

Spreadsheet

CIPFA.ORG | NEWS FOR MEMBERS AND STUDENTS

JUNE 2014



CIPFA launches

financial training partnership in Bangladesh

to improve global public financial management

CIPFA and LCBS Dhaka partnership
launch event in Bangladesh

in this issue

Pioneering public sector integrated reporting network launched

Consultation on new counter-fraud code of practice

Top CIPFA students receive awards

CIPFA to tackle procurement corruption in Nigeria

CIPFA

Message from the President

It scarcely seems possible that I'm already writing what will be my last column as President for Spreadsheet. What a fantastic year it's been!

I've just put my signature to CIPFA's 2013 annual report and accounts which once again makes for better reading. The challenges of austerity remain, with only 40% of the reductions in public spending so far achieved, but CIPFA is now far better equipped to deal with the ups and downs of UK public spending as it diversifies into new markets and new products which will see us better balanced as an organisation and more resilient in the face of potential future shocks.

The reorganisation of our London properties, the sale of 3 Robert Street, CIPFA's home since 1984, and purchase of Mint House by Tower Hill marks another turning point in our organisation's fortunes and will be a key enabler for our emerging strategy, strengthening our underlying financial position and creating opportunity for operational development and improvement.

In our moves to develop CIPFA into the global accountancy body working for the public good, we are focused on three strategic priorities:

- expanding our student and membership intakes globally and in the UK

- building CIPFA's influence and profile in the profession, media and public policy arenas
- growing and diversifying our income streams to secure CIPFA's financial stability.

In doing so we will seek the active involvement of you, our members, as ambassadors and mentors to help deliver positive outcomes for students, members and the public service organisations for which we work.

CIPFA's qualification and our products and services are adapting to the times, addressing new local audit arrangements and the widening of public service provision to more commercial and not-for-profit organisations. We will embrace the opportunity this creates and enable future and current members to practise as qualified financial managers and auditors across the public and private sectors.

In particular over the last year, the recognition of CIPFA's expertise and the value of its qualification have resulted in the intake of new students trebling in the 18 months to April 2014. Globally, local professional accountancy and government audit bodies, like the Comptroller and Auditor General's Office of Bangladesh and multinational agencies like the UN have welcomed the opportunity to work with CIPFA to

enhance their PFM capability and capacity.

As we approach our annual conference once again and my term of office comes to an end, I shall always look back with immense pride on the efforts of all our students, members and volunteers through whose professionalism and commitment the reputation of our Institute as a gold standard is maintained and improved. It was fantastic to meet so many of you.

All the very best for the future and here's to a strong and successful CIPFA.



**Jaki Salisbury,
President**



PHOTOGRAPHY: SAM KESTEVEN

contents

Technical and policy 2-4

Governance and institute matters. . . 5-9

International. 10

Regions. 11-12

Students 13

Events 14-16

We welcome your feedback on Spreadsheet. Please send your comments and suggestions for future articles to corporate@cipfa.org

Keeping up with CIPFA

You can now join us on LinkedIn, follow CIPFA on Twitter at twitter.com/cipfa, or 'like' us on Facebook. Links are provided on the CIPFA website.



Spreadsheet
3 Robert Street London WC2N 6RL
T: 020 7543 5600 E: corporate@cipfa.org

Editor-in-chief
DREW CULLEN

Acting consultant editor
CHRIS TIDSWELL

Editor
KATHRYN CHELLEW

Editorial panel
CHRIS TIDSWELL (chair)
JOANNE EVANS Department of Health
SUZANNE JONES City of London Corporation

Technical and policy round-up

Pioneering public sector integrated reporting network launched

CIPFA and the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC) are setting up a Public Sector Pioneer Network to promote integrated reporting (<IR>) in the public sector. The network will be overseen by a steering group of participants and external organisations.

This new network will help identify and address key sector-specific aspects of <IR> to apply it to public sector organisations. It will look at the full

range of experience and practice from across the global public sector.

<IR> aims to promote a more cohesive and efficient approach to corporate reporting, drawing on different reporting strands and communicating all factors that materially affect the ability of an organisation to create value over time. The International <IR> Framework's principles-based guidance allows organisations to develop their reporting

in line with their own strategy, goals and objectives.

Organisations interested in joining the Public Sector Pioneer Network should visit: www.cipfa.org/policy-and-guidance/articles/integrated-reporting-public-sector-pioneer-network.

For further information please email: ir-pioneers@cipfa.org.

World Class Performance Symposium

How can integrated thinking and good governance help the finance profession make an impact on delivering sustainable economic, social and environmental outcomes?

The seventh World Class Performance Symposium, a gathering of senior finance professionals, addressed these questions on 3 April at Bloomberg with the Government Finance Profession and HM Treasury.

The CIPFA event, hosted by broadcaster Mary Ann Sieghart, included insightful and thought-provoking sessions from Richard Douglas, Government Finance Profession, Paul Johnson, Director of the Institute for Fiscal Studies, Professor Vernon Bogdanor, Research Professor at the Institute for Contemporary British History at King's College London and Ian Neale, Research Director, Yougov.

