday 27 March 2019**

Hosted this year by Grant Thornton UK LLP, at 30 Finsbury Square, London EC2A 1AG

From austerity towards uncertainty – a long and winding road?

8.50 Registration (ground floor), refreshments & networking (in the conference area)

**9.20 Delegate Welcome & Introduction to the Conference by -
Amy Crowson, CIPFA South East Regional President 2017/19 (Conference Chair)
Guy Clifton, Director, Local Government Markets, Grant Thornton UK LLP (Host)**

**9.25 A Review of the UK's Economic and Political Landscape - and horizon
Professor Tony Travers, Director, LSE Greater London Group, is invited to share
his traditional annual assessment and commentary with us.**

10.20 Refreshments and networking break

**10.40 Children's Services – a presentation and commentary highlighting the key
issues and pressures relating to the resource and organisational demands
which are necessary to deliver the responsibilities effectively.
Alex Khaldi, Partner, Head of Social Care Insights, Grant Thornton UK LLP**

**11.20 CIPFA's ongoing Financial Resilience initiatives and the latest developments as
work to deliver the Financial Management Code progresses.
Joanne Pitt, Local Authority Policy Manager, CIPFA**

**12.00 Brexit – a legal perspective of the implications for public bodies (and other
related matters!)
Will the UK exit the EU on 29 March 2019? And on what terms? This session
proposes to offer some analysis, commentary and any related guidance that is
(or may be!) possible given the ongoing political turbulence.
Paul McDermott, Partner, Trowers and Hamlins LLP**

**12.40 CIPFA South East Region Annual General Meeting 2019
Agenda circulated separately.**



13.10 Buffet Lunch and networking time.

14.00 The future for outsourcing, the future for finance professionals - and the CIPFA Business Partner qualification

What is the direction of travel for public sector outsourcing and what may follow PF2? Why the role of finance professionals has changed significantly in a decade – and what key skills and experience will be essential ingredients for the foreseeable future?

Mark Williams – Director, PA Consulting Group

Brendan McCarron, Training Director, CIPFA

14.50 Ethics and you – under pressure?

The issues that led to CIPFA's November 2018 SOPP and an outline of the related international standards. Some conclusions from the 2018 membership survey and some guidance on how to recognise and cope with examples of unethical workplace issues.

Rick Tazzini, CIPFA Ethics Working Group Member.

15.45 Refreshments and networking break

16.00 Presidential Address by Sarah Howard, CIPFA President 2018/19, followed by an opportunity for any questions to our Institute President.

16.45 Close of Spring Conference 2019.

Delegate Feedback – 74 delegates wer registered, most attended

There were only 20 assessment and feedback forms returned. Overall rating for the conference was 11 Excellent and 9 Good. The overall scores generally reflected the scoring on the individual sections of the form. Virtually all indicated support for a similar type of event in 2020.

Topics suggested for the 2019/20 regional events programme included the Spending Review, encouraging/improving member engagement post qualification, commercialisation of public sector, Brexit, future content of CIPFA qualification, health and social care integration, review of localism and its impact, commissioning skills and practices. There were no comments on the AGM timing or meeting content and format. I will bring these forms to the meeting and colleagues are welcome to review them in more detail if required.

I met with Guy Clifton yesterday and have discussed the feedback with him and thanked him for providing the host venue. GT are able to offer 20 April 2020 for our AGM/Spring Conference at Finsbury Square.

John Barker
Regional Secretary
30 April 2019