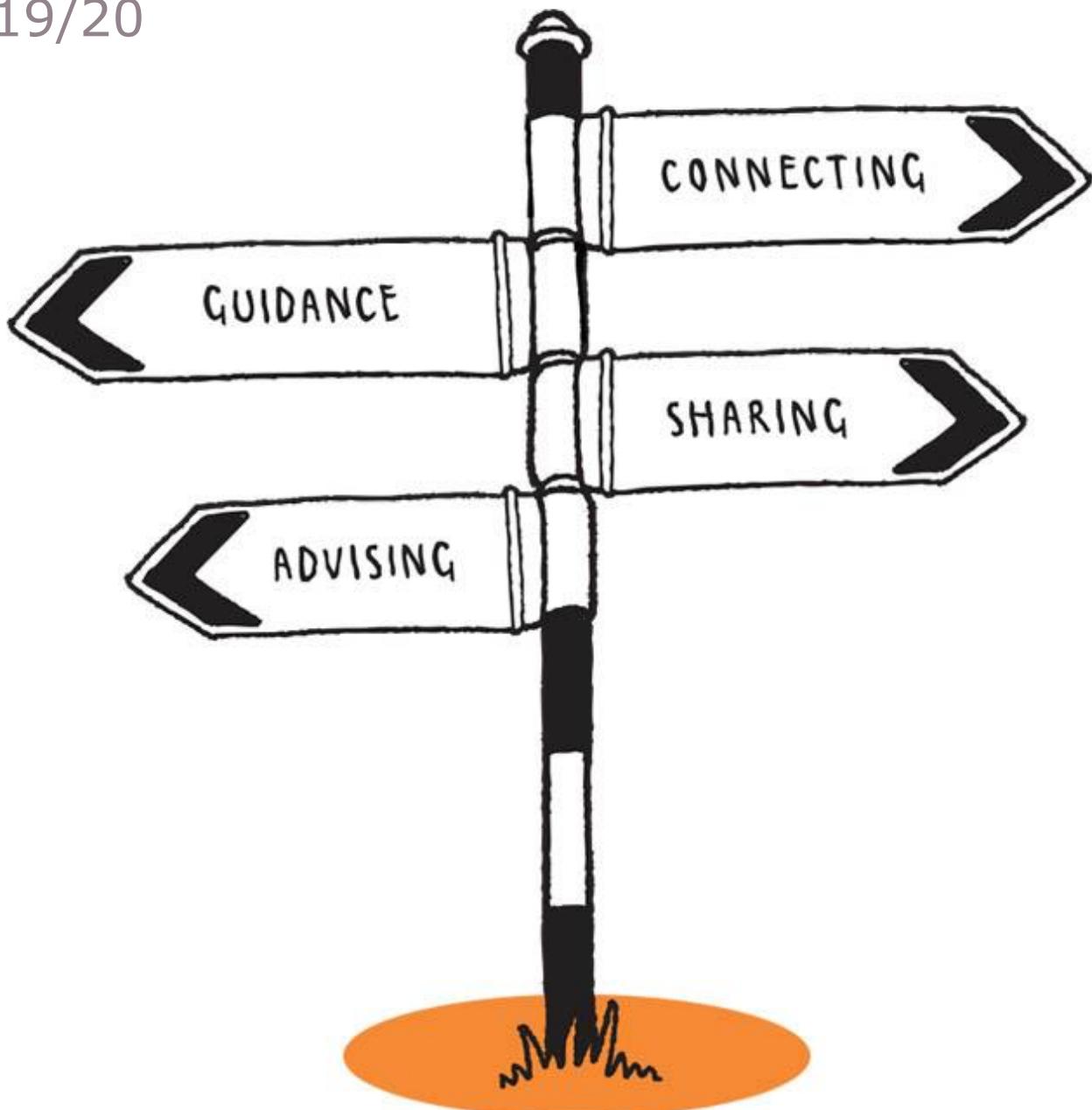


\ your Funding Advisory Service membership

2019/20



CIPFA Networks

CIPFA, the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy, is the world's only professional accounting body to specialise in public services. Our experience and expertise extends through central and local government, education and academies, the NHS and the wider health sector as well as blue light services – means that we are a truly pan-public sector organisation.

