

# Spreadsheet

CIPFA.ORG | NEWS FOR MEMBERS AND STUDENTS

OCTOBER 2015



First cohort of students start

## \ new integrated qualification in audit

a joint initiative between ICAS and CIPFA

Grant Thornton students are the first to take the new audit qualification

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[CIPFA director to head IPSASB](#)

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[Recruitment drive for new panel members](#)

**CIPFA** \

# Message from the President

Now that summer is over, it's getting busier and busier.

Certainly, CIPFA has been making a lot of headway in continuing to strengthen its partnerships both in the UK and abroad since the last edition.

This time last year, CIPFA had just been appointed as sole provider of finance training for the NHS leadership academy, which demonstrated the continued relevance of our qualification in the sector. And as I write this, the second cohort of graduates will be beginning their training through which they will gain the skills and knowledge they need to manage the financial pressures the NHS is continuing to face.

From personal experience, I know how important it is that we equip the NHS to develop its future finance leaders. In my role in the Scottish Government overseeing NHS Scotland's budget, I am always impressed by the enthusiasm and commitment our new recruits demonstrate in working proactively to deal with our current challenges and budget pressures.

Last month, I had the pleasure of meeting the latest cohort of graduate trainees for NHS Scotland. Their confidence and enthusiasm was almost tangible and I felt a tingle of jealousy as I saw them start out on their careers.

We have recently concluded an outstanding commercial opportunity with Grant Thornton. They approached

us about developing a new service called FD Insights. This will allow local authority FDs to analyse social, economic and demographic data of Britain's cities and localities. Using this information, they will have new insight into trends and comparisons. We plan to launch the tool soon.

CIPFA has also reached new partnership agreements a little further from home. As part of CIPFA's aim to improve financial management in public sector entities across the world, we will be working with Botho University, a major training provider in Botswana. The agreement means its accountancy students can train for CIPFA's professional qualification in International Public Financial Management, the only accountancy qualification based upon International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).

The Institute also cemented another great working relationship with the Institute of Chartered Accountants Ghana (ICAF) by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU creates a framework for the two institutes to work together to promote good public financial management practices in Ghana.

Across all public services, CIPFA works tirelessly to ensure its members are up to speed with the latest developments in the sector so they can best serve the organisation they work for.

The Institute has recently launched a series of lunchtime Webinar sessions, so that our members can learn about the latest information, hints and tips over their lunchbreaks. They are on a range of topics from making sense of governance to leading complex change, so do be sure to sign up.

One of my most pleasant early Presidential duties was to write to Her Majesty the Queen congratulating her, on behalf of CIPFA members, on becoming the longest serving British monarch.

Highlights on the immediate horizon are the Conference for the Regions at Warwick University and the Northern Ireland Conference.

I hope you all have a great autumn and I am looking forward to meeting many more of you as I continue my term as President.



**John Matheson,  
President**



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Keeping up with CIPFA

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### Ian Carruthers to head IPSASB

CIPFA's Ian Carruthers, Executive Director Policy and Standards, has been appointed chair of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards Board (IPSASB).

The three-year terms starts in January 2016, during which time he will lead the board in developing and promoting high-quality financial reporting standards for use by public sector entities around the world.

He will undertake his role as Chair for three-quarters of his time, with the balance spent with CIPFA as Chair, CIPFA Standards where he will be responsible for leading our work in this area and

helping build our impact around the world.

Ian Carruthers said: 'I am honoured to have been chosen to lead IPSASB through the next exciting and crucial phase of its work, in particular in addressing some of the most pressing financial reporting issues facing the public sector today.'

CIPFA CEO Rob Whiteman said: 'This is a huge honour for both Ian and CIPFA, which should really help to cement our role as the leading professional accountancy organisation in public financial management and governance globally.'



Ian Carruthers takes up his new role in January

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### CIPFA urges Greek government to use IPSAS to correct over-statement of debt

The Greek government should use International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) to accurately reveal Greece's real debt position, urges Ian Ball, Chair of CIPFA International.

He said there had been a widespread misunderstanding of Greek finances which had resulted in policies and agreements that may only exacerbate the fiscal and economic problems Greece faces.

IPSAS, which has recently been adopted by Greece, is the only internationally recognised basis for public sector accounting. As a result of the transparency associated with IPSAS-based financial statements there would be a better informed electorate and a more accountable government.

Its accounting methods also use measurement rules on an accrual basis that could clarify the size of Greece's debt and prevent its current fiscal position from getting worse.

Ian Ball said:

'This pervasive misunderstanding of Greece's real fiscal position has seen agreements reached between Greece and its creditors which do not address the real problem and instead may actually intensify it.'

'Confronting the actual position faced by Greece, and the losses already incurred by the creditors, would give both Greece and its creditors a fresh start in addressing the very real issues facing the Greek economy and would help prevent the situation from worsening.'

Read the full [press release online](#).

