
Local Government Conference 2018

1 message

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Reply-To: FAN@cipfa.org
To: Alison.Eldson@northumberland.gov.uk

6 November 2018 at 13:11

Dear Colleague,

Local Government Conference 2018**CIPFA Local Government Conference 2018: Resilience and Financial Sustainability**

I am delighted to tell you that CIPFA's Autumn Local Government Conference is confirmed for Tuesday, 4th December. It will take place in London (8 Canada Square, Canary Wharf).

Our focus for the day is one designed to help local authorities and police meet the increasing challenges of maintaining a balanced budget over the medium term.

CIPFA remains of the opinion that, despite recent announcements by government, austerity remains very much a challenge for local government, with councils and police forces up and down the country needing to continue to look at ways to reduce costs, raise efficiencies or generate more revenue.

And given the NAO's report earlier this year on financial sustainability and the LGC's recent survey that suggests that 26% of Chief Executives believe their council may need to issue a section 114 notice within the next 4 years, it is clear that financial challenges ahead are not going to abate anytime soon.

This event is intended to provide an update and awareness on what many organisations are doing to continue to drive down costs, increase revenue or introduce more efficiencies in service delivery, including looking at ways to increase revenue collection rates.

A full copy of the agenda and further detail on how to book onto this event can be found [here](#)

Many of our speakers will provide delegates with a helpful overview of some current and innovative initiatives that are designed to drive greater financial resilience; a vital element of a sustainability budget and MTFS.

Our conference will also provide CIPFA with an opportunity to update delegates on the latest expectations and reporting arrangements that the Institute will be looking for under its current financial resilience (index) review, and the new Code of Practice in Financial Management, which is expected to be mandated to councils and also followed by CIPFA members.

Many of the areas / initiatives covered at this event are likely to be quite new to practitioners. Our focus has been to introduce delegates to some of the more innovative initiatives that councils are now turning towards, a legacy no doubt, of the fact that any low hanging fruit from incremental (salami slicing) savings and RPI price rises are now largely exhausted, or at the very least, a well-trodden path from past events.

There are many messages and key learning outcomes that we want delegates to take away from this event, each offering the potential to greatly improve future financial resilience in your organisation in the short term. And as such we want this event to be as accessible as possible to all.

It is for this reason that pre-paid delegate places from any CIPFA advisory network can be used to attend this conference, while the cost to non-subscribing authorities of attending has been greatly reduced to £150 per delegate.

26/02/2019

Northumberland County Council Mail - Local Government Conference 2018

I very much hope you will be able to join us at this event in December and that the lessons learned and the opportunities available to improve the financial standing for your organisation, will prove to be both enlightening and timely.

Should you have any queries on this event please contact either myself or [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

Kind regards

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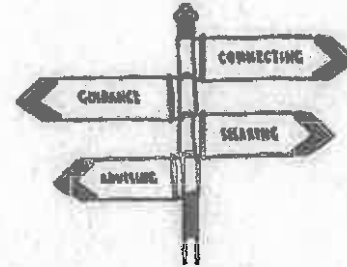
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20 September 2018 at 14:15

Finance Advisory Network Newsletter



Advisor Update

Welcome to the FAN Newsletter for September.

Given so many people were on leave in August a repeat of our urgent request from last month first- we have been contacting a number of you recently in respect of GDPR and the new Preference Centre area of the CIPFA website as your existing settings would have removed you from our mailing lists. We would therefore encourage all practitioners to login to MyCIPFA and check that you are happy the settings for the various CIPFA Networks are as you would like them. Please ensure that FAN is set to On, as your preferences will dictate whether or not you hear about our events and receive our newsletters in future. Please can you also encourage your colleagues to check their preference centre settings to make sure they don't miss out on CIPFA updates that might be relevant to them.

In terms of the usual updates on what we have been up to, Caroline has been travelling the country again, giving assurance and support to authorities with their collection fund accounting in relation to 2017/18 and preparation for 2018/19 while closedown is still fresh in the mind. If this is something you think you would benefit from, please do get in touch. She has also been preparing materials ready for our busy autumn events schedule, including 'Introduction to Collection Fund Accounting' and 'Introduction to Local Government Finance' (see events listing).

