

Scottish Finance Advisory Network Newsletter: August 2022

Advisor Update

Welcome to the August 2022 Newsletter for organisations that do not subscribe to the Scottish FAN service.

As usual, the non-subscriber newsletter contains updates on CIPFA announcements, conferences and network events along with publications that we hope are of interest to practitioners.

We hope you find the newsletter helpful. If membership of the network is of interest please do get in touch with us.

Best wishes,

David and Jen.

FAN Homepage

Scheduled Events

Capital Hot Topics Series

28 September 2022 (London)

6 October (Leeds)

30 September 2022 (Zoom) 4 October 2022 (Zoom)

<u>4 October 2022 (Zoom)</u> <u>10 October 2022 (Zoom)</u>

CIPFA Scotland Annual Conference

21/22 September 2022

Introduction to Budgeting

12 October 2022

Introduction to accounting for groups and collaborative arrangements

8 November 2022 - Day One 9 November 2022 - Day Two

Introduction to Local Authority
Capital Accounting

18 October 2022

Introduction to local authority reporting – principles and practices

30 November 2022

Introduction to local authority financial statements and closedown.

8 November 2022

All CIPFA Events

Network and CIPFA News

Local Authority Accounting Conference

Hold the date – the post summer-consultation technical update conference for local authority finance staff will take place via Zoom on **Tuesday 29 November**. Details of the conference programme will be available shortly, but for now please keep the date free. Approximate timings are 9.30am to 1.30pm.

The CIPFA Scotland Annual Conference returns to Glasgow on 21 and 22 September

This will be CIPFA's first face-to-face event in Scotland since 2019 and will feature a new condensed schedule, minimising time away from the home office and facilitating engagement with colleagues, peers, and friends. The programme will provide insight and advice from experts across a range of sessions covering sustainability in the public sector, the future of the finance workforce, addressing inequalities and the future of place based cross-sector working in the public sector, amongst many others.

Details of the programme and how to book can be found on the <u>dedicated conference</u> <u>website</u>.

Infrastructure Assets Task and Finish Group

CIPFA published an update on 19 August in relation to the ongoing work to address concerns raised over the accounting arrangements and disclosures for infrastructure assets. There are essentially two issues being addressed, the first being the disclosures in relation to gross cost and accumulated depreciation for movements in infrastructure assets (which is being addressed through proposed changes to the Code) and the second being the accounting arrangements for the derecognition of replaced components (which is being pursued through conversations with DLUHC, Scottish and Welsh Government looking at potential statutory overrides). For further detail see the <u>CIPFA website</u>.

CIPFA FAN Autumn Capital Hot Topics Series

We are pleased to announce details of the FAN 2022 autumn capital series, which explores the latest hot topics in relation to capital and asset accounting. For the first time since 2019 the Capital series will include a couple of face-to-face options as well as our popular Zoom webinars.

Topics to be covered this autumn include the latest updates in relation to the Prudential Framework and related statutory guidance, componentisation and infrastructure assets, planning for the transition to IFRS 16, sustainability reporting, good practice in the management of asset valuations, and a mix of FAQs from the FAN mailbox on a range of asset and capital issues.

Details of the programme can be found on the $\underline{\text{website}}$ and a list of dates is included in the event listing.

We look forward to seeing you there, virtually or in person.

2023/24 Code Consultation

Details of the summer consultation for the 2023/24 Local Authority Accounting Code can be found on the <u>CIPFA Consultations</u> webpage.

The Invitation to Comment (ITC) sets out a number of topics on which your views and feedback are very much welcomed. These include the voluntary adoption of IFRS 16, the latest changes to accounting standards and legislation, IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts and updates from CIPFA LASAAC's strategic plan.

CIPFA is running a <u>free webinar on 15 September</u> to discuss the proposed changes to the 2023/24 Code and the CIPFA LASAAC proposals for its strategic plan and future Codes and what they might mean. This will also be an opportunity to share your early views and hear those of others.

The consultation closes 14 October.

Iain Murray to join CIPFA as Director of Public Financial Management

lain will be responsible for leading the development of CIPFA's policy, standard-setting and technical work and will also serve as a member of the management board. Iain is a long standing CIPFA member who has over 20 years' experience working with the public sector. He worked at the Audit Commission before joining Grant Thornton in 2012, where he progressed to Director and became a key audit partner.

Rob Whiteman, CIPFA CEO, said "I'm delighted that Iain has joined CIPFA and will be bringing his considerable experience and skill to the Institute. Iain has worked with the public sector for most of his career, so he understands the unique demands, challenges and expectations that it faces. Now is a particularly challenging time for public services, not least in the local audit arena, so Iain's guidance and expertise will be a tremendous addition to CIPFA's leadership team."

lain Murray said "I'm excited to be joining CIPFA at an important time for both the Institute and public services in general. I am very much looking forward to working closely with colleagues and members on the key issues facing the public sector."

Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub

CIPFA has its own <u>Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub</u> which is an online resource for anyone that needs help, information or support. It is free to use, anonymous, and no registration is required.

At the heart of the hub is Talking Heads, an always-growing collection of short videos where members of the CIPFA community and beyond share their experiences. The library also provides links to trusted local support services and resources relevant to the videos you view.

CIPFA hopes its CIPFA Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub will assist in providing the support you, your friends or family might need in these challenging times.

Additional COVID-19 advice and support for local authorities

The latest official information as well as guidance and resources from COSLA.

Essential guidance on all aspects of coronavirus can be found on the Gov. Scot website

CIPFA Thinks

<u>CIPFA Thinks</u> tackles the latest developments in public service finance, with commentary and analysis from subject experts, podcast interviews, guidance, and more. Don't forget also to periodically check out the issues specific to <u>local government</u>.

Follow FAN on Twitter and connect to us on LinkedIn

David and Jen will regularly tweet details of relevant news stories, FAN event updates, CIPFA consultation alerts, COVID-19 updates, etc. We encourage subscribers to follow CIPFA network advisors 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 <u>David</u> and <u>Jen</u> on Twitter, or search for all our network advisor tweets using the hashtag <u>#cipfanetworks</u>.

We can also be found on LinkedIn and increasingly use social media for additional FAN updates, so if you are on LinkedIn then please feel free to connect to <u>David</u> and <u>Jen.</u>

LinkedIn Discussions

CIPFA has its own <u>LinkedIn group</u> where you can find up to date announcements and discussions on all the latest issues in the public sector. Why not join in one of the discussions or start a conversation of your own?

News Roundup

This service is for subscribers only

Publications

Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22

NEW - Code Of Practice On Local Authority Accounting In The United Kingdom 2022/23

Code Of Practice On Local Authority Accounting In The United Kingdom: Guidance Notes For 2021/22 Accounts

Service Reporting Code Of Practice For Local Authorities 2022/23

Code Of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK Disclosure Checklist for 2021/22 accounts

Local Authority Owned Companies: A Good Practice Guide

Contact Your Finance Advisory Network Advisors

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