

Spreadsheet

CIPFA.ORG | NEWS FOR MEMBERS AND STUDENTS

AUGUST 2013

Lord Heseltine and other leading speakers looked

beyond austerity

at CIPFA Conference 2013



Lord Heseltine at CIPFA Annual conference 2013

in this issue

[CIPFA seeks answers to tough questions on local government's future](#)

[CIPFA consults on 2014/15 Local Authority Accounting Code](#)

[Students take CIPFA exams worldwide](#)

[CIPFA South East host regional stand at Conference](#)

CIPFA

Message from the President

PHOTOGRAPHY: SAM KESTEVEN



My term started on a high, in early July, at the CIPFA Conference in sunny west London. There was a great turnout and the mood was very upbeat despite being hot on the heels of the spending round.

At CIPFA's second CFO Summit, which precludes the conference, over 100 CFOs discussed their concerns on pressing issues: including the impact of changes to national funding systems and the growing demand from an ageing population for health and social care.

One speaker, Barry Quirk, CEO of Lewisham, asked "are we in charge of just one ship or the whole fleet?" urging collective-working, and also pointed out that despite public services being seen by the Government as the "enemies of enterprise", they are crucial to economic development.

The need to restore trust in public institutions remains a burning priority and we need to work together to make a real difference and CIPFA can help with both of these.

The next day, thanking us for doing our jobs, Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Chuka Umunna, confirmed that he regards the public sector as a tool to help the economy. Something echoed the following day by Michael Heseltine whose response to one challenge was to 'just get on with it and not to ask for permission.'

Marianna Mazzucato gave a feisty defence of the entrepreneurial state with global examples of where the public sector's creativity, innovation and investment has made a huge difference to private enterprise (like Apple) but with no return for the state.

In my opening speech I focused on the need to get the dialogue going between Government and the public and how CIPFA members as public finance leaders have a crucial role to play in helping to get the facts out there and understood. We need to be clear where we are heading to ensure we can chart the right course.

While steering us skilfully through two riveting days of sessions, our chairs showed their human side – Stephanie

Flanders revealing her admiration for the new Governor of the Bank of England, alongside her insightful views on the emerging green shoots in the economy; and John Pienaar, while quizzing the likes of Lord Heseltine, managed also to keep us up to speed with the cricket.

I closed the conference with *Always look on the bright side of life*. I am clear that CIPFA members are needed more than ever to help ensure that there is a step change in the way that the public sector delivers. Our success in achieving this, not just in the UK, but globally, will ensure the Institute has a thriving future.

Now is our time and I am sure we will all rise to the challenge

Jaki Salisbury, President

contents

Technical and policy 2–3

Governance and institute matters 4–8

Regions 9–11

Students 12–14

Events 15–17

We welcome your feedback on Spreadsheet. Please send your comments and suggestions for future articles to danielle.holme@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.



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Technical and policy round-up

CIPFA seeks answers to tough questions on the future of local government

CIPFA have launched *Austerity and beyond: a local government discussion paper* seeking answers to tough questions on the future of local government in the age of austerity ahead of the 2015 election.

We have made the bold decision to open this debate in a bid to engage leaders of the public sector, and promote a better understanding on public finance.

Questions posed in the discussion paper highlight the key concerns for local government in the age of austerity, and



it suggests that if central government is serious about localism it could give up control of council tax and allow local councils to set their own rates.

Although talk of a 'crisis' may be premature, radical changes to local government will be unavoidable, therefore we feel it is now more important than ever for leaders of the public sector to have an open conversation on public spending.

Download [*Austerity and beyond: a local government discussion paper*](#).

Consultation on the 2014/15 Local Authority Accounting Code

CIPFA/LASAAC is publicly consulting, until 11 October 2013, on an Exposure Draft of the 2014/15 *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom* (the Code), which will apply to accounting periods starting on, or after, 1 April 2014.

Proposed amendments cover changes relating to new or amended International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) standards) and other areas where CIPFA/LASAAC wishes to seek respondents' views.

The consultation includes proposed amendments in relation to IFRS 13 *Fair Value Measurement*. Last year CIPFA/LASAAC, and other public sector bodies, deferred adoption of this standard as there was significant debate about its application to property, plant and equipment. They will also include proposed amendments for the five group accounts standards introduced by the IASB in 2011.

The consultation also features proposals to amend the 2015/16 Code to adopt the measurement requirements of the CIPFA *Code of Practice on Transport Infrastructure Assets* (ie Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC)) with a dry run approach proposed for 2014/15.

The consultation is available at: www.cipfa.org/policy-and-guidance/consultations/201415-code-of-practice-on-local-authority-accounting-consultation.

Consultation simplifying and streamlining the presentation of local authority financial statements

CIPFA/LASAAC is also consulting on the simplification and streamlining of the presentation of financial statements/statutory accounts, to better meet the needs of users, based on a clear understanding of the purpose of those accounts, and to remove unnecessary burdens from local authority preparers. It therefore seeks to consult with both users and preparers of local authority accounts and has issued a short

consultation paper on the issue. The consultation is a parallel exercise to the consultation being undertaken by HM Treasury on simplifying and streamlining the presentation of annual reports and accounts for Central Government. This CIPFA/LASAAC consultation is also available at: www.cipfa.org/policy-and-guidance/consultations/simplifying-and-streamlining-financial-statements.

The consultation period for both CIPFA/LASAAC closes on 11 October 2013.

Understanding the Ripple effect of the Local Government Finance Act 2012

Austerity and Beyond, CIPFA's 2013 CFO Budget Survey, identified the biggest risks to budget delivery as council tax benefit and business rate income. These two very real concerns follow in the wake of the enormous change both business rates, and council tax have experienced in 2013.

Although the implementation of these changes has now occurred we are seeing

the ripple effect of these changes as they impact throughout the budgetary and planning process. The corporate approach in trying to balance the interrelationship between these changes will also require a skilful negotiator as they have to work through various departments ensuring policy intention, budgetary requirements and statutory duty balance.