David has returned from the successful Better Capital Strategies workshops and is now focusing on his autumn events, including two Introduction to Housing Finance events (being delivered with

September 2018

Events

Developments in Finance and Accounting for Police and Fire
26 September, London; 27 September, York

Introduction to Group Accounts Part 1 – Preparing for Local Authority Trading Company Consolidated Financial Statements
27 September, Leeds; 11 October London (new date)

Introduction to Treasury Management
27 September, Manchester

FAN Capital Hot Topics Series
9 October, Manchester, 10 October, London; 16 October, Bristol, 17 October, London; 24 October, Leeds; 25 October, Birmingham

Introduction to Collection Fund Accounting
9 October, Leeds; 11 October, London

Practical Explanation of Local Authority Company Employee Benefits & Pension Requirements
17 October London, 18 October Leeds

Introduction to Housing Finance
18 October, London, 23 October, Leeds

Getting to Grips with accounting for IFRS 9 Financial Instruments

Steve Partridge from Savills) and the October FAN Capital Hot Topics series, which is covering the changes to the Prudential Framework and the leasing standard IFRS 16 (see details below and links in the events listing).

David is also delivering two finance update workshops with Alison Dewhirst for Fire and Police practitioners in September, covering the 2018/19 Code changes, Prudential framework update and Leases. These two events are being held on 26 and 27 September (see links in the events listing to book your place).

Sandra has been out and about delivering on-site training events for the Introduction to Budgeting essentials course. This one day course works particularly well as an on-site event as it provides an opportunity for a number of both your operational staff with budget responsibilities and your finance staff to come together and to not only benefit from the training but to also to gain an appreciation of how the two areas can best support each other. If you would like to enquire about having this event delivered to your authority for only £1,250+VAT then please contact Sandra for more information.

Sandra has also been on the road during September delivering the new Financial Planning course and is also busy preparing the materials for the Introduction to Local Authority Accounts and Closedown which will be running in November. Booking for this event will be available on the CIPFA website shortly.

Finally, don't forget that all of our 'essentials' workshops are available for on-site delivery, which at only £1,250 + VAT and expenses for FAN subscribers, provides excellent value for money if you have a number of delegates who would all benefit from the course.

That's all for this month's advisor update.

Best wishes from the FAN team.

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Network and CIPFA News

FAN Capital Hot Topics Series – Six dates in October

This autumn's FAN capital series focuses on two key hot topics impacting significantly on capital accountants and corporate finance. Part of the day is dedicated to changes arising from the 2017 updates to the Prudential and Treasury Management Codes along with the latest updates to statutory guidance forming part of the overall Prudential Framework. The other significant topic being covered in the series is the new leases standard, IFRS 16, and what it is likely to mean for local authorities. The workshops are being held in Manchester, London, Bristol, Leeds and Birmingham (see links in the Events listing) and extra dates may be added subject to demand.

CIPFA has issued two briefings to support the implementation of IFRS 16 Leases in the Local Authority Accounting Code, which are available on the CIPFA website.

Introduction to Group Accounts Part 1 – Preparing for Local Authority Trading Company Consolidated Financial Statements – new date added

As the original London date for this has now sold out, an additional date of 11 October has been added, so book your place now. Part 2 is also sold out in London so we are assessing whether to add an additional date for this too – please register your interest with info@cipfa.org if you would be interested.

2 November, London

Introduction to Local Government Finance

07 November, London; 15 November, Manchester

Local Government Accounting Conferences: Building Public Trust and the Role of Effective Financial Reporting

14 November, Manchester; 20 November, Edinburgh; 28 November, London; 3 December, Cardiff

Introduction to Group Accounts Part 2 – Preparing Local Authority Group Accounts and Accounting for Collaborative Arrangements

28 November, London; 30 November, Leeds

FAN Home

Practical Explanation of Local Authority Company Employee Benefits & Pension Requirements – October 2018

Linked to the Group Accounts Part 1 series, the Alternative Service Delivery Network (ASDN) are holding two events which have been specially developed to help local authorities with trading companies understand the accounting rules to follow when calculating employee benefits such as pension benefits for these trading companies, as the accounting is different to that applied in local authorities. In February 2018, the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) also issued amendments to IAS 19, and following technical queries received by CIPFA, this is an area which requires clarification amongst practitioners when preparing accounts for trading companies and for their consolidation into local authority accounts.