To view the speeches online, visit: www.cipfa.org/About-CIPFA/7th-World-Class-Performance-Symposium.



Rob Whiteman, Chief Executive of CIPFA

‘We must recognise that we need a world class finance profession for government to succeed. We need senior people in government management teams with financial management experience.’

Julian McRae from the Institute for Government

Counter fraud code consultation

Consultation on a new counter-fraud code was announced at CIPFA's audit conference on 14 May by Chief Executive Rob Whiteman.

The voluntary *CIPFA code of practice on managing the risk of fraud and corruption* is a statement of principles that sets out good anti-fraud practice, but also recognises the importance of high-level commitment to fighting fraud.

Making effective counter-fraud arrangements is an essential part of good governance and financial management and this code will eventually replace CIPFA's existing guidance *Managing the Risk of Fraud* - known as the red book - which received widespread support.

CIPFA hopes the Code will receive widespread support and be adopted by all public service organisations.

Details of the Code are available on the [CIPFA website](http://www.cipfa.org), together with a response form for the consultation. The consultation closes on 18 July.

Business rate discussion paper: at £22 billion, it's worth a comment

Did you know that the government are looking at changing the shape of business rates after 2017? They have recently launched *Administration of business rates in England: discussion paper*.

While three years is a long time in local government and many observers may struggle to find time to read the document, CIPFA would urge anyone currently working with the scheme to contribute to the debate.

Around £22bn was raised in England in 2012-2013 to fund local services and the 326 LAs that collected this income achieved an average collection rate of 97.7% from almost 1.8 million properties on the local rating list.

Working with local businesses and national experts, the following areas are being addressed:

- business rate valuation
- reliefs and support
- collection and backdating.

If you would like to find out more, download the document from GOV.UK: www.gov.uk/government/publications/business-rates-administration-review-discussion-paper or email joanne.pitt@cipfa.org.uk.

AASP Annual Report 2013

CIPFA's Accounting and Auditing Standards Panel (AASP) has issued its [annual report](#) for 2013.

AASP leads CIPFA's response on issues relating to accounting and auditing standards across sectors.

During 2013 AASP's activities were driven by:

- continuing development of IPSASB and IASB conceptual frameworks
- UK development of new SORPs under new UK GAAP
- initiatives to adopt and implement international standards.

AASP supports CIPFA's involvement in the development of IPSAS. The European Commission proposed in 2013 that new accounting standards (European Public Sector Accounting Standards (EPSAS) should be developed for use by all member states. CIPFA supports the view that EPSAS should be firmly rooted in IPSAS.

AASP is keen to engage CIPFA members in its deliberations, and we would encourage you to keep up-to-date through the AASP webpages and other CIPFA material.

Global IPSAS training partnership

CIPFA, EY and IASeminars will jointly offer a comprehensive range of training courses on International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) in selected countries around the world.

The recent sovereign debt crisis has reinforced the importance of credible and transparent reporting of government financial data. International Public Sector Accounting Standards enhance the quality of financial reporting and are being adopted around the world by an increasing number of governments, public authorities and international organisations - including the United Nations. Additionally, the European Union is considering the development of European Public Sector Accounting Standards (EPSAS) based on similar principles to IPSAS.

Speaking about the launch, Ian Carruthers, CIPFA's Policy and Technical Director and a member of the IPSAS Board, said: "There is a growing international demand for high-quality IPSAS training, and this new collaboration will help provide the skills needed to operate within the increasingly demanding world of international public finance".

Find out more about the training: www.cipfa.org/IASeminars

Welsh local government review

CIPFA have been commissioned by the Welsh Local Government Association to undertake a project which will provide an accurate picture of what the likely cost areas, savings and transitional issues will be in any local government reorganisation in Wales.

The findings will be based on actual operational changes rather than hypothetical costs and issues.

The report will be a realistic view and opinion and stand the test of scrutiny by local government practitioners, politicians, policy-makers and the Welsh

Government. This high profile project and will be completed over the next three months with findings presented at the WLGA annual conference in June.

For more information, email: chris.tidswell@cipfa.org.

Risk, resilience, reform: CIPFA Annual Conference 1-3 July 2014

If you haven't yet booked your place on our members' annual conference, here's why you should join us:

- Hear valuable insights from leading experts and commentators, including: Peter Kellner, President of YouGov; Kenn Cukier, the Economist's Data Editor; Chris Giles, Financial Times Economics Editor; Daniel Finkelstein, Times political columnist; John Scott of Zurich Global; Prof Julian Le Grand, LSE; Uschi Schreiber, Ernst and Young; Margaret Hodge, Chair of Public Accounts Committee
- Catch up with colleagues and over 1,000 industry professionals

- Earn up to 21 CPD hours
 - Make your voice heard at our AGM
 - Network with suppliers at our conference exhibition
- The student conference will be run concurrently, looking at the practical tools and techniques needed for future leaders to create sustainable public services.

