



CIPFA South East Conference

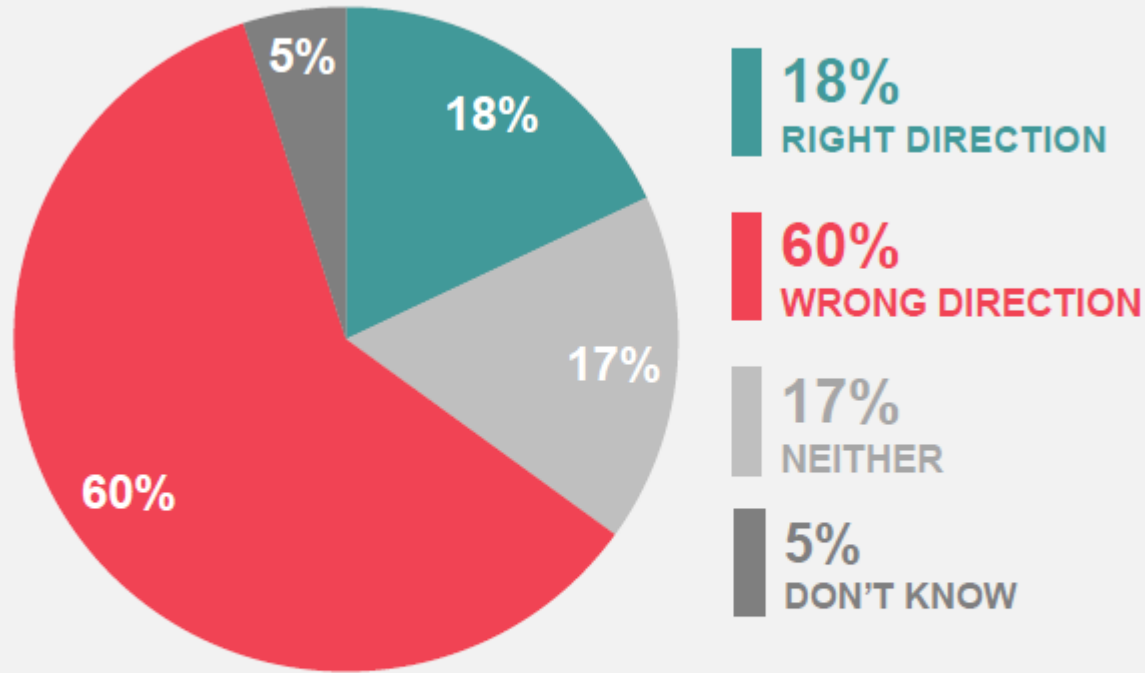
Enabling a resilient and sustainable public sector

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The Chartered Institute of
Public Finance & Accountancy