There are currently over 1,100 subscriptions to CIPFA networks. Join us and enjoy the significant benefits of belonging to this unique service. Members of our networks are kept informed of the latest political, financial and service developments through a comprehensive package of information, insight, advice and training. Membership also offers numerous opportunities, both face to face and online, for public sector staff to develop their knowledge and skills in key areas.

Extending the Institute's Advisory Support for 2019/20:

CIPFA FAS has provided advice and guidance on future funding levels to local government for several years. And during this time, our financial modelling and projections have been essential in helping councils better understand the pressures they are set to face in achieving and maintaining a balanced budget.

And with the NAO now expressing concern over the longer term financial sustainability of many other local authorities, following last year's section 114 notice from Northamptonshire council, CIPFA continues to look for ways to best support the sector, whether through guidance, network events or via some innovative modelling software.

Key elements of our support today can be found via our new revenue funding model, the introduction of a new Code of Practice in Financial Management and a Resilience Index – all support tools that are intended to help councils identify areas of financial risk, whether through clearer income projections or greater cost / demand management.

Subscribers to the FAS will be the first to benefit and learn from these new tools and upcoming changes, which come with the full support of the Institute's network advisory team, our Policy and Technical staff and our statistical / business analysts.

Membership of the FAS in 2019 starts with a free copy of our new revenue funding model, which has already received some excellent reviews in terms of its' accuracy on projecting around 98% of council revenue. The model was only launched in December 2018 and is already making a huge difference to councils that are using it as a solid starting point in the MTFS projections.

I invite you also to benefit from these changes by becoming a FAS subscriber and through access to these tools and professional support, to let CIPFA help you, in taking some of the strain towards achieving your balanced budget.

Rob Whiteman, Chief Executive.

Welcome to the CIPFA Funding Advisory Service (CIPFA FAS)

Welcome to CIPFA FAS, CIPFA's premium advisory support network to local government practitioners that focus on the sector's future grant funding levels.

With the Fair Funding Review and upcoming localised business rate changes well under way, now is a crucial time for authorities to fully understand what these changes are likely to mean for their future funding envelop.

CIPFA FAS offers unique access not only to our evolving local government funding models but also to some unrivalled guidance and support covering the wider financial resilience agenda.

This is because, from 2019, the Institute will be issuing new guidance and a tailored performance centric dashboard for each subscribing authority on where we believe it sits against our new national resilience benchmark. We will also be launching a brand new Code of Practice on what 'good looks like' in terms of financial management and reporting and so subscribers to the FAS will be at the forefront in terms of understanding what this new Code will now be expecting of the sector, and how best to achieve it.

These new support and advisory tools are all being offered to FAS members in addition to our more traditional advisory events throughout the year (see our program of events below) so practitioners will still have the opportunity for regular face to face updates, technical briefings and networking opportunities with other practitioners at our events.

CIPFA remains committed to helping authorities to meet the ongoing austerity challenges facing the sector. Membership of the FAS provides organisations the ideal opportunity to help stay ahead of these changes; to better understand their current performance and future resilience pressures and to hopefully minimise any risk of issuing their own section 114 notice in the future.

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For any other network enquiries, please contact:

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Benefits of membership for your organisation

- Attendance at a selection of regional network events, and topical conferences either using pre-purchased places or on a pay as you go basis.
- Access to our new local government funding models with technical support and guidance from expert advisors
- Access, advice and updates on CIPFA's brand new Code of Practice on Financial Management and Reporting
- A tailored financial resilience scorecard for your authority compared against a suitable group of comparable councils (i.e. CIPFA nearest neighbours).
- Sharing of knowledge and best practice with peers to create an environment where the key financial funding issues of the day can be debated and addressed
- Online news updates so there is no need to leave your desk
- A regional and national practitioner network for you to share your views and concerns in order to drive change and strengthen the voice of your authority
- Exclusive website access – network websites contain a wealth of published information including regular briefings, newsletters and updates, as well as current and past materials to allow you to engage with colleagues and members in your area and share best practice
- Regular alerts and briefings to keep you updated on the latest financial and policy issues affecting your network
- Timely updates on relevant political, financial and legislative issues giving you all the facts at your fingertips, and information on how these will affect your authority's future funding

Tailored technical briefings will be provided for key areas and emerging issues.