And don't forget the CIPFA golf day at West Middlesex Golf Club on 1 July, where members can compete in teams for coveted trophies for the best gross and stableford scores.

Find out more from the [conference website](#).

Subscribe and save on your publications

CIPFA has launched a new digital publications subscription, which is available to purchase now (valid from 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015).

For a single upfront payment organisations subscribing to the new service receive access:

- to over 20 new titles planned for 2014
- for everyone employed at their organisation
- on a desktop, laptop or tablet, and
- to an extensive back catalogue of best-selling CIPFA titles, worth £14,000.

To save time and money, buy the latest Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK 2014/15 today with a CIPFA online subscription.

Find out more at: www.cipfa.org/publicationssubscriptions



Capital accounting software from the experts

CIPFA's powerful accounting software solution is fully compliant with IFRS and CIPFA's Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK 2014/15 so you can confidently prepare journals and year-end accounts.

Find out more at: www.cipfa.org/propertycaps



Governance and institute matters

Bangladeshi training partnership launched

As part of CIPFA's drive to improve public financial management globally, a new training partnership with LCBS Dhaka was launched on 27 April at an event in Bangladesh. The new partnership enables CIPFA to offer its professional qualifications and training to people working across the country's public sector.

Guest speakers included the British High Commissioner, the CEO of LCBS Dhaka and the Comptroller and Auditor General, Masud Ahmed, who was awarded an honorary membership of CIPFA at the event in recognition of his commitment to improving public financial management. He in turn entertained

guests with traditional Bangladeshi love songs played on the harmonium.

Bangladeshi students have been studying CIPFA's Professional Qualification in international public financial management (IPFM) since September 2013 and have been achieving impressive pass rates.

CIPFA's Education and Membership Director, Adrian Pulham, said: "This new partnership will stabilise public finances in Bangladesh through specialist training in good financial management."

For more information visit: www.cipfa.org/bangladesh



Former CIPFA student Raeesa Chowdhury CIPFA is now business development director of Multidrive Ltd

Practice Assurance Scheme changes

Two important changes have recently been approved to the Practice Assurance Scheme. On 10 April 2014 the Institute Council approved changes to members working solely through an agency and licensed AAT members.

Please take the time to read the full details of these changes.

www.cipfa.org/MIPchanges



The CIPFA Practice Assurance Scheme member logo can only be used by CIPFA Members in Practice. Any use of the logo shall follow Institute guidance.

New CIPFA Governance Mark of Excellence

Public bodies are increasingly under pressure to demonstrate good governance due to greater scrutiny and risk of corporate failure.

But what does good governance look like? Can it be sensibly assessed and if so, what are the benefits for the organisation of doing so?

CIPFA's new Governance Mark of Excellence will be launched at the national conference in London from 1-3 July.

The Mark is an independent, professionally awarded standard to accredit public sector organisations which demonstrate good governance.

Being awarded CIPFA's Governance Mark of Excellence recognises having the right systems and processes in place, as well as understanding roles, ensuring effective relationships and analysing behaviours and leadership styles.

The new International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) governance principles developed in partnership with CIPFA

form the framework against which organisations are assessed.

For more information, call John Wallace on T: 020 7543 5822, E: john.wallace@cipfa.org or visit our website www.cipfa.org/governancemark to find out more.

IPFM goes multi-lingual

Demand is growing for CIPFA's main qualification for students outside the UK, the IPFM suite, to be written, delivered and examined in other languages.

Originally only available in English, the course now includes Eastern European languages such as Slovenian and Albanian, and Russia and Azerbaijan are the latest to express interest.

Mozambique (Portuguese), Oman and the United Arab Emirates (Arabic) are also in the frame for customised IPFM training.

Grant Thornton wins CIPFA Cliff Nicholson Award

CIPFA has recognised the outstanding work carried out by Grant Thornton's Manchester office with a national award. The firm's engagement team at Oldham Council won this year's prestigious Cliff Nicholson Award for Innovation and Excellence in Public Service Audit.

The Manchester office received the award for its work focusing on the closedown and audit of local authority final accounts. Working with Oldham, they successfully brought forward the date of the audit opinion by a month each year, culminating in an audit opinion date for the 2012/2013 accounts of 31 May 2013 – the earliest opinion for any local government body in England.

The judges also awarded 'highly commended' status to two further entries:

- The internal audit team at Jephson Housing Association Group for taking health and safety audits a step further by training auditors in specialised health and safety qualifications, allowing them to disseminate best practice to staff members across the housing association.
- West Midlands Assurance Service for their extensive and detailed project to identify fraudulent applications for NHS funded training schemes for nursing and allied health professions, covering three divisions of Health Education England (HEE) and 25 universities.

www.cipfa.org/about-cipfa/press-office/latest-press-releases/grant-thornton-wins-cipfa-cliff-nicholson-award

Could you help CIPFA's health finance work across the UK?

As a Health Panel member, you could be at the forefront of CIPFA's strategy on health finance, influencing work from the grassroots.

