



Scottish Finance Advisory Network - Non-Subscriber Newsletter: June 2022

Advisor Update

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

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

Just a reminder that we are running a **Scotland-specific Capital Finance technical update** as part of the [Local Authority Accounting Conference](#) on 7 July. Further details and a link to book your place are included below.

Also for awareness, David has just delivered a bespoke training session to a financial institution on reading and understanding local authority accounts and how to use the financial statements and other key documents and online tools to assess the financial resilience and creditworthiness of an authority. If something along these lines is of interest to your organisation, please contact David for further details.

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

Best wishes,

David and Jen.

[FAN Homepage](#)

Scheduled Events

**Local Authority Accounting
Conference Webinar: The Latest
Developments in Local Authority
Finance**

[7 July 2022](#)

Introduction to Budgeting

[5 July 2022](#)

[12 October 2022](#)

**Introduction to accounting for
groups and collaborative
arrangements**

[8 November 2022 – Day One](#)

[9 November 2022 – Day Two](#)

**Understanding Your Council's
Financial Reporting Requirements
(councillor training)**

[18 July 2022](#)

[31 August 2022](#)

**Introduction to Local Authority
Capital Accounting**

[13 July 2022](#)

[18 October 2022](#)

**Introduction to local authority
reporting – principles and
practices**

[24 August 2022](#)

[30 November 2022](#)

**Use of HM Treasury's Better
Business Case approach for
decision-making**

[7 July 2022](#)

**Introduction to local authority
financial statements and
closedown**

Network and CIPFA News

Local Authority Accounting Conference

The summer technical update conference will take place via Zoom on Thursday [7 July](#). The conference focuses on the anticipated changes to the Local Authority Accounting Code, both following and in anticipation of important consultations.

One of the key areas being covered is infrastructure assets, following the recent emergency consultation that proposed temporary changes to the Code to address an issue raised by auditors. The primary focus area was the derecognition (removal of the carrying amount) of parts of local authority infrastructure assets as they are replaced. This session sets out the key issues and discusses both technical and practical responses and the planned solutions to them.

Other topics covered at the conference include the summer Code consultation, the impact of the deferral decision on IFRS 16 Leases, IFRS 17 Insurance Contracts, good practice in relation to audit evidence and working papers, audit committees and internal audit, sustainability reporting, and the latest developments on capital financing issues (a separate session will cover Scottish capital finance updates at the end of the main event).

It promises to be a packed and informative event so don't miss out. Please see the link below for more information and to reserve your place at this key update for local authority finance practitioners.

[Book your place.](#)

Infrastructure Assets Task and Finish Group

More information about the infrastructure assets Task and Finish Group along with the draft CIPFA Bulletin providing guidance on approaches to the estimation of depreciation for infrastructure assets can be found on the [CIPFA website](#).

Use of HM Treasury's Better Business Case approach for decision-making – Webinar - 7 July (2pm – 3.30pm)

HM Treasury's well-established Business Case approach provides a decision-making framework which stakeholders work through in a structured, staged manner. Decisions around alternative service delivery models can represent some of the more complex and are potentially contentious.

The business case approach provides a framework to work within, ensuring that appropriate questions are asked at the start of the process and that a series of stakeholder workshops are used to structure the decision-making.

The event, presented by Mark Williams from CIPFA's Public Sector Advisory team, will benefit anyone considering setting up an alternative service delivery arrangement, and will be helpful to those from a range of disciplines: including finance, commercial, project management and at a range of levels of seniority. The issues covered are common across all parts of public services including local government, health, and central government.

Attendance at this 90-minute webinar session is FREE for any subscribers of FAN. For more details and to book your place see the [CIPFA events webpage](#).

Financing Mechanisms for Greener Outcomes (webinar) - 6 July

While the transition to a green economy is increasingly recognised as complementary to growth, climate spending can be hard to secure amidst ongoing economic and fiscal uncertainties.

At this fourth session of the Value in Public Finance peer learning group co-hosted by CIPFA and the University of Oxford, speakers from the OECD, Plymouth City Council, Cotswold District Council and Bertha Centre (University of Cape Town) will introduce their initiatives to explore how we can better finance greener outcomes.

Details of the webinar can be found [here](#).

Public Finance Live – Liverpool 13-14 July 2022

CIPFA's annual conference 'Public Finance Live' will be held at the ACC Liverpool on 13 and 14 July 2022. This conference is aimed at professionals working in public finance and accountancy in the UK and globally.

Attracting over 700 attendees and with plenaries and workshops on everything from climate change to digital fraud, this two-day conference is not to be missed. Public Finance Live 2022 will bring together practitioners, commentators and experts for sector updates, discussions and insights into public finance and public service management.

The conference will feature leading public figures, public sector innovators, commercial partners, commentators and analysts alongside delegates from across the public sector and beyond. Following last year's virtual conference this year's event will take place face to face allowing opportunities for networking, brainstorming, skill sharing and relationship building.

Confirmed speakers include former Cabinet minister Justine Greening, Jeremy Pocklington, permanent secretary at Department for Levelling Up, David Olusoga, historian of black British history, John Harris of the Guardian, and many more.

Discounts are available for group bookings. For more information and to book your place visit <https://publicfinancelive.org/>

Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub

CIPFA has its own [Mental Health and Wellbeing Hub](#) which is an online resource for anyone that needs help, information or support. It is free to use, anonymous, and no registration is required.

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

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

Additional COVID-19 advice and support for local authorities

All the latest official information as well as guidance and resources from COSLA and key partners including weekly briefings for Elected Members. <https://www.cosla.gov.uk/covid-19-information-for-councils>

Essential guidance on all aspects of coronavirus can be found on the [Gov.Scot website](#)

CIPFA Thinks

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

Follow FAN on Twitter and connect to us on LinkedIn

David and Jen will regularly tweet details of relevant news stories, FAN event updates, CIPFA consultation alerts, COVID-19 updates, etc. We encourage subscribers to follow CIPFA network advisors on Twitter for the latest news, so even if you don't 'tweet' yourself, it's a great way to keep updated on key issues affecting local authority finance and accounting. Click to find [David](#) and [Jen](#) on Twitter, or search for all our network advisor tweets using the hashtag [#cipfanetworks](#).

We can also be found on LinkedIn and increasingly use social media for additional FAN updates, so if you are on LinkedIn then please feel free to connect to [David](#) and [Jen](#).

LinkedIn Discussions

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

News Roundup

This service is for subscribers only

Publications

[Code of Practice on Local Authority
Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22](#)

[Code Of Practice On Local Authority
Accounting In The United Kingdom: Guidance
Notes For 2021/22 Accounts](#)

[Code Of Practice on Local Authority
Accounting in the UK Disclosure Checklist for
2021/22 accounts](#)

[Service Reporting Code Of Practice For Local
Authorities 2022/23](#)

[The Art Of Local Government Reorganisation](#)

[Local Authority Owned Companies: A Good
Practice Guide](#)

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