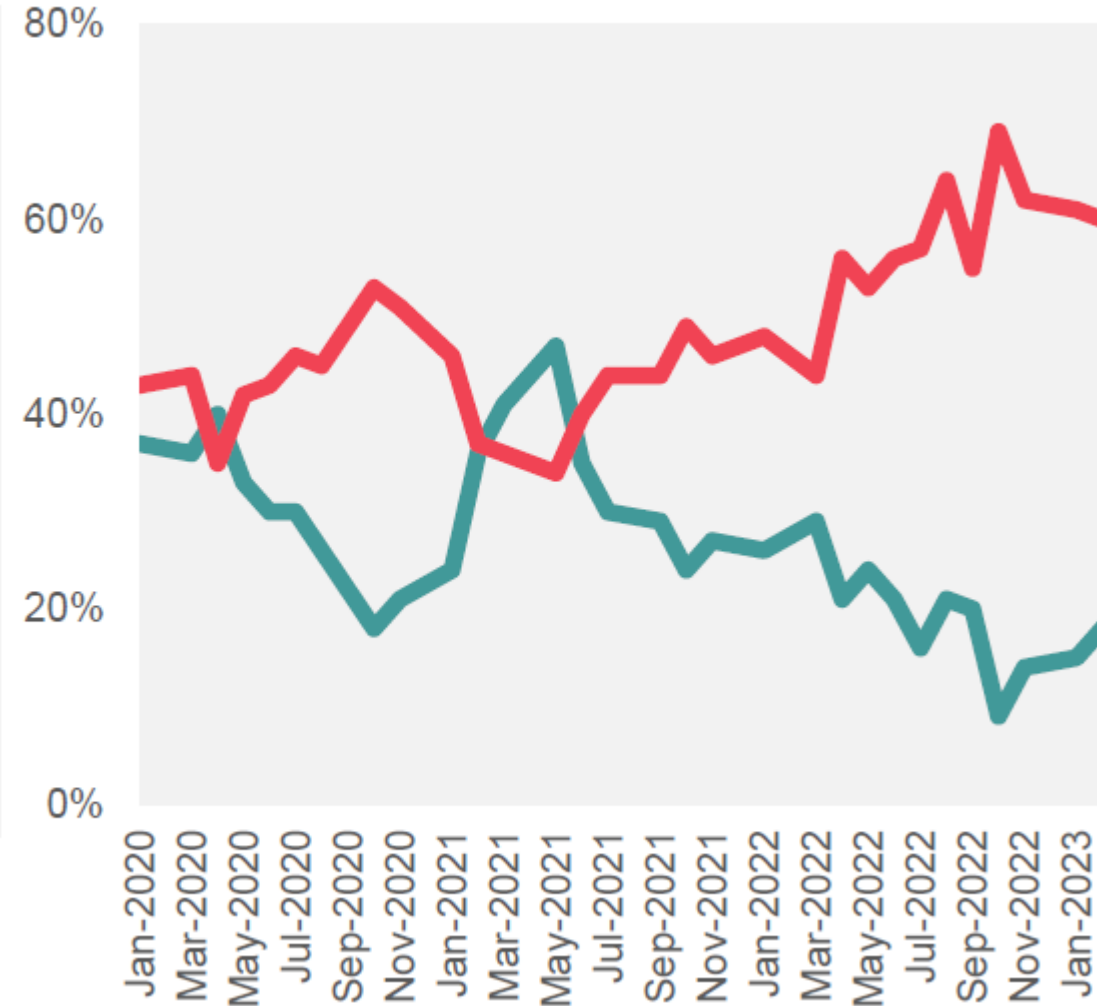
Generally speaking, do you think things in Great Britain are heading in the right direction or wrong direction?

February 2023



Net right direction = -42

January 2020 – February 2023



Base: 2,219 Online British adults aged 18+ 10-15 February 2023

Supported by
our findings
from
Performance
Tracker





“MOST OF THE IMPORTANT THINGS IN THE
WORLD HAVE BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY
PEOPLE WHO HAVE KEPT ON TRYING WHEN
THERE SEEMED TO BE NO HOPE AT ALL.”

DALE CARNEGIE



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Looking for Solutions



Sustainability

Public sector Reform

Workforce capacity

Improving Reporting

Governance and Assurance

Just Out – Sustainability Reporting



Sustainability

Key areas identified by the research

- clarity on the definition and scope of sustainability reporting
- accelerating the alignment and harmonisation of existing frameworks
- committing to public sector sustainability reporting at an institutional and organisational level
- recognition of the key role of assurance in sustainability reporting
- prioritising the development of broader skill sets, expertise or assurance activities
- integration with wider forms of reporting
- promoting and strengthening institutional arrangements for oversight and scrutiny