Advice, events and information for members and their employers are at the core of CIPFA's work. The Panel helps to produce these and to shape support to the profession.

CIPFA's cross-public-service perspective and connections in social care and welfare, housing, local government, charities and social enterprise underpin our ability to update the profession on developments that can assist practitioners' own work and the success of their organisations.

Panel membership involves attendance at, or dial-in participation to, meetings (three meetings are held each year) and providing feedback to CIPFA staff between meetings.

If you are working in, or with, the NHS finance profession and are interested in seeking membership of the CIPFA Health Panel, please contact Angelina.Cannizzaro@cipfa.org.

Members and students details - your part to play

As part of our goal to improve our users' online experience, providing greater functionality and updates to all our members and students, we are making changes to our systems and databases to ensure we have the most relevant and up-to-date information on all of you. But we need your help.

Please log on and update all your relevant details - personal, business or membership information. Log in at: My CIPFA.

As always, we are also interested in your views so please email us at cipfamarketing@cipfa.org.



Sarah Howard from Grant Thornton Manchester receiving the certificate and trophy

Barclays support for CIPFA apprenticeship scheme

CIPFA and Barclays both run apprenticeships schemes, and as we share a common interest in helping disadvantaged young people who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) to develop skills to help them find work, Barclays has contacted all its public sector clients to promote the CIPFA Finance Apprenticeship Scheme.

This scheme gives unemployed young people a paid 12-month work placement, alongside training in the AAT Level 4 qualification in public finance on a day release basis at a CIPFA Education and Training Centre (CETC) or partner organisation in London, Birmingham or Manchester.

We've already started the recruitment process and have had a fantastic response from prospective apprentices; if you are looking to inject some new talent into your organisation, it's not too late to get involved in the scheme.

More details from www.cipfa.org/apprenticeships or call the Employer Relations team on 020 7543 5757.



Applications for CJC Panel chair

The Commissioning Joint Committee Panel is seeking a chair following its restructuring.

The Panel considers all aspects of commissioning and competition, and comprises representatives of local authorities' associations and relevant officers' organisations across the UK.

As Chair your role would be:

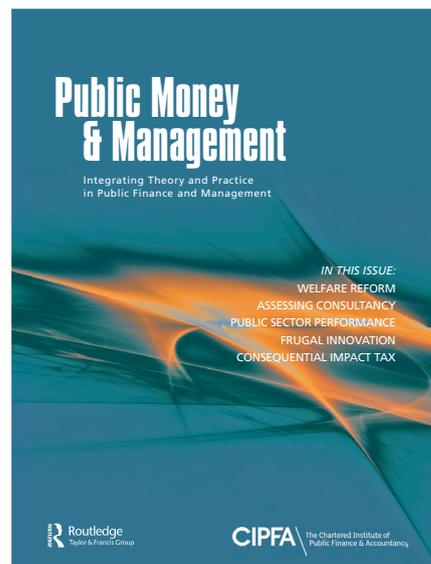
- to provide leadership to the Panel and its individual members, ensuring that the responsibilities of the Panel and its contribution to relevant CIPFA strategies are fully met.
- to work with the Panel technical manager to develop a forward work programme for the Panel
- to represent the Institute on matters relevant to the Panel's remit, both as an ambassador to key stakeholders and by supporting senior staff.
- to chair meetings of the Panel, including occasional working groups, seminars, conferences etc. as required as Chair.

Further details, including how to apply, can be found at www.cipfa.org/policy-and-guidance/technical-panels-and-boards/commissioning-joint-committee

Practitioner referees needed for CIPFA's journal

The main papers submitted to Public Money & Management are reviewed by academics and practitioners to ensure quality and practical impact. If you are interested in being part of this expert review group, please send the following details to the Deputy Editor sheila.ellwood@bristol.ac.uk: your name; qualifications; current position; areas of expertise and email address.

Visit our website for more information on Public Money & Management and find out how to purchase a subscription at the reduced CIPFA member rate.



CIPFA's 2014 AGM – look out for your official notice

In the first week of June, all CIPFA members should have received a formal notice of the CIPFA AGM at the Hotel Novotel London West on 1 July 2014.

Please use this opportunity to cast your vote on the three motions that are before the membership for decision. These include some important changes on admission to CIPFA membership,

and Council will appreciate support from a good number of members. The opportunity to vote on the AGM motions closes on 20 June.

Most members have elected to receive these notices electronically – if you receive yours by post, please do consider opting in to email, as this saves the Institute a considerable amount of printing and

postage costs. The email will come from Electoral Reform Services rather than from CIPFA.

If you receive neither an email nor a postal packet by 10 June, please let us know by email to council.secretary@cipfa.org or download the AGM booklet online at: www.cipfa.org/AGM

Remember to use your CIPFA rewards

As a member of CIPFA, you are automatically eligible for [CIPFA Rewards](#), a portfolio of money-saving discounts. The scheme has been running for five years, saving members a significant amount of money – enough to recoup the cost of your membership!