By the end of the workshop, delegates will:

- Improve their understanding of the accounting and disclosure requirements of IAS 19 Employee Benefits
- Be familiar with different types of employee benefits
- Know the accounting journals required for different type of employee benefits
- Appreciate the difference between IAS 19 and the CIPFA/LASAAC Code for Employee benefits, especially defined benefits pension scheme

Authorities that subscribe to the ASDN can attend using pre-paid places or if not an ASDN member, a discounted price of £295 for FAN members is offered, which can be changed to free attendance if you sign up to join the ASDN. More details and to book, please see the CIPFA website.

Local Government Accounting Conferences - Building Public Trust and the Role of Effective Financial Reporting November/December 2018

These key conferences in Manchester, Edinburgh, London and Cardiff will help finance practitioners understand the important financial management issues and reporting changes that face local authorities and the crucial steps necessary to make in order to be prepared for those changes.

The essential updates, insight and material provided at this conference will be especially relevant in a period of uncertainty and sustained resource constraint.

Early bird prices (available until 12 October 2018) are discounted to £195 +VAT for CIPFA members and network subscribers and £245 +VAT for non-members. After 12 October prices are £235 + VAT for CIPFA members and network subscribers and £295 + VAT for non-members. See events listing to book.

Collection Fund Update

Tweak needed to 2017/18 NDR Model V1.1 (a, b and c)

Some of you are starting to look at using the tab 'Estimated Surp-Def 31 Jan 19' and have discovered an incorrect formula. The formula in cell N47 should be =L4-K15+K30 and just to confirm that the formula in N48 should be =-K7-K8+K41+K23. Also the description in cell D4 should read Opening Balance (surplus)/deficit 1 April 2018. If you still think there is an error with the formulas in this sheet, please do let Caroline know!

75% Business Rates Pilots 2019/20

Also just to let you know that MHCLG have issued some FAQ on the pilot prospectus applications.

Briefing #3 on Business Rates Retention Working Group meeting

The system design working group met again on the 19 September 2018 and Caroline's briefing from this will be available shortly alongside the previous two on the CIPFA Website. The meeting featured a follow up paper on the proposal for a simplified system of rates retention tabled at the last meeting.

MHCLG are still looking for feedback on the proposal for the simplification of the rates retention scheme, of which the report can be found on the LGA website under Systems Design, 31 July 2018. Do feel free to pass any comments via Caroline.

IFRS 9 Financial Instruments - early guide updates

CIPFA has issued an update sheet to this publication to bring the early guide in line with recent statutory changes, and which includes a small number of other augmentations to the guidance. Publication subscribers and organisations who have purchased the title IFRS 9 Financial Instruments: an early guide for Local Authority Practitioners can find the update sheet at the end of the background section in the digital version. NB you will need to be logged in to MyCIPFA to access the title. Open the title, click on 'Continue' and scroll to the bottom of the 'Background' page where you will be given the option to download either the whole title and/or the update sheet.

Consultation on statutory override for IFRS 9 for authorities in England

Last chance to have your say on the MHCLG consultation on proposed statutory overrides in England for the new IFRS standard. We would urge you to download the consultation and respond by the closing date of 28 September.

Don't forget we have also added a final 'Getting to grips with IFRS 9' event in London on 2 November if you missed out on the first round. Book your place now.

2019/20 Accounting Code consultation

The 2019/20 Code consultation was launched in July and covers changes in accounting standards and other issues on which the CIPFA/LASAAC Local Authority Code Board wishes to seek interested parties' views. This includes 'narrow scope' amendments to IFRS including amendments to IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and IAS 19 Employee Benefits, legislative and policy changes, updates for the IFRS Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting and the Code's approach to adaptations/interpretations and statutory adjustments. Consultation closes on 8 October.

Deadline extended for the Additional housing revenue account borrowing programme
The government promised to raise the housing revenue account borrowing cap by a total of up to £1 billion in areas of high affordability pressure for local authorities that are ready to start building new homes.

Local authorities can bid for increases in their caps between 2019 to 2020 and 2021 to 2022. The closing date for submitting bids to the programme has been extended from 7 September to 30 September.

FAN Tax Advisory Services (FANTAS) Update

Unless you have opted out of the TAS element of our subscription, your FAN membership includes guidance on VAT matters from our tax partners Deloitte, which might offer you savings if you are also paying for VAT advice elsewhere. If you have opted out of TAS, given the low cost of the TAS element of our support, you might find this offers better value, so please do get in touch if you are interested.