Public Sector Reform



Public sector funding

- Resilient and sustainable
- Council tax and funding



Health care integration

- Shared outcomes
- Integrated Care System



Tackling inequalities and Levelling up Bidding Outcomes



Lack of long-term funding



Short term decision making



Risk taking in the sector



For some this has been significant

Experiences of the Local Government Sector



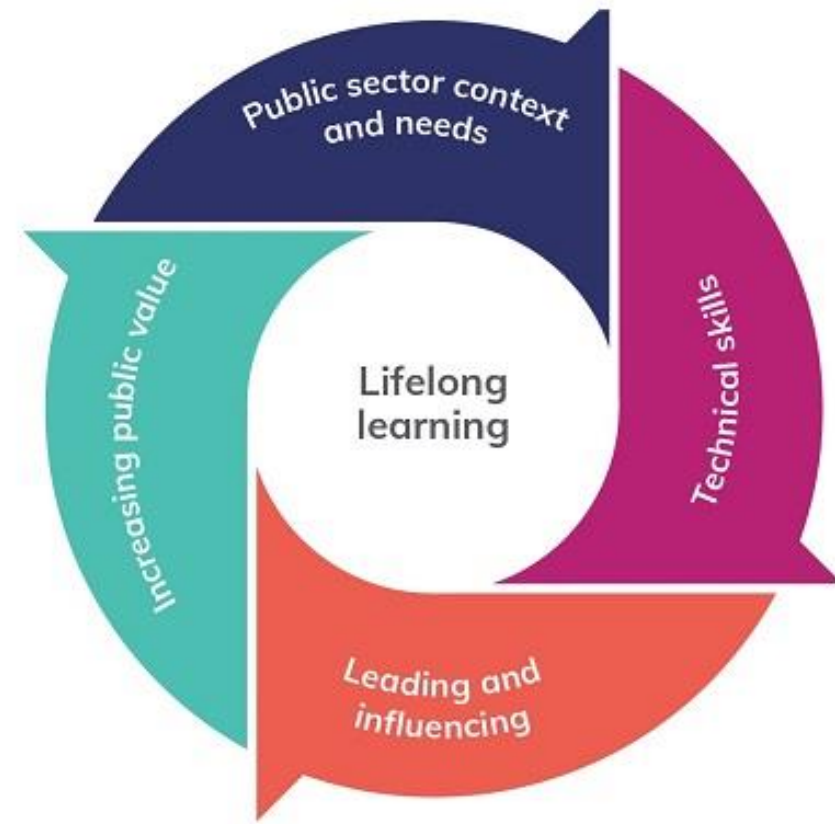
Building Resilience – sharing knowledge

Raising the voice of the finance professional

As a professional Institute CIPFA's views regarding public sector finance are highly regarded and the institute has responded to the following parliamentary inquiries:

- Prevention in health and social care (Health and Social Care Committee, House of Commons)
- Inquiry into Public Administration - Effective Scottish Government decision-making (Finance and Public Administration Committee, Scottish Parliament)
- Timeliness of Local Auditor Reporting (Public Accounts Committee, House of Commons)
- Financial Reporting and Audit in Local Authorities (Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Committee, House of Commons)
- Building Safety Levy consultation (BEIS)

Workforce Capacity



- | | | | |
|---|---|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Political awareness Value for money Financial reporting Decision-making Accountability Governance Risk management Commercial understanding Counter-fraud Sector specific | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Financial accounting Management accounting Audit Costing Procurement Counter-fraud Data | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Strategy and governance Collaboration Business partnering Communication and impact Innovation and change | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Stakeholder relationships Value for money Investment appraisal Strategic thinking Commercial understanding Benchmarking Delivery models Reorganisation |
|---|---|--|---|

CIPFA Bulletin 19- Local Authority Reserves and Balances (Updated)

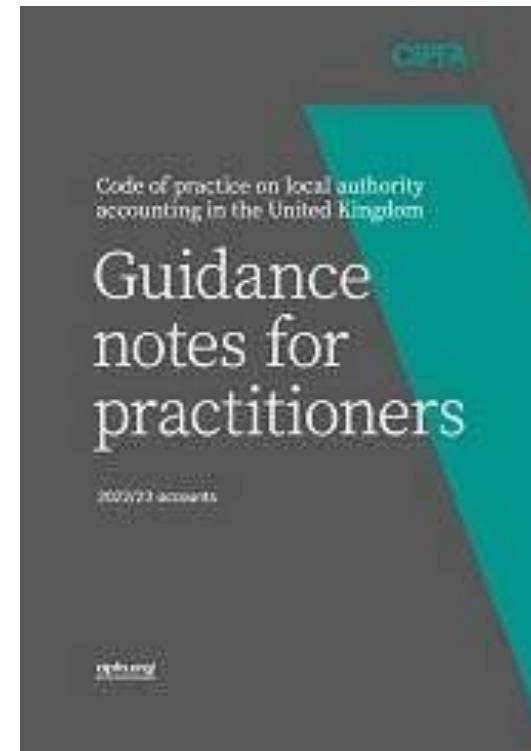
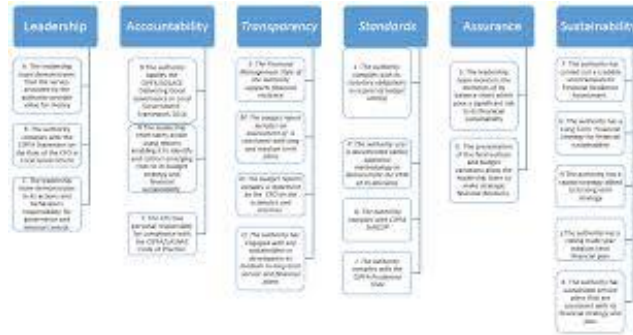
March 2020