To name but a few, we see this ripple effect impacting on:

- the tax base
- new home bonus
- new buildings exemptions
- audit planning
- public health policy.

Find out more at: www.cipfa.org/Services/Networks/Benefits-and-Revenues-Service

Public safety Charitable Trust (PSCT) v Milton Keynes / South Cambridgeshire / Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council

CIPFA revenues advisor Joanne Pitt updates us on the latest case law relevant to CIPFA members.

Public safety Charitable Trust (PSCT) v Milton Keynes / South Cambridgeshire / Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council is of interest because it focused on the increasingly common practice of commercial landlords renting out properties to charities who would then become liable for the business rates, and as such seek the mandatory 80% reduction in those business rates. Common to this practice are:

- pepper corn rents
- short seven day notice periods.

Whilst seeking to support charities the local authority also has a duty to safeguard the public purse and this means acting diligently in the pursuit of business rates which are a major contributor to the public purse especially under the new business rate retention scheme. The judge's decision in not awarding the relief has highlighted a challenging area of legal interpretation.

For a short summary of the case please email Joanne.Pitt@cipfa.org.

Tips for producing social enterprise business plans

A short piece is available on the CIPFA website for those preparing social enterprise business plans. This piece has been written by John Maddocks, CIPFA Policy & Technical Manager Sustainability and third sector.

Social enterprises engaging in public service delivery are likely to be operating in a competitive environment, at a time when public sector bodies find themselves faced with difficult decisions and where demand for core public

services continues to grow. So having a well written business plan is a must.

Read John's piece at: www.cipfa.org/topics/social-enterprises-and-charities/understand-that-everyone-is-different or get more guidance about social enterprise business planning in CIPFA's publication: *Social Enterprise Business Planning and Assessment*.

TISonline Editorial Board for Public Health – coming soon

TISonline, with the help of Michael Brodie, Finance Director of Public Health England (and CIPFA North East President) is creating a new board specifically for public health.

The board is being created to reflect major changes in the public health system with responsibility for public health issues now transferring from the NHS to local Government (supported by Public Health England).

Contact Michael Brodie, by emailing president@cipfanortheast.org.uk, if you have the expertise to become a member of this new board.



Governance and institute matters

Students take CIPFA exams worldwide

This summer, CIPFA's international strategy has started to have a significant impact, with hundreds of students taking exams for CIPFA's Professional Qualification in International Public Financial Management (IPFM), the international version of the IPFM.

Alongside the continuing programmes in Lesotho and Nigeria, where nearly 200 students took exams in June, we are also seeing the impact of the contract with the United Nations Development Programme.

Over 150 students started the programme with this organisation in February, receiving live online tuition from CIPFA's delivery partner Kaplan



Financial. The students come from, and took their exams in, over 40 countries, ranging from Haiti to Namibia to South Sudan to Afghanistan with a large number of the organisation's HQ staff in New York also enrolling. The UNPP students achieved an impressive 74% pass rate.

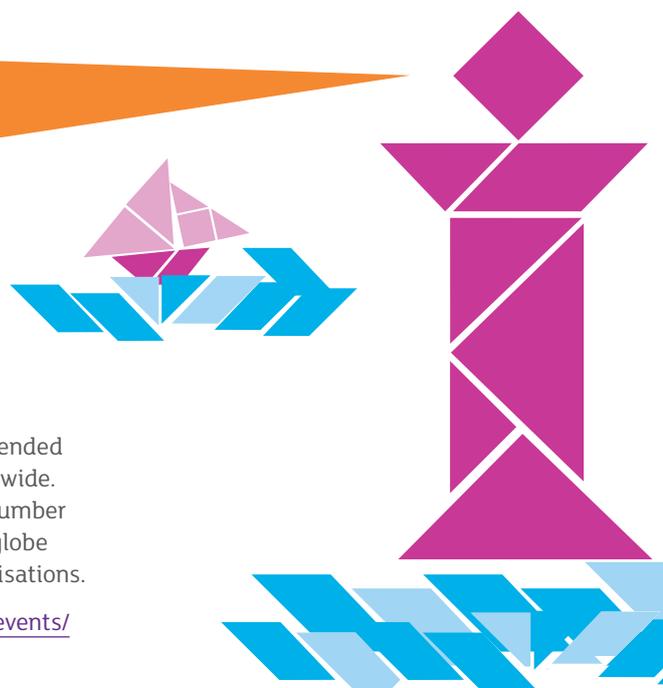
A further cohort started in August. CIPFA are also accrediting training partners to deliver face-to-face IPFM courses in a number of countries including Bangladesh. More information on the IPFM qualifications can be found at www.cipfa.org/internationalpublicfinancialmanagementqualifications

First IPSAS global workshop

CIPFA has teamed up with global accountancy training provider IASeminars for an IPSAS workshop in August. The IPSAS Immersion workshop will be held at CIPFA's head office in Robert Street and will consist of 8 days of training across the period 20–30 August. The event is sure to attract delegates from around the world who will come together for the most comprehensive and up-to-date review of IPSAS currently available in the market. International Public Sector

Accounting Standards (IPSAS) are internationally respected and intended for use by the public sector worldwide. They are used by an increasing number of public authorities around the globe and by many international organisations.

Find out more at: www.cipfa.org/events/ipsas-immersion-workshop.



2014 membership Fees

At the AGM held on 9 July the Council's recommendation to increase members' 2014 subscriptions by £10 from £300 to £310 (3.3%) was passed. Similar percentage increases for members in practice and for retired, part-time and career break members will apply. The subscription fees for registered students, and affiliate and associate members remain unchanged.

The Council recognises the very difficult financial challenges that members continue to face, but believes that the proposed increase is essential to help manage CIPFA's own financial challenges and to maintain a balanced budget.

