

## CIPFA Technology for Finance Conference

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11 October 2018, The Foundry, London

Technology is transforming how public finance functions. Machine learning, automation and artificial intelligence are becoming routine features in the workplace for audit and to analyse financial data and trends and to inform decision making about investments and resource allocation. All public service organisations are becoming 'data driven'.

New technology platforms for audit, investment, peer-to-peer lending, and financial management are challenging the traditional finance systems and ERP domination.

Digital technologies present opportunities to accelerate devolution, empower individual citizens and cut through bureaucracy. But the pace of change required is inconceivable without strong public private partnerships and finance leaders have a key role to play in creating the right conditions for public services to deliver this vision.

This one day event will address the top priorities for finance teams responding to the rapidly developing digital agenda.

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09:00 – 09:30 **Coffee and Registration**

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09:30 – 10:30 **Engaging Citizens**

How can governments deliver more with less and engage their citizens more effectively? A win-win scenario will see governments adapt to the pressures of austerity and seize the opportunities of digital, data and people power to solve problems and empower citizens. What do finance leaders need to understand in order to make that happen and how can finance function more effectively through digital engagement?

*Bruce Davis, Co Founder and Joint MD, Abundance*

*Vicki Sellick, Executive Director, Nesta*

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10.30 – 11.15

**The Value of Transformation of the Procure to Pay Process**

*Sponsored by Elcom*

Through an overview of Elcom's approach, and the experience of a key public sector users, delegates will be taken through a journey of transformation of a typical procure to pay environment to an automated and integrated environment with effective spend control, effective procurement processing and enhanced payment control.

**Systems for Effective Payment and Collection**

*Sponsored by Oxygen Finance*

Across local government, councils are increasingly looking to adopt digital procurement solutions to enhance operational efficiency and improve access to data and insight. Learn how to select the right approach for your organisation, and the common pitfalls to avoid when implementing a new digital approach.

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11.15 – 11.45

**Break**

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11:45 – 12.45

**Cyber security – post Wannacry**

Increased connectivity brings increased risk of theft and fraud. As society becomes more reliant on digital technology, we become more vulnerable to cyberattacks such as corporate security breaches, spear phishing, and social media fraud. Complementary cybersecurity and law enforcement capabilities are critical to safeguarding and securing cyberspace.

In the UK, we have seen the impact of major cyber security incidents, such as the WannaCry attack that affected 48 NHS Trusts. These attacks have real-world impacts. How do we ensure we are taking the right strategic actions and making the right investments to keep public services resilient and finances secure? And is Blockchain going to provide the key to secure transactions for governments?

*Simon Newby, Strategic Cyber Security Consultant*

*Salena Worrall, Co-Founder & CMO Zonafide*

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12.45 – 13.30

**Lunch and networking**

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13.30 – 14.30

**Future of Finance in the Digital World**

Finance leaders are being forced to reimagine their role in direct response to digital disruption, increasing volumes of data, ongoing regulatory change and stakeholder scrutiny. Now is the time for the profession to grasp the opportunity to play a significant leadership role in strategic business planning and in wider resource management arising from digital change.

*Lisa Commane, Senior Director, Business Improvement, OFWAT*

*Max Tse – National Audit Office, Executive Leader*

*Jos Creese, Principal Analyst, Eduserv*

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14.30 – 15.15

**Holding IT to Account**

*Sponsored by Quadnet*

In prioritising digital transformation for delivery of services, finance and resources leaders need to commit to IT and establish effective ways to measure success. There is often a 'language disconnect' between IT and the business of government– how best should IT resources and suppliers be measured on real efficiency and productivity and held to account?

**Using Technology to set better budgets**

*Sponsored by Grant Thornton*

With continued challenges in local government to deliver outcomes with increased budgetary constraint, the need to build evidence based approaches to budget setting is increasingly urgent. Grant Thornton's workshop will discuss how others are approaching these challenges, and how to avoid the pitfalls, as well as recognising and acting on the opportunities that insight delivers.

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15.15 – 15.30

**Break**

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15.00 – 16.00

**Big Data**

Digitisation is ubiquitous now, consequently big data plays an increasingly important role in the public sector. The accurate measurement and monitoring of citizen behaviours and feedback is an essential element of the big data strategies for most government agencies to shape and forecast future needs and requirements. Equally using social media to understand how services are performing – well or otherwise – and combining this with multiple data sources and demographic analyses can provide the insight needed to better serve citizens today and in the future.

*Greater Manchester Connect, speaker TBC*

*Lee Howell, Senior Responsible Officer, Avon & Somerset Constabulary, Office of Data Analytics*

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16.00 – 16.10

**Closing Address**

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*We reserve the right to alter the timing or content of sessions where circumstances require.*