Look how much individual members have recently saved:

- £35.57 by booking travel insurance through Columbus Direct
- £30 on formal wear at T.M. Lewin
- £209.60 by booking a package holiday through the Travellers Advantage travel service

- £52.79 on home insurance
- £50.32 on car insurance
- £90 by booking a cottage through CottageStayUK

In 2013, we launched the savings calculator to show how much you could potentially save by using CIPFA Rewards. Based on a sample of 317 members, the average annual saving for each person would be £756.04*

*Terms and conditions apply to all benefits. [See website for details.](#)



CIPFA to run Treasury better business cases training

The Better Business Cases initiative was launched on 1 May by HM Treasury.

This programme provides skills for professionals producing and reviewing business cases using the 'Five Case Model'. Although this training is not mandatory, public bodies might leave themselves exposed to increased scrutiny and challenge should business cases fail and those involved had not taken it.

CIPFA is an accredited trainer, delivering the foundation and practitioner levels and providing practical knowledge and skills to all those involved in the preparation and scrutiny of business cases. This programme is CPD-certified, as are all CIPFA training programmes.

Find out more about how CIPFA supports HMT's objective of realising Better Business Cases.

www.cipfa.org/betterbusinesscases

CIPFA volunteers needed!

CIPFA's Employer Relations and Student Recruitment teams need your help.

We are expanding our UK and International membership and we want CIPFA members and students to be a vital part of this growth strategy.

Can you:

- Give tailored advice to employers on their finance recruitment?
- Network with professional stakeholders and help your Institute build key business relationships?
- Help employers develop bespoke work-plans and work placements?
- Talent spot with the Student Recruitment team at university careers fairs and lecture presentations?

We'd love to hear from you if you are:

- A current or recently qualified CIPFA student with strong communication skills. If so, email Olivia Coates on olivia.coates@cipfa.org or T: 0207 543 5790
- A CIPFA member who is currently working or has relevant finance/director contacts. If so, email employers@cipfa.org or T: 020 7543 5757.

'We want CIPFA members and students to be a vital part of our growth strategy'

Welcome to new members

A warm welcome goes out to the people listed below who became CIPFA qualified members since the last edition of Spreadsheet.

May we wish you a long and prosperous career. Don't forget that as a **CIPFA Member** you can use the designation **CPFA** and term yourself a Chartered Public Finance Accountant.

Kevin Richard Andrews

Essex County Council

Lisa Archbold

Stoke-on-Trent City Council

Allan Graeme Barrow

South Lanarkshire Council

Olga Bennet

House of Commons

Hitesh Bhogaita

Seatwave Limited

John William Bloomer

Staffordshire County Council

Nicola Jane Bridge

NHS Leicester City CCG

Jonathan James Brown

East Sussex County Council

Ross Brown

City of York Council

Simon Burrows

Lincolnshire Partnership

NHS Foundation Trust

Michelle Cook

London Borough of Merton

James Noel Davies

Hywel DDA Health Board

Thomas Alexander Donaldson

Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames

Felicity Elkington

Lincolnshire Community Health Services

Emma Fellows

Uttlesford District Council

Fionna Fillmore

Halifax Regional Municipality

Catherine Grace Fisher

KPMG LLP

Anthony George Foucher

Basildon Borough Council

Sundeep Singh Gill

KPMG LLP

Mark Alban Green

London Borough of Redbridge

Phillip Stephen Gregory

London Borough of Ealing

Daniel George Hogan

Tandridge District Council

Lee David House

Dorset County Council

Nicholas Jackson

Leeds City Council

Christina James

Hackney Council for Volunteer Services

Susannah Jane Leask

Ernst And Young

Sam Jarrett

Norfolk County Council

Andrew Stephen Kennedy

Manchester City Council

Ian Alan Kent

Merthyr Tyfil County Borough Council

Lindsay Kirby

University of Leicester

Mark Alexander Laird

Audit Scotland

Karen Patricia Lea

Liverpool City Council

Gemma Lockey

Vela Group

Kelly Leanne McClure

NHS Dumfries and Galloway

Sinead McLaughlin

KPMG LLP

Joanne Louise McMahon

Durham County Council

Lee Paul Medlock

London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

Andrew Merry

Peterborough City Council

Khotb. Clement Mhoulouosa

Centre for Accounting Studies

Roger Money

Fenland District Council

Marie Laura Nickalls

Home Office

Ephrem Zewdie Robele

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

Jonathan Graham Ross

London Borough of Hounslow

Bernice Anne Sarsah

City of London Corporation

Nicola Rose Sills

Home Office

Leanne Jane Teece

Staffordshire County Council

Mark Kenneth Thompson

Wokingham Borough Council

Jane Angela Waddington

Lancashire Women's Centre

Richard Brian Wakelam

NHS Dorset CCG

Lulu Yang

London Borough of Bexley

International

CIPFA to tackle procurement corruption in Nigeria

CIPFA is to work with the Nigerian government to help root out corruption in procurement as part of a new programme from the Department for International Development (DFID).