CIPFA issues bulletins to assist practitioners with the application of the requirements of the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code), the Service Reporting Code of Practice (SRCOP) and the Prudential Code, and to provide advice on emerging or urgent accounting issues. Bulletins provide influential guidance that is intended to be best practice, but they are not prescriptive and do not have the formal status of the Code, SRCOP or the Prudential Code.

Please address any queries to the CIPFA Technical Enquiry Service for CIPFA members and students.

technical.enquiry@cipfa.org

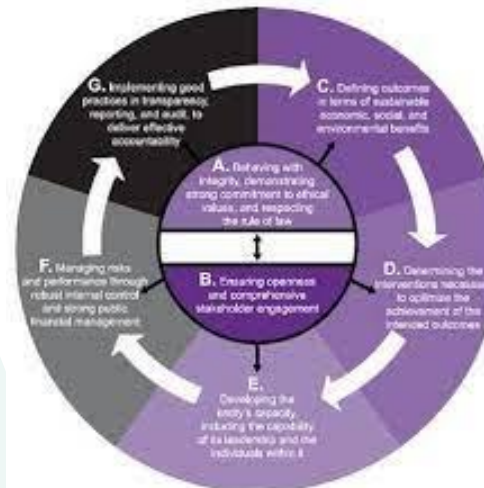
The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) is the professional body for people in public finance. Our 14,000 members work throughout the public services, in national audit agencies, major accountancy firms, and other bodies where public money needs to be effectively and efficiently managed. As the world's only professional accountancy body to specialise in public services, CIPFA's qualifications are the foundation for a career in public finance. We also champion high performance in public services, harnessing our experience and insight into clear, advanced practical pointers. Globally, CIPFA leads the way in public finance by standing up for sound public financial management and good governance.



Improving Reporting

Governance and Assurance

- Key areas identified by the research Untapped potential
- Successful organizations need to have robust and effective management and governance, including an understanding of assurance.
- Internal audit must be kept independent to achieve its maximum impact
- Internal audit is often not allowed to unleash its full potential. The importance of its contribution must be fully understood and appreciated by clients – management and audit committees.
- Discussions on public sector policy issues, be they social care, financial resilience or technological change, should acknowledge the importance of assurance and highlight internal audit's contribution.



Governance and Assurance – Global

A selection of best practices and global case studies focusing on tackling fraud and preventing the vicious circle of corruption, segmented into nine key areas.

Entire compendium focuses on positive case studies, highlighting creative, innovative, and most importantly real world examples of corruption prevention initiatives.

Preventing Corruption: A Compendium of Global Case Studies



Nine key topics

- Civil society and social media
- Conflicts of interest
- Corruption risk assessment
- Culture change
- Investigation, prosecution and deterrence
- Prevention strategies
- Role of technology
- Training and mentoring
- Whistleblowing

<https://www.cipfa.org/services/cipfa%20solutions/fraud%20and%20corruption/preventing%20corruption%20a%20compendium%20of%20global%20case%20studies>

Strengthening debate in the public sector

Links to current issues

Financial Resilience

The [report Learning lessons: what Section 114 can teach us](#) explores Section 114 notices as well as common trends and themes around financial management and governance in local authorities it complements the CIPFA IFS funding model and the [resilience index](#)

Financial Management Code

[Implementation of the financial management code](#) is a Civica sponsored insight into the implementation and strengthening of financial management via CIPFA's Financial Management Code.

[Practice Advisory Note Advisory note three](#): The importance of good governance, effective oversight and accountability of council-owned companies

This advisory note formalises key messages from the CIPFA practice oversight panel on the crucial importance of good governance during the establishment and subsequent operation of council-owned companies.

[Bulletin 12 Infra structure Assets](#) To provide guidance on the temporary solution for accounting for infrastructure assets, focusing on the reporting of the derecognition provisions where there is replacement expenditure and particularly for highways infrastructure assets

Bulletin [13 Local Authority Reserves and balances](#) updating the last bulletin and including SEND deficits