Renewal notices will be issued, by email where possible, around the third week in November with the subscription becoming due on 1 January 2014. The renewal covers membership for the period 1 January 2014–31 December 2014.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP FEES 2014	
Full member	£310
Career Break/Part-time Working member	£155
Practice Assurance scheme subscription	£267
Retired member	£49
Life membership for retired members	£310 (one-off payment)
Registered Student	£151

The membership Fee Regulations for 2014 are available on the website at www.cipfa.org/membership/fees-and-subscriptions.

Managing your membership

We encourage members to access 'My CIPFA' on the CIPFA website, where they can check that we hold the correct contact information for them and amend this if required. This is an important task to ensure that members receive their notice of renewal and other Institute communications. It is also the quickest and easiest way for members to collect their membership renewal and pay for it. CIPFA qualified members can also complete their Annual Members' Statement in there.

Members who have not already registered on the website will need a CIPFA Contact Reference Number; this is not the same as their membership number. Members were notified of this in previous communications, but if this is not to hand please contact the membership team on +44 (0)20 3117 1880 or membership@cipfa.org.

2013 Codes of Practice now available

CIPFA's latest local authority accounting codes are available to purchase on the website.

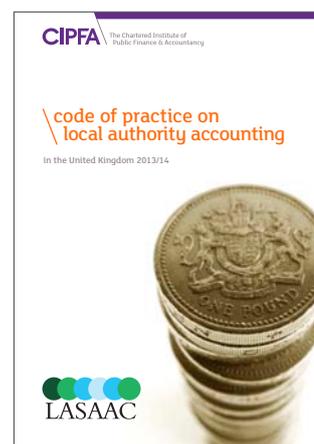
The *Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2013/14*, for use in financial years commencing on or after 1 April 2013, is the fourth edition of the Code to be prepared under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

The Code specifies the principles and practices of accounting required to prepare a Statement of Accounts which gives a true and fair view of the financial position and transactions of a local authority.

The 2013/14 Code also consolidates the requirements of the 2012/13 Code Update. This reflects legislative developments, including revisions for

the Housing Revenue Self-Financing in England and the new prudential system for capital financing in Northern Ireland. New accounting requirements were also added for the Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) Energy Efficiency Scheme.

To find out more please visit www.cipfa.org/policy-and-guidance/publications/codes-of-practice



Showcasing the innovative Nottinghamshire co-operative training scheme

A film featuring the Financial Directors at Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service is now available on the CIPFA website.

The video discusses how the scheme went from an idea CIPFA took to the Nottinghamshire Finance Officers group to becoming a hugely attractive and competitive graduate scheme with over 550 expressions of interest for 9 posts.

The film also features one of the new CIPFA trainees who will benefit from the unique way the scheme rotates trainees across the public sector organisations participating. For more information see: www.cipfa.org/notts.



From the left: Adrian Pulham, CIPFA Director of Education and Membership; Jaki Salisbury, CIPFA President; Sarah Howard, Grant Thornton Head of Public Sector Assurance and Jon Roberts, Grant Thornton UK Public Sector Assurance Partner and CIPFA recruitment programme lead.

Grant Thornton and CIPFA celebrate growing member and student numbers

Following the recent expansion of its UK-wide public sector assurance team, and a recruitment drive for CIPFA trainees, Grant Thornton is now the single biggest employer of CIPFA members and students.

Jon Roberts, Grant Thornton UK Public Sector Assurance Partner said:

‘Grant Thornton is delighted that CIPFA has recently confirmed that we are now the largest employer of CIPFA members and students.

We have worked with public sector clients for over thirty years, and the number of CIPFA members and students at Grant Thornton reflects that we are now the largest provider of external audit and related services to the local government and healthcare sectors.

‘CIPFA is an excellent qualification, and we will continue to support and develop our people, which includes investing in our growing CIPFA trainee programme’.

Employer accreditation – has your employer signed up?

The CIPFA Employer Accreditation recognises an organisation’s staff development and training programmes allowing members at accredited organisations to reduce the amount of paperwork involved in the CIPFA CPD scheme.

Employers can apply for one of our three accreditation levels – platinum (for training and CPD), training, or CPD. If your employer isn’t already accredited then they can find out more: www.cipfa.org/accreditation.

CIPFA reforms PFM in the Philippines

CIPFA is working with WYG International, a global development consultancy, to design a competency framework for PFM staff working in government in the Philippines.

The work is part of a major programme of PFM reform including:

- wider capacity development
- development of a new Government Financial Information System
- a National Payroll System
- a Government Human Resource Management System
- creation of a Treasury Single Account
- improving budget reporting and performance
- management of contingent liabilities
- and wider accounting and auditing reforms.

The CIPFA/WYG work, which was procured through a process of international competitive tendering, is being financed by AusAid – the Australian Government Overseas Aid Program.

Southwark Council wins Cliff Nicholson Award

Southwark Council received this year’s prestigious Cliff Nicholson Award, for Innovation and Excellence in Public Service Audit, for work targeting social housing fraud in 2012/13.

In 2012 the council, London’s largest social landlord, developed a strategic approach to tackle the fraud, setting a high target of recovering 300 properties. By the end of the financial year, Southwark had recovered 322 properties that could be used to shorten their council housing waiting list.

Although Southwark's housing stock makes up just 1% of the total nationally, the 322 properties were the equivalent of 17% of the total recovered across the country the previous year.

Tim Crowley, Chair of CIPFA's Audit Panel, commented:

'The high calibre of entries for this year's award underlines the important role that effective audit can play in the public sector. The approach that has been developed by Southwark Council can be replicated elsewhere and this kind of innovation is a shining example of how the finance function can contribute to driving up standards despite public sector cuts.'

Become a chartered internal auditor – exemptions for CPFAs

An accelerated route to chartered internal auditor status and the CMIIA designation is now available from the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) for qualified CIPFA members.

CPFAs with a minimum of three years' recent internal audit experience are eligible for a three paper route to become an IIA member and access the IIA's extensive resources. For more information visit www.iaa.org/cipfa.