The IFUSE (Investment Facility for Utilising Specialist Expertise) initiative will supply specialist expertise to support business environment improvements in DFID's partner countries and regions.

Under the initiative, CIPFA will run its five-day audit of procurement course in Nigeria in May, and then apply the lessons learned to deliver the course at pace and scale both elsewhere in Nigeria and in other DFID partner countries.

Alan Edwards, CIPFA's director of strategy and development, said the institute was delighted to be involved in the IFUSE project.

'Our work there will equip government officials with the knowledge and skills they need to better protect the public purse from fraud and misappropriation and ensure that valuable government resources are spent well and where they are most needed,' he said.

Find out more from [DFID's website](#).

More UN agencies sign up for CIPFA courses

Thanks to the success of the early cohorts of students from the United Nations Development Programme who first enrolled on CIPFA courses in 2012, other UN agencies have also chosen to make CIPFA their certified PFM qualification provider of choice.

UNFPA (food programme), UNICEF (children), UN-Women, and UNHCR (refugees) have now joined the CIPFA programme, or are about to join later this year.

Pass rates from the first two sets of exams in June and December 2013 were excellent, with the quality of tuition from CIPFA's global partner Kaplan being cited as one of the main reasons.

'A key feature of our suite of IPFM qualifications is its ability to meet the needs of a wide range of UNDP staff in their dealings with government in countries around the world,' said Gordon Ferrier, CIPFA's Assistant Director (International). 'We know from direct feedback from staff enrolled on the course that they see its relevance in their daily work.'

CIPFA Certificate in IPSAS – in Spanish

CIPFA is in detailed negotiations with the World Bank (WB) to provide a Spanish version of our International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) qualification across Latin America.

Early in 2014, CIPFA's Education and Training Centre was approached by the Latin America & Caribbean section of the World Bank to deliver a short IPSAS training course.

The two-day programme was very well-received, with WB 'IPSAS advocates' praising our approach to producing a bespoke programme and the practical examples used.

Building on this momentum, the WB is developing a 'Community of Practice' for government financial management staff and specialists to adopt IPSAS across Latin America, and has offered to underwrite the cost of a Spanish version of our Cert IPSAS self-study programme.

We are currently ironing out how this can be progressed, with the WB and other potential sponsors co-branding a set of materials and assessments for use by Spanish speakers.

Competency modelling for the Philippines government

CIPFA has designed a competency model for public financial management (PFM) staff working for the Philippines government. The model consists of six frameworks, covering the five main PFM functional disciplines of budgeting, procurement, accounting, auditing and cash management, plus an additional common competencies framework.

Each framework consists of between five and eight statements covering the critical behaviours, attitudes, knowledge and skills that PFM staff are expected to acquire to allow them to function effectively now and in the future.

CIPFA's whole system approach was used to help validate the model, drawing on the PFM process architecture that defines PFM. The next phase of work, to implement the frameworks, is expected to start later this year.

Regions

CIPFA in the North West looks beyond austerity

'To austerity and beyond: a guide to surviving in the public sector' was the theme of CIPFA in the North West's northern section spring seminar at Lancashire Constabulary HQ in Preston in March.

The event took a look at the state of public finances and what that means for the services we provide – with a range of speakers from across the public sector, including Dr Patrick Bishop, Lancaster University politics lecturer, and Mike Owen from Bury Council, who explained his LA's approach to CIPFA's guidance and policy frameworks.

There were additional sessions on networking and the impact of benefits changes, and a presentation showcasing an innovative NHS/school project to improve teenage health despite funding pressures.

Further details and copies of speakers' presentations are available on the section's [website](#).



Mike Owen spoke about Bury Council's approach to surviving austerity

CIPFA Cymru-Wales conference and awards dinner

CIPFA Cymru-Wales held their conference and inaugural awards dinner on 20 March in the magnificent setting of Cardiff Bay, in the home of the first National Assembly for Wales, Ty Hywel. The original debating chamber, Shambur Hywel, provided the backdrop for the region's AGM and conference, while the awards dinner was hosted in the Assembly members' dining room.

The conference, kindly hosted by Angela Burns AM, featured a range of speakers and topic areas, all looking at better outcomes from public money under the theme 'Enabling a brighter future'.

The awards dinner speaker Rt. Hon. Paul Murphy left the audience spellbound with snippets from his many and varied political roles as a local councillor, government minister and opposition member.

Awards were presented by the President, Gill Lewis, to Mark Owen and Chris Taylor for outstanding services to CIPFA Wales, Arthur Thomas for Volunteer of the year and Steve O' Donoghue as the first 'Past President'. The outstanding student of the year award was presented to Tom Bowring by Adrian Pulham, CIPFA Director of Education and Membership.



Tom Bowring (right) receives his outstanding student award from Adrian Pulham

South West Region AGM and annual conference

‘Weathering the storm’ was the theme of this year’s CIPFA South West annual conference, aptly held in flood-hit Somerset.

Our newly elected regional president, Danny Batten, welcomed CIPFA President Jaki Salisbury, who kicked off the day by sharing the steps CIPFA is taking to grow and develop as an organisation.