The government has released two new pieces of legislation which impact emergency services organisations who provide emergency vehicles (so called "blue light" vehicles) for the use of their employees:

1. Calculation of benefit-in-kind ("BIK")

HMRC approached a number of emergency services organisations last year to advise them of a change to how the taxable BIK should be calculated for employees who were provided with "blue light" vehicles in circumstances which didn't fall within the general tax exemption for such vehicles (see below). The effect was that the BIK reported on these employees' Forms P11D for 2017/18 onwards would be significantly higher than in previous years.

However, with retrospective effect from 6 April 2017, the government has now released new legislation which temporarily delays the implementation of this change until 2020/21.

2. Expansion of "blue-light" vehicle exemption

At the same time, the government has also expanded the tax exemption for employee usage of "blue light" vehicles. Employees can now use "blue light" vehicles for home-to-work commuting

whilst remaining exempt from tax, even where that commuting is not undertaken whilst the employee is "on-call" (as was previously required in order for the exemption to apply). This is a significant expansion to the exemption and should bring more employees into its scope, including those who would previously have had BIKs reported on their Forms P11D.

The delay in the increased BIK charges means that employers now have a window of opportunity to re-assess the way in which employees use their "blue light" vehicles and potentially make greater use of the now-expanded exemption, leading to Class 1A NIC savings in respect of employees who were previously outside of its scope.

If you have any enquiries regarding the FANTAS tax updates or suggestions for topics to be covered by FANTAS, please contact Jen Thompson (jthompson@deloitte.co.uk / 0115 9363749) or Ben Powell (bpowell@deloitte.co.uk / 07881 804171). Further information for subscribers to the service can be found at our dedicated website area.

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. Added recently is a free download exploring how finance teams are driving local government innovation. The Local Government section includes recent articles on health and social care and the risks of inaction in relation to section 114 notices, plus the latest CIPFA Local Government newsletter.

Follow FAN on Twitter and connect to us on LinkedIn

David, Sandra and Caroline regularly tweet details of relevant news stories, FAN event updates, CIPFA news, stories from Public Finance, 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, Sandra 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 will be using social media for additional FAN updates, so if you are on LinkedIn then please feel free to connect to us: David, Sandra and Caroline.

News Roundup

'£1bn in unpalatable county council cuts' ahead in England
BBC News 20.09.18

Deprived areas 'bearing brunt' of local authority cuts
Public Finance 13.09.18

Reserves are not the answer
LocalGov 13.09.18

Clive Heaphy: Beyond 100 days – restructuring, rebuilding and section 24s
Room 151 11.09.18

Councils under the most financial strain
BBC News 07.09.18

Auditors warn councils over debt chasing
LocalGov 06.09.18

PWLB borrowing soars with Spelthorne leading the pack
Room 151 06.09.18

A balanced approach to council tax setting
Room 151 05.09.18

Over half of accountants pressured to act unethically
Economia 04.09.18

Assets: A new source of revenue
LocalGov 04.09.18

Council to approve accounts after LOBO loan delay
Local Gov 28.08.2018

Councils deliver £1bn underspend despite 'volatility of children's services'
Room 151 24.08.2018

IFS says fair funding review 'can't be' objective: councils plead their cases
Room 151 22.08.18

Dan Bates: How should we measure financial resilience?
Room 151 21.08.18

Councils call for funding boost after £2bn budget surplus announcement
LocalGov 21.08.18

Exclusive: Councils investing record amounts in shopping centres
LocalGov 20.08.18

Agent 151: FDs should back CIPFA resilience index
Room 151 19.08.18

Silent crisis of inadequate councils caring for thousands of children
The Observer 18.08.18

Brokenshire unveils £200m Right to Buy pilot
LocalGov 16.08.18

Government quietly drops plans to force councils to sell off social homes
The Independent 13.08.18

Councils pay out £2.1m in compensation to injured pedestrians
LocalGov 14.08.18

Rebecca McCaffry: Local authorities must transform to survive
Room 151 13.08.18

Publications

**Code Of Practice On Local Authority
Accounting In The United Kingdom:
Guidance Notes For Practitioners 2018/19**

**Outcomes And Public Service Delivery (2018
Edition)**

**Treasury Management in the Public Services:
Guidance Notes for Local Authorities incl
Police and Fire Authorities (2018)**