IIA members can also apply for CIPFA membership through the CIPFA Fast Track route for IIA members. More information can be seen at www.cipfa.org/iaa.

CIPFA The Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy

Certificate in Charity Finance and Accountancy

advance your career

Professional development for charity and social enterprise professionals

'The best thing about the course was learning practical skills; it helped me implement specific charity accounting knowledge to keep the organisation delivering to the Charities Act 2006.'

Eve Thomas, CCFa Graduate 2011

Charity certificate to prepare students for new charity SORP

Enrolments for the joint CIPFA and LSBU Certificate in Charity Finance and Accountancy (CCFA) are now open for courses starting in September.

The course is taught over one-year by the London South Bank University and accredited by CIPFA.

The syllabus has been revamped to prepare students for the move from *UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (GAAP)* to *FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* and the new charity SORP that will come into effect from 1 January 2015.

More information can be seen at www.cipfa.org/charities.

SAVE UP TO 50% IN THE CIPFA ONLINE PUBLICATIONS SALE

Over **70** selected titles have been discounted to up to **50%** on the CIPFA website until **30 September**. Make sure you order copies now to pick up a bargain. You can find the title under 'special offers' at www.cipfa.org/publications and to claim your discount you simply need to quote **PUBS50** when updating your basket

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.

Welcome to new members

A warm welcome goes out to those who became CIPFA qualified members in May and June.

Nigel Paul Ashton
Department for Work and Pensions

Dean Stephen Bardrick
Ernst and Young

Anna Barefoot
Reading Borough Council

Alexandra Bilton
The Regional Municipality of York

Niall Davidson Petch
Petch KPMG

Gemma Deadman
Hampshire County Council

Hayley Dodds
Leeds City Council

Margaret Donald
Grant Thornton UK LLP

Simon Gow
Lancashire County Council

Kathleen Gowrie
South Lanarkshire Council

Andrew Mark Green
Medway NHS Foundation Trust

Liam Daniel Griffiths
Newcastle City Council

Joseph Bradley Hanita
Te Wanaea o Aotearoa

Lee Edward Hannaford
Grant Thornton UK LLP

Samuel James Harding
NHS Central Manchester CCG

Pamela Susan Henwood
Ministry of Defence

Christopher Daniel Holmes
Redditch Borough Council

Asif Hussain
Buckinghamshire &
Milton Keynes Fire Authority

Fiona Helen Irving
BBC Scotland

Nicholas Jones
Department for Work and Pensions

Victor Richard Kaufman
KPMG LLP

Amy Jane Kennon
Tameside MBC

Deborah Jane Kitney
Hampshire County Council

Ahsan Khan
Hounslow Homes Ltd

Bronwyn Koroheke
Te Wanaea o Aotearoa

Sara Locke
KPMG LLP

James Macro
Metropolitan Police Service

Kelly Eleanor Martin
London Borough of Ealing

Jessica Mayer
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

David McMonagle
Glasgow City Council

Svetla Mirova
Birkbeck College

Rebecca Naylor
Wakefield MDC

Stuart David Nibloe
East Ayrshire Council

Grace Olushola Osinnowo
London Borough of Lambeth

Christopher Bradley Paterson
Skills Development Scotland

Christopher Edward Poole
Grant Thornton UK LLP

Abigail Preston
Police and Crime Commissioner
for West Midlands

Akram Velayet Rizvi
London Borough of Lambeth

Lynn Ramsay
Midlothian Council

Marcus Robert Owen Richards
KPMG

Stephen Anthony Robbins
North Warwickshire Borough Council

Katherine Rosenthal
South Gloucestershire Council

Alistair Graham Ross
Deloitte LLP

Mark Adam Russell
Ernst and Young

William Rutherford
East Ayrshire Council

Anjali Sheth
KPMG LLP

Nicola Ann Smith
London Borough of Lambeth

James Thomson
London Borough of Waltham Forest

Ann Treble
Copeland Borough Council

David Gareth White
Ernst and Young

Lisa Anne Warburton
Wigan Council

Carly Anne Wilson
Denbighshire County Council

John Worland
Northumbria Police

Graham Young
London Borough of Barnet

Regions

CIPFA South East host the regional stand at Conference

The host region for this year's CIPFA annual conference was CIPFA South East (as the conference took place in London). You may have seen some of the volunteers from the region in their role as 'Conference Ambassadors' helping delegates get to and from the venue. They were hard to miss with their bright purple tops, signposts and ready smiles – many thanks to them for their hard work.

Volunteers were also on hand to welcome delegates to the conference and to talk to them about the work the regions do. The regions stand was located at the entrance to the exhibition hall in a prime spot where delegates could stop and chat. A new CIPFA regions brochure was also available: *Supporting members throughout austerity*, which showcased each region and highlighted

forthcoming events. The region also hosted a well-attended and lively drinks reception on the Wednesday evening.



From the left: George Clark, Jayne Stephenson, John Thornton, Ken Finch, Gareth Robinson, Johnny Zero, Rosanne Fleming, Amy Crowson, Julia Warren and John Barker

Dr Hedley Marshall CBE memorial award

Nominate now for this award for outstanding contribution to regional activities. Nominations close on 20 September and it will be awarded at the 2013 Conference for the Regions.

CIPFA's volunteers are an integral part of the way that CIPFA operates, around 10% of CIPFA's members are involved as volunteers in one form or another and without their valuable contribution CIPFA could not be the vibrant and member focussed organisation it is today. So make sure you nominate for the person who makes a difference in your region.

Last year's winner was Neil Hunter, past Chair of CIPFA Board for the Regions, who volunteered for CIPFA for over 15 years. He was given his award at the CIPFA Annual Conference in Liverpool. For more information contact Dee Noonan, deirdre.noonan@cipfa.org.

Conference for The Regions 2013: 2020 Vision

This year's Conference for the Regions will be held at Warwick Conferences, Warwick, on the 18 and 19 October. The conference themed '2020 Vision' will include sessions on 21st century volunteering and CIPFA's new finance apprenticeship scheme, and offer opportunities for networking and engaging with CIPFA staff members and other volunteers on strategic issues related to CIPFA membership and business growth.