David Forster of Zurich Municipal spoke about the ‘Seeds of Dystopia’ - risks in a global world, a sobering topic, which could have led to some depressing discussions over lunch, were it not for David’s lively and engaging delivery.

The afternoon was taken up by a workshop focused on personal resilience, which challenged delegates to reflect on themselves and personality traits such as self-esteem and levels of energy. It then provided us with tools to become more optimistic and improve our resilience.



Outgoing CIPFA President Jaki Salisbury and Danny Batten at the conference.

Dr Hedley Marshall CBE Memorial Award

Nominate candidates now for this award for outstanding contribution to regional activities. Nominations close on 6 September and it will be awarded at the 2014 Conference for the Regions, to be held in October at Warwick Business School Conference Centre.

CIPFA’s volunteers are an integral part of the way that CIPFA operates. Around 10% of CIPFA’s members volunteer in one form or another and, without their valuable contribution, CIPFA could not

be the vibrant and member-focused organisation it is today. So make sure you nominate the person who makes a difference in your region.

Last year’s winner was Chris Gill, who for many years has organised the Midlands Sixth-Form Management Games, a fantastic event which has proved massively successful, increasing both regions and CIPFA’s overall public profile.

For more information contact Dee Noonan, deirdre.noonan@cipfa.org



Chris Gill, the 2013 winner

Students

CIPFA prizes honour top students

CIPFA held its annual prizegiving ceremony on 28 April to reward outstanding performance by students in its Professional Qualification exams in 2013 with cash prizes and certificates.

Double prize-winner Cerys Ledger from Merton won both the Arthur Collins Memorial Medal for best overall performance and the Eric Gilliland Memorial Medal for best performance in the strategic leadership paper. Harriet Taylor who trained with KPMG received the Richard Emmott Memorial Prize for best performance in the strategic financial management paper. A further 11 students received certificates for best performance in other exam papers.

Awarding the prizes, CIPFA President Jaki Salisbury said: 'Very many congratulations to all of those who have received prizes, we're delighted that your hard work has been rewarded. I am sure that you all have long and successful careers ahead.'



All of the winners were students at CIPFA's Education and Training Centre. The [full list of winners](#) is available online.

North West Student Forum

The North West Student Forum has a small budget available to offer financial support to students interested in attending the CIPFA annual conference in London on 2-3 July 2014.

Please note that we cannot guarantee funding for all students, due to limited resources. Funding for successful applicants will cover the delegate fee, one night's accommodation and train fares.

If you are interested in attending the Conference, please register your interest by emailing the Chair of the NW Student Forum, Carol McDonnell, at CarolMcDonnell@sthelens.gov.uk.

Exam dates survey

CIPFA is experiencing significant growth in student numbers, particularly internationally where we now have the same number of exam candidates as in the UK, with further expansion forecast.

There has been pressure from employers to release exam results more quickly, to allow more time to organise student progression paths before courses restart.

In response, we surveyed CIPFA employers on moving the exams to late June / early July and early January from 2015. Most of the 131 responses were happy or neutral about the proposal, though 23% said it would cause

significant problems, including some large employers. A more detailed report is available on the [website](#).

CIPFA will continue with the existing exam timetable, increasing examiner resources to manage the increased marking workload without compromising quality assurance.

We are also in the early stages of a project to move from paper-based exams to e-assessment within two years, which will also help to speed up the release of exam results.

Events

Conferences

CIPFA IT AUDIT AND INFORMATION SECURITY UPDATE

18 June, Birmingham

www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-it-audit-and-information-security-update-20140618

RISK, RESILIENCE, REFORM: CIPFA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014

1-3 July, Novotel London West

www.cipfaannualconference.org.uk/

Accredited training

CERTIFICATE IN CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Starts 26 June, London

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-contract-management-accredited-20140626

PRINCE2® FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR E-LEARNING, ONLINE

www.cipfa.org/events/accredited-training/prince-2-e-learning

CIPS DIPLOMA IN PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

Starts 29 July, Cardiff

www.cipfa.org/events/d/diploma-in-procurement-and-supply-20130729

Starts 31 July, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/d/diploma-in-procurement-and-supply-20140731

CERTIFICATE IN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Starts 22 August, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-corporate-governance-scotland-20140822

CIPFA CERTIFICATE IN INVESTIGATIVE PRACTICE

Starts 2 September, London

www.cipfa.org/events/accredited-training/prince-2-e-learning

PRINCE2 FOUNDATION

Starts 9 June, Cardiff

www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-20140609

Starts 21 July, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-20140721

PRINCE2 PRACTITIONER

Starts 11 June, Cardiff

www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-practitioner-20140612

Starts 24 July, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-practitioner-20140724

PRINCE2 FOUNDATION AND PRACTITIONER

Starts 9 June, Cardiff

www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-and-practitioner-20140609

Starts 21 July, Edinburgh

www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-and-practitioner-20140721

