

Foreword

The focus of this guide is adults' social care in England. References are made to some of the key differences in Scotland and Wales. The principles of good financial management in the delivery of adult social care are as appropriate in Scotland and Wales as in England.

WHO THE GUIDE IS AIMED AT

This guide aims to help non-finance staff and staff new to finance in councils and partner agencies to understand the financial framework within which adult social care is delivered by local authorities. It is not intended as a detailed technical guide and explanations have been simplified.

PURPOSE OF THE GUIDE

This guide focuses on financial management issues in the public sector and in adult social care services in particular.

While it is a complicated area, the guide gives the reader a clear overview of the key and current issues within adult social care finance without being distracted by too much complex detail. Once the reader understands the building blocks, they will be better placed to explore the many real-life complexities in the delivery of adult social care.

CIPFA SOCIAL CARE RESOURCES

CIPFA has a wide range of helpful resources available to support CIPFA members and others involved in the delivery of social care. These resources include:

- the guidance and publications of the Social Care and Welfare Reform Panel
- the Health and Social Care Finance Advisory Network
- TISonline – the online information resource for public sector financial managers – with coverage of issues across local government services
- CIPFAstats and benchmarking clubs, which provide a useful range of comparative data to help identify trends and compare councils.

Please see the CIPFA website for more details at www.cipfa.org

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