Please check the website for the full programme and registration details, or contact Dee Noonan (deirdre.noonan@cipfa.org) for more information.

CIPFA Cymru-Wales member awarded MBE

CIPFA Cymru-Wales was delighted that active CIPFA Wales volunteer

Ian Summers, former Finance and Governance Adviser at the National Assembly for Wales was awarded an MBE for parliamentary service, in the Queen's birthday honours.



Ian Summers and Gill Lewis, President CIPFA Cymru Wales in the Senedd, National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay

Ian has had a long and distinguished career in public service, spanning 28 years in the National Audit Office and then overseeing the smooth transition to the Wales Audit Office in 2005, before taking up a part-time position in the National Assembly for Wales from 2007. Ian's time at the Assembly involved work on a number of high-profile legislative proposals:

- in shaping the Government of Wales Act 2006, in particular the provisions on public audit, finance and financial accountability, and the functions of the Welsh Government and Assembly Commission;
- in shaping the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2013 seeking to strengthen and improve the accountability and governance arrangements relating to the Auditor General for Wales and the Wales Audit Office;
- in briefing the Assembly's Finance and Public Accounts committees.
- along with providing finance and governance advice to the Assembly Commission.

The Changing Face of Assembly Scrutiny

More than 25 public officials attended the May CIPFA Northern Ireland Branch Lunchtime event that addressed the topic of public accountability – the changing face of Assembly scrutiny.

The session was led by Daithí McKay MLA, Northern Ireland Assembly and Chair of the Department of Finance and Personnel Committee. Daithí offered his perspective (as a public representative) on the effectiveness of the Assembly's scrutiny role to date and how this could be enhanced. This included the role of Ministers, the impact on civil servants and the part played by the media.



New members being welcomed to the Institute by CIPFA South East

CIPFA South East New Members Evening

On 22 May, 16 brand new CIPFA members received their membership certificates from CIPFA president Sir Tony Redmond and were welcomed to the South East region by regional president John Thornton; watched by their families and friends, CIPFA and CETC staff and South East region volunteers. The event was held at CIPFA Head Office, Robert Street.

The president congratulated them all on their success and also paid tribute to the support given by families and friends during their years of study. He also spoke of the career opportunities which lay ahead and the opportunities available thanks to a widely recognised professional qualification.

In welcoming the new members to the region, John Thornton referred to the support available through regional activities and encouraged them to take part and to join the ranks of volunteers.

Bill Capps and John Hilsden were also recognised at the event as they retired from their voluntary roles as CIPFA South East Retired Members Secretary and Organiser of New members Events.

Read the full event write-up, and list of brand new members at: www.cipfa.org/regions/south-east/whats-going-on and see more pictures on: www.flickr.com/photos/cipfasoutheast/sets/72157633879614325/

And from a New Member's viewpoint

Jamie Manson describes the South East New Members evening from a new members point of view.

I'll be the first to admit that I didn't quite realise what I'd signed up for when I started studying for CIPFA, with all the highs and lows, stresses and strains that came with it along the way. I already worked in the civil service and was keen to learn more about the workings of central government and public sector finances; CIPFA was the clear choice for me. Three years later however, and my life has changed considerably, with a new job in the city and the all-important CIPFA letters after my name.

This evening was definitely one of the highs of my CIPFA journey. As Sir Tony Redmond and John Thornton explained to us all, this is just the beginning of our careers and the door is truly open to a world of opportunities in the public, private or third sector where we can really make a difference. This is

even more so given the need in many organisations to deliver more for less.

Once we had all received our certificates from Sir Tony and posed for photographs, the evening gave us the chance to celebrate all the hard work. We managed a little networking and shared our different experiences with our friends, family and established CIPFA members over a glass of wine.

An architectural visit for CSE retired members

The write up is available for CIPFA South East retired members’ architectural visit to St Pancras Renaissance Hotel. They had an excellent guide who explained the history of the hotel from its early origins as the famous George Gilbert Scott’s Hotel until the exterior was restored in the 1990s.

Read more about this interesting event, and other events held for CIPFA South East retired members at: www.cipfa.org/regions/south-east/retired-members.

If you live in the South East and are retired, partially retired or on a career break and interested in future events, please add yourself to their mailing list by contacting Bill Capps

T: +44 (0)1273 845439
E: WCapps3970@aol.com

Full house for procurement fraud masterclass

CIPFA, in partnership with the North East Fraud Forum (NEFF) held a masterclass on the prevention and detection of procurement fraud on 10 May at full capacity at the Gateshead Civic Centre.

Speakers included:

Michael Brodie
North East Region President

Alan Doig
NEFF

Chris Cockell
Intelligence and Research Development Manager at NHS Protect

Phil Butler
Director of External Relations, Newcastle University’s Centre for Cybercrime and Computer Security

Andrew Johnson
the National head of Commercial Litigation for Watson Burton

Paul Guile, Global Procurement Fraud Advisor for the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply.

A common theme ran through all of the presentations:

- the need for good record keeping and accounting procedures
- the vital role of governance and appropriate scrutiny and reporting
- the enforcement of effective financial and procurement procedures
- tender evaluations should be transparent and representative of the contract activity.

Find out more in a write up kindly provided by Bruce Parvin at: www.cipfa.org/Regions/North-East/Whats-Going-On.

CIPFA North East Golf Day – A red hot success!

On Friday 7 June CIPFA North East hosted its annual golf day, sponsored by KPMG, at the fantastic Gosforth Golf Club – “the Bridlepath”.

The course was in immaculate condition and with a scorching day of sunshine the scene was set for a fabulous day of golf. With 21 players taking part the day was split into a 9 hole team event in the morning followed by an 18 hole Stableford competition in the afternoon for the Lady Lambert trophy.