Training

WORLDWIDE IPSAS TRAINING

16–27 June, Geneva and

19–29 August, London

CIPFA, EY and IASeminars are collaborating to offer a comprehensive range of courses on International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) in selected countries around the world. Detailed teaching and materials on a broad and growing range of IPSAS topics will be delivered by respected and experienced professionals, representing the most comprehensive and topical IPSAS training currently available in the market.

www.cipfa.org/iaseminars

MULTI-PROJECT APPRAISALS; OPPORTUNITY COST AND STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE METRICS

11 June, York and 12 June, London

An interactive day exploring the best practices in options appraisals for housing providers, including a detailed look at opportunity cost and value for money as part of the appraisal process. How does value for money work with benchmarking at the strategic level of an organisation, and why is this so important for social housing landlords to get right?

www.cipfa.org/services/networks/housing-network/

EXCELLENCE CASES IN GOVERNANCE

17 June (London) and 26 June (Leeds)

These masterclasses will look at the best examples of governance structures and practices from the charity, private and public sector, and explore how these practices can be applied to providers of social housing. Targeted towards chief executives, finance directors, board members, senior managers and staff with responsibilities for governance, counter-fraud and risk management.

www.cipfa.org/services/networks/housing-network/

BETTER BUSINESS CASES

10 June, London

www.cipfa.org/events/b/better-business-cases-20140610

17 September, London

www.cipfa.org/events/b/better-business-cases-20140917

INTRODUCTION TO INTERNAL AUDIT

2 June, London

www.cipfa.org/events/i/introduction-to-internal-audit-20140602

ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

17 June, London

www.cipfa.org/events/e/essential-skills-for-board-members-20140617

DEVELOPING THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

9 July, York

www.cipfa.org/events/d/developing-the-audit-committee-20140709

10 July, Birmingham

www.cipfa.org/events/d/developing-the-audit-committee-20140710

4 December, London

www.cipfa.org/events/d/developing-the-audit-committee-20141204

E-LEARNING GOOD GOVERNANCE IN THE PUBLIC SERVICES

Online

www.cipfa.org/events/e/elearning-good-governance-in-the-public-service-20130903

CIPFA TRAINING – DELIVERED IN-HOUSE AT YOUR VENUE

www.cipfa.org/events/in-house

Regional events

Full details will be listed on the website as they become available: please check www.cipfa.org/events

MIDLANDS

CIPFA in the Midlands Soft Skills Event

4 June, Northampton

CIPFA in the Midlands CATS Seminar

1 & 8 October, Warwick

CIPFA in the Midlands Annual Seminar

10 October, location TBC

NORTH WEST

Creating conditions for growth through sound public finance and governance
30 June, Liverpool

This lunchtime seminar at the International Festival for Business 2014 (IFB) aims to promote good governance in the public sector and highlight the benefits of public finance management for a thriving private sector. Run in partnership with Grant Thornton, key speakers including Ian Ball, CIPFA Chairman – CIPFA International.

www.cipfa.org/ifb2014

YORKSHIRE AND HUMBER

CIPFA Yorkshire and Humber student event July/August - save the date

Promoting yourself at work and career planning, followed by quiz and social.

www.cipfa.org/regions/yorkshire-and-humber

SOUTH EAST

Share and share alike – shared services in London

3 June, London

Join CIPFA London Division for its summer seminar at Grant Thornton's London office. With the public sector under ever-increasing financial pressure, the shared service agenda is leaping up the agenda as organisations look for ways to provide services in more efficient and cost effective ways. This seminar will look at experiences from the private sector, local government (the tri-borough and the London One Oracle project) and local government/health partnerships through the Better Care Fund.

This seminar is free to attend and is open to CIPFA members and students only:

www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-in-the-south-east-london-division-event-share-and-share-alike-20140603

CIPFA in the South East Public Finance in East Anglia Day Conference

6 June, Cambridge

CIPFA in the South East Essex Hub Group Meeting

11 June, Chelmsford

Central London P&T update and networking evening

12 June, London

www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-in-the-south-east-policy-and-technical-update-and-networking-event-20140612

CIPFA South East Summer School

24–26 September, Wellingborough

CIPFA South East Annual Regional Dinner

21 November, location TBC

WALES

CIPFA in Wales National Library of Wales tour and CPD event
24 June, Aberystwyth

This members' CPD event will include a tour of the National Library and a presentation by David Michael, the Library's Director of Finance, on his experience of responding to the roof fire in April 2013. Members will hear about disaster recovery and the lessons learned. Members of the CIPFA Cymru-Wales Branch Executive will also be on hand.

www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-in-wales-national-library-of-wales--tour-and-cpd-event-recovering-from-the-fire-20140624

CIPFA in Wales with CMI 'Managing Change'
27 June, Bangor

North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner, Mr Winston Roddick, will give a presentation on the challenges he has faced in his new role, followed by presentations and discussion on recent developments and forthcoming events by both CIPFA Wales and the Chartered Management Institute. A buffet lunch will also be provided.

www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-in-wales-with-cmi-managing-change-20140627

