Finance Advisory Network Non-Subscriber Newsletter



June 2021

Advisor Update

Welcome to the June FAN Newsletter for practitioners in organisations that don't subscribe to the FAN service.

We hope you find the newsletter and updates helpful.

Don't forget that you and your colleagues can add or remove yourselves from the network mailing lists via the MyCIPFA Preference Centre. Just make sure that any settings are confirmed so that the mailing list update process picks up your requested changes.

The non-subscriber newsletter includes details of our upcoming events.

Please note that we can deliver any of our <u>Essentials</u> 'Introduction to...' events exclusively for your authority, so please do get in touch with a member of the FAN team if interested in a 'local' delivery.

Best wishes,

David, Caroline and Sandra

Events

Councillor's Guide to Understanding Your Council's Financial Reporting Requirements

1 July, webinar 10 August, webinar

Local Authority Accounting Conference

14 July, webinar

Introduction to Local Authority Capital Accounting

20 July, webinar

Introduction to Local Government Finance

12/13 July, webinar 8/9 November, webinar

Housing Finance Update

22 July, Webinar 29 July, Webinar

Introduction to Collection Fund Accounts

15/16 July, webinar 15/16 November, webinar

Introduction to Local Government Reporting – Principles and Practices

16 November, webinar

FAN Home

Network and CIPFA News

Local Authority Accounting Conference (webinar) - 14 July 2021

This summer's essential technical update for local government practitioners will take place on 14 July via Webinar. It will feature updates on proposed changes to the Local Authority Accounting Code, the latest position on the outcomes and actions arising from the Redmond Review, plus insight into the expected changes to the Prudential and Treasury Management Codes and what that means for local authorities.

The <u>conference</u>, which is open to practitioners in England, Scotland and Wales, will also focus on the key actions required in preparation for the introduction of IFRS 16 Leases as well as a reminder on COVID-related accounting issues and the latest views from the audit community on how the regulatory background and auditing standards will impact on the 2020/21 audit opinion and reporting.

For more information and to book your place see the link in the events listing.

Prudential Code and Treasury Management Code Consultation Update

CIPFA has just published details of the consultation responses from the first stage of the prudential framework review, along with information on how revisions to the Codes will be taken forward.

Details of the <u>Prudential Code</u> changes and the <u>Treasury Management Code</u> changes can be found on the CIPFA website. Both revised codes are anticipated to be published by December 2021, following a second stage consultation over the summer.

Get up to speed on ethics: a new e-learning module - free to all CIPFA members and students

As part of CIPFA's commitment to supporting our members, students and the wider public finance profession, we have developed a short, accessible elearning module on ethics. Using videos, Q&As, case studies and background reading, it offers a practical insight into how ethics can impact public finance professionals. It also highlights the additional resources on ethics that are available from CIPFA. The e-learning module is free of charge for all CIPFA members and students – to access it, please login to the website and complete your purchase using your member role.

When your purchase is complete, you will be able to access the module via the 'CIPFA Learning' button in the top right corner of the CIPFA website. <u>Learn</u> more.

Professional Ethics Survey

On the topic of ethics, all UK and Irish professional bodies that make up the CCAB have Codes of Ethics against which we hold our members accountable. As professional bodies, we play a role in supporting our members to do the right thing. We have created a simple 10-minute, anonymous survey to identify underlying workplace cultures that may be encouraging behaviours that could be seen as unethical.

This <u>survey</u> is an attempt to take the ethical temperature of the accountancy profession over the last 3 years and as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey is open from 28 June to 8 August. Please feel free to

share details with any other professional accountants in your organisation or network.

Question for Major Precepting Authorities

As many of you will know, CIPFA provides Collection Fund Excel Models to assist authorities in compiling their collection fund accounts. These models are primarily aimed at billing authorities, although they do provide the position for each major preceptor, for that particular billing authority.

We have been toying with the idea of producing a model that will provide, for precepting authorities, the overall council tax and NDR accounting position from all of their billing authorities, if this is something that major precepting authorities would find useful. If you already have your own model for producing and summarising your council tax and NDR position from your billing authorities, then you may see no need for such a model.

Caroline would be interested to hear from major precepting authorities whether or not they think such a model would have benefit to them. so please do drop her a line at caroline.newman@cipfa.org.

CIPFA Conference – Public Finance Live – Now a Virtual Event (7-8 July 2021)

Due to the recent government announcement extending the COVID-19 recovery roadmap, CIPFA is now unable to host Public Finance Live as a face-to-face event.

It has therefore been decided to run this year's Public Finance Live as a virtual conference on the original dates, with the same in-depth programme that can be enjoyed from the comfort of your home or office.

New organisation rates have been introduced to allow as many colleagues as possible to join in virtually. Further information on pricing and registration can be found on the Conference website.

Sustainability

CIPFA have been conducting research into sustainability reporting, The report will launch at PF Live and provides a snapshot of the current state of public sector sustainability reporting at an international level (in the context of climate/environmental reporting).

Additional COVID-19 advice and support for local authorities

CIPFA has an online hub for COVID resources.

Essential guidance for local authorities on all aspects of the coronavirus support can be found on the <u>GOV.UK website</u>.

CIPFA Thinks

Don't forget to periodically check <u>CIPFA Thinks</u> to see the latest set of articles, comments and publications covering topical aspects of public finance and also those issues specific to <u>local government</u>.

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 consultation alerts, COVID-19 updates, 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 <u>David Sandra</u> and <u>Caroline</u> on Twitter, or search for all our network advisor tweets using the hashtag #cipfanetworks.

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 us: David, Sandra and Caroline.

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

Capital Strategy Guidance: A **Whole Organisation Approach**

Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom Guidance Notes for 2020/21 Accounts

Service Reporting Code of Practice for Local Authorities 2021/22

Prudential Property Investment Guidance

Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom: Disclosure Checklist for 2020/21 Accounts

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