The competition, which must be one of the longest running in CIPFA’s history,



CIPFA North East President Michael Brodie presents the Lady Lambert trophy to Alan Hall

has been held since 1935 and this year it was organised by Clive Johnson, the Vice President of the Region and a former Lady Lambert Trophy winner no less!

In a close run event, the team competition was won by Jon Reece, Campbell Dearden and Brian Fitzgerald, whilst the Lady Lambert Trophy was won by Alan Hall.

Advertisement for treasury role in North East

Cleveland Buildings Preservation Trust Ltd is looking for a voluntary treasurer. They are involved with the preservation of buildings of architectural or historic interest in the Tees Valley Area.

The accounts of the trust are fairly simple with only a few transactions in the accounts per year. The trust is looking to bid for external funding to allow them to appoint a project officer. They are therefore looking for someone who is able to help out straight away.

This is on a voluntary basis and will be a great development opportunity for someone & will look great on your CV. The group is based in Stockton.

The contact is Stewart Ramsdale at stewart.ramsdale@btopenworld.com
T: 01642 475198

Students

Pioneering new West Midlands apprenticeship programme

A new finance trainee programme will be piloted in the West Midlands. Trainees will be employed by CIPFA who will work with local employer partners to ensure that paid, high quality, placements are available.

The funding for the scheme will come from employment partners, CIPFA and Government funding.

After 12 months the trainees will be able to apply to work for the employment providers, they will have obtained an AAT Level 4 qualification, and will be part CIPFA-qualified.



Giles Orr, Head of CIPFA's Education and Training Centre, commented:

'The scheme provides young unemployed people with an opportunity to gain work experience and a qualification but also provides employers with a low cost and low risk source of trainees.'

'We are very excited about this pilot, if it is successful we hope to be able to roll it out around the rest of the country.'

Find out more at: www.cipfa.org/recruitment/apprenticeships.

Student conference was a sell-out

Over 150 CIPFA students came together at the sell-out CIPFA student conference in London to get inspired and learn more about leadership skills that will be essential to them in their careers.

We had a great line-up of speakers. Dave Caesar, Clinical Director spoke about why vision – and belief in that vision – is key to effective leadership, especially in situations that *"make good telly but challenging leadership conditions"*. Jon Harrison then taught us to stretch a little further, push a little harder. We learnt how to build our personal brand. Andy Lopata, aka Mr Networker, explained the value of networks and how never to underestimate who the people you know know. [Read more and download speakers' presentations](#)

Students also met Jaki Salisbury who shared insight and perspective on her new role as CIPFA President and the leadership lessons she has learnt over the years.

Finally, a big congratulations to CETC tutor Carrie Wright winner of the CIPFA Excellence in Education prize, voted

for by CIPFA students, for helping students excel and delivering a fabulous acceptance speech.

CIPFA examiner wins Tom Sowerby award

Roger Davis was presented with the Tom Sowerby award by the incoming President Jaki Salisbury at CIPFA conference in July.

This annual award recognises outstanding service to CIPFA students. Roger has been an examiner for the Strategic Financial Management exam (otherwise known as the case study) for much of its existence.

Many students may not have found the case study to be one of the most pleasant experiences but most would probably look back and see it as a crucial stage of the qualification and chances are most will have sat a paper that Roger has developed or been heavily involved in developing. For a number of years Roger has been a vital part of the team that develops and marks case study exams and this award marks that massive contribution.

Prior to that Roger, when in senior local government finance roles, played a key role in supporting the training and development of many people who have now gone onto CPFA status and senior public finance roles themselves.

The award coincides neatly with Roger retiring from SFM examining – he will be sorely missed by his examiner colleagues, staff at CIPFA and possibly by CIPFA students!

Ian Bowler

We are sad to announce that Ian Bowler, who was a popular and integral part of the CIPFA course at Nottingham Business School died on 11 July 2013. Ian was Principal Lecturer and CIPFA course leader for over twenty years and was very dedicated to his students, so much so that he won the Tom Sowerby Award in 2012 and received a national 'Excellence in Education' Award in 2003.

Beyond supporting students, he was a champion for the CIPFA course and his influence extends far beyond the classroom. Over the years he was a key member of the CIPFA Course

Leader's Meetings, regional events, the Qualifications Development Panel, the Association of CIPFA Lecturers and CIPFA's Assessment and Results Panels. He has also been an examiner for a number of CIPFA modules and been involved in many CIPFA syllabus reviews and learning material developments. In all of this he has represented the views of students, helping to keep the CIPFA course and syllabus relevant in a technical sense and to prospective students. We send our condolences to his family and friends.

CETC students win most of this year's student prizes

On 11 April the annual prize winners ceremony rewarded students who achieved the best performance in each paper of CIPFA's Professional Qualification in 2012. All except two of the prize winners attended tuition courses at the CIPFA Education and Training Centre.

Prize winners included Dean Gibbs, who won the Arthur Collins Memorial Medal and the Richard Emmott Memorial Medal. The Eric Gilliland Memorial Medal was awarded to Sam Jarrett.

Sir Tony Redmond, CIPFA President, who awarded the prizes, said:

'It is always a pleasure to recognise the achievements of our students. It is a great honour to present these awards and I would not be surprised to see one of the recipients one day take up the mantle of CIPFA President themselves.

'In these tough economic times, these students are already working to guide public sector decision making. They represent the future of the profession, I am sure that they have long and successful careers ahead of them.'

Read the full list of prize winners at: www.cipfa.org/about-cipfa/press-office/latest-press-releases/exceptional-cipfa-students-receive-awards.

Students respond well to new Practical Experience Portfolio

CIPFA's new workplace experience scheme, the Practical Experience Portfolio (PEP) – which replaced the Initial Professional Development Scheme (IPDS) in January – has been very well received and many students have already successfully completed their portfolios and become members since its introduction. The new scheme has significantly reduced the volume of material that students need to compile for their portfolio.