Full details of these events will be available at www.cipfa.org/events or contact Cliff Dalton, Head of CIPFA Networks for further detail.

Programme of events

Our headline events below are complemented by briefings and advisor support for subscribers only.

Our technical events held throughout the year will cover, interpret and update on current issues, best practice and regulatory updates at that time. Specific themes and areas expected to be covered in the coming subscription year, however, will include: Local Government Funding, Budgetary Planning, 100% Business Rates Retention and progress / outcomes of BRR pilots.

NEW for 2019 – CIPFA Essentials (further training days added)

Our new programme of "*Introduction to...*" advisory events designed to help staff and elected members maintain a good working knowledge of over 40 corporate and service specific areas of specialism.

For more detail and a full list of areas covered, go to: <https://www.cipfa.org/services/networks/essentials>

March 2019 – Completing, Funding and Accounting for the NNDR 3 2018/19

Completing the NNDR 3 form, the accounting and funding implications of each section and finalising the NNDR 3 process.

March 2019 – Understanding the FAN Collection Fund Models

These events focus on how best to complete the Collection Fund Accounting spreadsheet models and help to develop a deeper understanding of how they work.

July 2019 – Introduction to Collection Fund Accounting

Everything you need to know about accounting for council tax and business rates and the general fund implications.

September 2019 – Financial Planning

As budgeting and medium term financial planning skills become increasingly essential to the finance practitioner, these events will benefit anyone new to this topic or in need of a refresher.

November 2019 – Gaining more confidence in your forward focused financial plans

As authorities prepare themselves for the outcome of the current fair funding review, these events will provide an update on likely changes to the upcoming CSR period. We will also review outcomes from CIPFA's consultation on its new FM Code of Practice and Financial Resilience model (including the Institute's plans for a new housing resilience scorecard).

January 2019 – CSR 2020, unpicking the numbers.

Using CIPFA's own funding model, these events will focus on what the impact DCLG's latest CSR 2020 announcements are set to have for all different authority groups.

How to join

CIPFA FAS provides frequent updates on topical issues related to local authority funding. This information is vital in staying up to date on the latest policy, legislation and technical issues.

Your subscription entitles you to:

- Access to open, updated local authority funding models and funding advice from expert advisors
- Exclusive and member only access to the CIPFA FAS website:
<http://www.cipfa.org/services/networks/funding-advisory-service>
- Timely updates/briefings on funding and legislative issues
- Attendance at a range of network events using pre-paid places or on a pay-as-you go basis
- A tailored resilience scorecard assessment of your authority, mapped against our 'CIPFA nearest neighbour' benchmarking league table
- Information and advice on CIPFA's new Code of Practice on Financial Management and Reporting as developed by CIPFA's FM Panel
- Log on to 'My CIPFA' or register at www.cipfa.org/register to access a wealth of subscriber content, book on to events and view your pre-paid account balance
- Opportunities for networking, career development and CPD.
- Access to CIPFA Consultancy and Training at preferential rates based on experience of engagement and lessons learned from interventions to improve financial stability

Subscribe today

- Email **cipfanetworks@cipfa.org**, call **020 7543 5600** or complete the form at:
<http://www.cipfa.org/services/networks/funding-advisory-service/subscribe-to-fas>

CIPFA FAS subscription prices (exclusive of VAT):

Districts councils, Police or Fire Service: £2,040 p.a.
Other Authorities: £2,550 p.a.

We look forward to welcoming you to the CIPFA FAS.

Subscribe to more than one network?

Why not ask about a corporate support network-wide package and you could save money and gain access to more services.

To find out more, contact our customer services team at
cipfanetworks@cipfa.org, call **020 7543 5600** or e-mail

Cliff Dalton, Networks Manager at: cliff.dalton@cipfa.org

Our current networks are:

- **Alternative Service Delivery Network**
- **Better Governance Forum**
- **Benefits and Revenues Service**
- **Children's Services Finance Advisory Network**
- **Counter Fraud Advisory Network (new for 2018)**
- **Finance Advisory Network**
- **Funding Advisory Service**
- **Housing Network**
- **Insurance Network**
- **Pensions Network**
- **Police and Fire Network**
- **Procurement and Commissioning Network**
- **Social Care Advisory Network**
- **Tax Advisory Network**
- **Treasury Management Network**



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