**Code Of Practice On Local Authority
Accounting In The United Kingdom:
Disclosure Checklist For 2018/19 Accounts**

**The Prudential Code For Capital Finance In
Local Authorities: Guidance Notes For
Practitioners (2018 edition)**

**Code of Practice on Local Authority
Accounting in the United Kingdom 2018/19**

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26/02/2019

Northumberland County Council Mail - CIPFA FAN September 2018 Newsletter



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'Time is running out' for Birmingham as city council admits to insufficient savings

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2 July 2018 at 13:10

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Struggling council could follow in Northamptonshire's footsteps with imminent section 114 spend ban

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Potholes: The scourge of the roads

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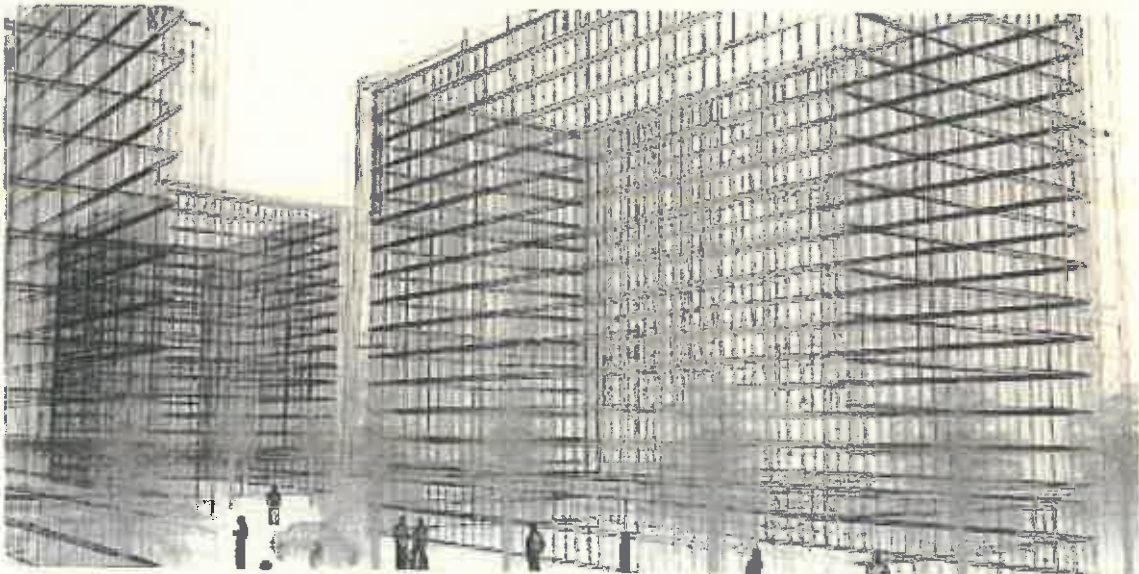
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Blog: How councils can better understand citizen movement in urban areas

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Planning & Housing

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Energy Efficiency

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Single Leicestershire supercouncil in the works as leader claims 'the time has come'

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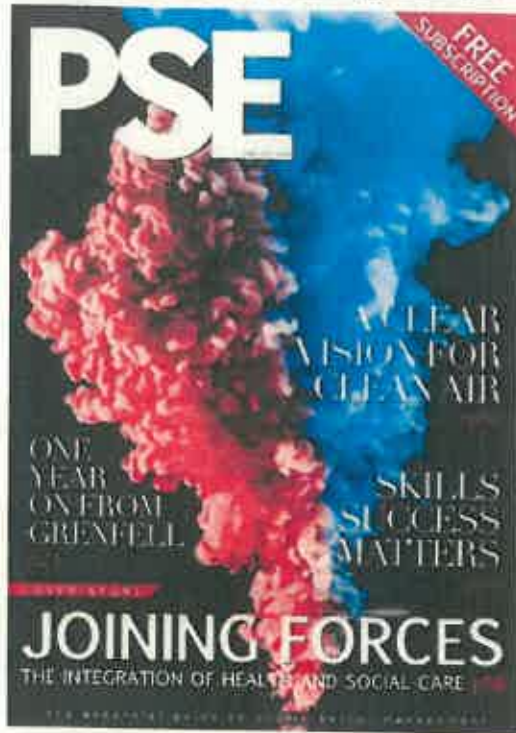
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