PEP submissions should include:

- a log of 400 days of relevant workplace experience
- the completion of three workplace activities from different areas a statement of a student's general reflection and learning from the whole training experience
- the year one continuing professional development learning and development plan.

For each of the evidenced workplace activities, students need to complete a section on the planning and undertaking of the activity, the learning from it and an analysis of the ethical considerations associated with the activity.

We have been very impressed with how students have handled the transition from IPDS to PEP. One of the CIPFA PEP reviewers commented:

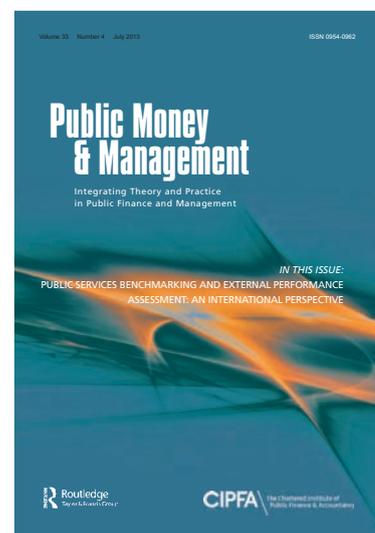
'The portfolios I have reviewed are clear, focused and relevant. The new requirements allow students to concentrate more on the content of the sections and they are also reflecting all the way through not just in a reflection section!

'I am particularly impressed with how the candidates have taken to the ethics section with good consideration of professional values and attitudes, making it relevant to even the simplest of tasks. The reduction in activities compared to IPDS has also allowed the required sections to be less manufactured.'

For more information on the PEP scheme go to: www.cipfa.org/training-and-qualifications/current-students/pep.

Special student subscription to Public Money and Management

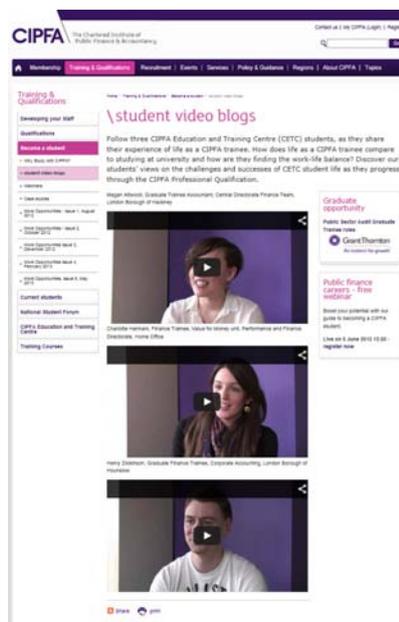
A new special subscription price for Public Money & Management (PMM) is now available for students. PMM is a leading academic journal for practitioners, policy makers and academics publishing papers across all aspects of public services accounting and management-making it an excellent source for exam preparation. The journal is owned and managed by CIPFA, published under license by Routledge and edited by Professor Jane Broadbent, a senior academic who has published widely on public sector accounting.



For details of the pricing available to CIPFA students, see www.tandfonline.com/pricing/journal/rpmm20. There is an article available as a taster:

[Debate: Accrual accounting: information for accountability or decision usefulness?](#)

For any questions about PMM please contact the Managing Editor: michaela.lavender@cipfa.org.



Student blogs

Have you seen the new video blogs? Three Professional Certificate level CIPFA students will be contributing regular updates on what it's like working, studying with CIPFA, and trying to still maintain a life outside of both these things!

The first instalments are now on the CIPFA website at: www.cipfa.org/training-and-qualifications/become-a-student/student-video-blogs and feature Charlotte, Megan and Henry discussing exam preparation. We'll next catch up with them after the exams.

Accrediting university degrees

Much work has been done in recent months to identify universities throughout the UK offering accountancy and finance degrees and match their syllabuses against the CIPFA Professional Qualification. As a result some graduates with relevant degrees could be eligible for up to seven exemptions providing a great path through to CIPFA membership in minimal time. The universities will identify that the degree offers exemptions through the use of a new 'CIPFA Accredited Course' logo.

This initiative brings the CIPFA Professional Qualification up to date and comparable with other professional accountancy qualifications and is a fantastic message we will be highlighting to prospective students and employers over the coming months. The exemption pages have been updated to reflect the new exemptions available: www.cipfa.org/training-and-qualifications/current-students/exemptions.

Events

Conferences

PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT AUDIT ANNUAL SUMMIT

11 September, Birmingham

CIPFA's annual seminar on the audit of procurement and contract risks will highlight key areas for audit assurance and opportunities for auditors to add value to their organisations.

The seminar features sessions on the current risk environment, practitioner case studies and examples of how auditors can improve their assurance and support better value for money. www.cipfa.org/events/p/procurement--contract-audit-annual-summit-20130911

THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE CONFERENCE

18 September, London and
11 September, Liverpool

This high quality conference, being held in London and Liverpool, is specifically designed for the finance professional working in central government. It will provide an insightful analysis of current issues and key themes in the sector. For the first time we are holding a conference in the North in response to your requests. As in previous years this event is free to delegates working in central government. To be sure of a place we recommend you book as early as possible.

London
www.cipfa.org/events/c/central-government-finance-conference-20130918

Liverpool
www.cipfa.org/events/c/central-government-finance-conference--lpool-20130911



INSURANCE SUMMIT 2013 – OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES

26 September 2013, London

The Insurance Summit 2013 is themed: Opportunities and Challenges in light of recent additional pressures placed on public sector insurance by CSR13. In addition to case studies and external perspectives, the event will feature insights from brokers and insurance managers, enabling delegates to get to grips with how they can maximise insurance arrangements in their organisations. www.cipfa.org/events/i/insurance-summit-2013--opportunities-and-challenges-20130926

CIPFA GOVERNANCE SUMMIT

15 October, London

Early bird offer – book by 31 August

The UK public sector's most comprehensive and established governance event, providing insight into governance challenges facing the public sector and new policy and professional practice initiatives. This year's programme will again feature high profile speakers and commentators to inspire and challenge your thinking on governance. www.cipfa.org/events/c/bgf-annual-summit-20131015

THE 3RD ANNUAL CIPFA ACADEMIES CONFERENCE

15 October 2013, London

This conference is an ideal opportunity to hear from thought leaders and senior finance practitioners working with, and in, the academies' sector. It will cover wide areas of financial management in academies. It will also offer delegates the chance to hear the latest thinking from sector specialists.

www.cipfa.org/events/t/the-3rd-annual-cipfa-academies-conference-20131015

TREASURY AND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

24 October 2013, London

The premier event for treasury and capital management professionals, bringing together a top-quality line up of speakers who will consider the significant challenges facing today's treasury managers from the global economy, new Bank of England policies and the changing role of local government, and will identify what a best practice treasury operation should look like in the public sector. www.cipfa.org/events/c/capital-and-treasury-management-conference-20131024

ASSET MANAGEMENT PROPERTY NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2013

21 November, Birmingham

CIPFA SCOTLAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2014
06 & 07 March 2014, New venue:
Beardmore Hotel, Clydebank, nr. Glasgow

CIPFA Scotland's Annual Conference is a key event in the calendar for all those working in the public services in Scotland. Further details will be published online. Please email any queries to Scotland@cipfa.org.

Open courses

FINANCE FOR NON-FINANCIAL MANAGERS
7 November, London
www.cipfa.org/events/f/finance-for-non-financial-managers-20131107

SHARED SERVICES ARCHITECTS PROGRAMME – 3 DAY
17 September, London
www.cipfa.org/events/s/shared-services-practitioner-programme--3-day-20130917



Accredited Training Programmes

CERTIFICATE IN AUDIT OF PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACTS
11 September, London
www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-audit-of-procurement-and-contracts-20130911

CERTIFICATE IN CONTRACT MANAGEMENT
Starts 20 August, Edinburgh
www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-contract-management-20130820

CERTIFICATE IN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE
17 September, London
www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-corporate-governance-accredited-20130917

Starts 22 August, Edinburgh
www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-corporate-governance-scotland-20130822

Starts 18 September, Cardiff
www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-in-corporate-governance-20130918

CERTIFICATE OF INVESTIGATIVE PRACTICE QUALIFICATION
Starts 10 September, London
www.cipfa.org/events/c/certificate-of-investigative-practice-qualification--autumn-2013-20130910

CIPS DIPLOMA IN PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
Starts 6 September, Edinburgh
www.cipfa.org/events/d/diploma-in-procurement-and-supply-20130906

Starts 5 September, Cardiff
www.cipfa.org/events/d/diploma-in-procurement-and-supply-20130905

FUTURE LEADERS ACADEMY – PRACTITIONERS
Starts 18 September, London
www.cipfa.org/events/f/future-leaders-academys-practitionerslevel2-20130918

PRINCE2

PRINCE2 FOUNDATION
23–25 September, Edinburgh
www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-20130923

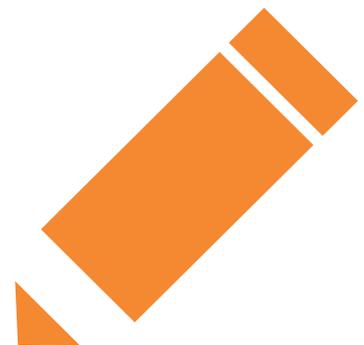
30 September–02 October, Cardiff
www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-20130930

PRINCE2 PRACTITIONER
26–27 September, Edinburgh
www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-practitioner-20130926

03–04 October, Cardiff
www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-practitioner-20131003

PRINCE2 FOUNDATION AND PRACTITIONER
23–27 September, Edinburgh
www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-and-practitioner-20130923

30 September–4 October, Cardiff
www.cipfa.org/events/p/prince2-foundation-and-practitioner-20130930



Regional events

BRANCH EVENT 2013: IMPROVING SERVICE DURING BRUTAL EXPENDITURE CUTS
13 September, Belfast

In this CIPFA lunchtime event, Victor Brownlees, prominent CIPFA member and independent public sector consultant, uses his experience of working in local government in Great Britain (GB) to outline ways that public bodies can use the current funding crisis to their advantage to improve public services within reduced spending.

www.cipfa.org/events/b/branch-event-2013--improving-service-during-brutal-expenditure-cuts-20130913

CIPFA CONFERENCE FOR THE REGIONS
18 October, Warwick

This year's Conference for the Regions will be held at Warwick Conferences, Warwick. The conference themed '2020 Vision' will include sessions on 21st century volunteering and CIPFA's new finance apprenticeship scheme, and offer opportunities for networking and engaging with CIPFA staff members and other volunteers on strategic issues related to CIPFA membership and business growth.

www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-conference-for-the-regions-2013-2020-vision-20131018

HARD TIMES OR GREAT EXPECTATIONS? PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

We live and work in uncertain times. The continued drive for austerity across our public services, coupled with the need to learn from failings of the past, bring a need for new ways of working. No-one can afford to be left behind as the world around us changes.

Come and join CIPFA in the North West in Kendal on 20th September as we consider what the new ways of working will look like, the skills and capabilities required, and how to look after yourself and your staff during this era of transition. Topics to be covered include the Comprehensive Spending Review; the Francis Report and its impact on Finance functions; skills, capabilities and new ways of working in the new public services; and a workshop session on maximising well-being for yourself and others.

Book online at www.cipfa.org/events/c/cipfa-in-the-north-west-northern-section-autumn-seminar-20130920

FIND EVENTS IN YOUR REGION USING THE FOLLOWING LINKS:

- [Scotland](#)
- [Northern Ireland](#)
- [Republic of Ireland](#)
- [North West](#)
- [North East](#)
- [Yorkshire and Humber](#)
- [Wales](#)
- [Midlands](#)
- [South West](#)
- [South East](#)
- [Channel Islands](#)
- [Europe](#)