**'This pervasive misunderstanding of Greece's real fiscal position has seen agreements reached which may actually intensify it.'**

### New-look Academies Hub

CIPFA's online hub for people working in academies management and finance has had a makeover to give a fresh new look to this free resource bank of help and guidance on accounting, auditing, governance and financial management.

The Hub will be on show at the [CIPFA's annual Academies Conference](#) on 7 October when the changing funding landscape and the challenges that this poses to academies and their ability to balance the budget comes under the spotlight.

Expert speakers from the Education Funding Agency, Association of School and College Leaders, National Association of School Business Management and other related organisations will provide insights on the latest developments in academies.

Register online to access the Academies Hub.

[www.cipfa.org/academies](http://www.cipfa.org/academies)

## Partnership to strengthen public financial management in Pakistan

CIPFA and the Pakistan Institute of Public Finance Accountants (PIPFA) will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on 12 October to develop the accounting profession in Pakistan's public sector and strengthen public financial management.

The MOU will also explore a range of membership routes to give PIPFA members the chance to join CIPFA.

The signing ceremony will take place in Lahore with Rob Whiteman, Chief Executive of CIPFA, Rana Assad Amin, Auditor General of Pakistan, and Mohammad Maqbool, President of PIPFA.

Rob Whiteman, CEO of CIPFA, said:

'We will work with PIPFA to enhance the accounting profession in Pakistan so they are in the best possible position to account for how public funds are spent.'

Mohammad Maqbool, PIPFA President, said:

'This is a new milestone in the history of accountancy in Pakistan and this initiative is expected to bring public finance management reforms in Pakistan and enhance the capacity of our national institutions engaged in public finance management and public sector audit functions.'

PIPFA has over 6,600 members and 29,000 students and is the premium national body for providing professional accountancy education to the public sector of Pakistan.

## CIPFA publishes health check of NHS finances

The NHS is unlikely to achieve the £22bn of efficiency savings it has agreed to make to plug the £30bn gap in its finances by 2020, warns CIPFA.

The Institute said the NHS is not able to "react fast enough" to achieve this unprecedented level of savings over the next five years while maintaining the same level of service and treating an ageing population.

CIPFA said the NHS required radical transformation to deliver major efficiencies but this was not realistic by 2020, whilst Trust Boards should also exercise more direct grip on short-term efficiency measures.

In its briefing paper, *The Health of Health Finances*, CIPFA said the £30bn funding gap figure was an "optimistic position" and that the real figure may be higher because it preceded the government's manifesto pledges such as increasing seven-day working in the NHS.

Pay restraint is also likely to become harder to deliver, even with the Budget's 1% cap on annual pay increases, while the introduction of the National Living Wage will put further pressure on costs.

As things stand, the government is left with three choices: charge patients to use some services such as a flat rate contributory fee to see the doctor, reduce services, or increase funding - which would impact on other departmental budgets.

Read the [press notice and report](#) in full online.

## Impact of public sector spending cuts on asset management

Over the summer, CIPFA Property held a series of events across the country with the theme 'Stick or Twist', looking at how local authorities have responded to the unprecedented financial pressures on services since 2010.

To support these events, CIPFA Property asked their AMP Network members to complete a survey to assess the current state of asset management in the public sector and how local authorities are responding to current financial pressures across the UK.

Jane Taylor, CIPFA Property Advisor, said: 'Our survey asked whether local authorities were simply burying their heads in the sand, or trying new initiatives to help plot a course through the stormy seas? We asked what initiatives authorities were currently engaged in and whether there had been an increase or decrease in these areas over the last five years, compared to before 2010.'

From the 55 responses received, the survey indicated that, despite decreasing budgets and staff reductions, authorities continue to explore innovative ways to make property work harder, finding solutions to ever changing needs as new challenges emerge.

The detailed findings of the survey are outlined in the [Autumn issue of Terrier, the Association of Chief Estates Surveyors and Property Managers in the Public Sector \(ACES\) Magazine](#).

### New training partnership in Botswana

CIPFA has launched a new training partnership with Botho University, a major training faculty in Botswana, continuing the growth of CIPFA's international public financial management training provision.

The CIPFA partnership with Botho University will allow accountancy students in Botswana to study for CIPFA's professional qualification in International Public Financial Management (IPFM), the only accountancy qualification based upon International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS). This qualification gives students across the world the opportunity to achieve Chartered Public Finance Accountant status.

Speaking at the launch event in August, Botho University's Vice-Chancellor Sheela Raja Ram said:



CIPFA and Botho University representatives at the launch

'We're extremely happy to partner with CIPFA in running this new IPFM curriculum. By virtue of this partnership, Botho University, with its rich experience in imparting accounting knowledge, will be in a very good position to up-skill the accountants working in the local and the central governments of this country

to match the rigors and requirements of this transition to IPSAS.'

[www.cipfa.org/about-cipfa/press-office/latest-press-releases/cipfa-launches-innovative-training-partnership-in-botswana](http://www.cipfa.org/about-cipfa/press-office/latest-press-releases/cipfa-launches-innovative-training-partnership-in-botswana)

### New training programmes launched in Macedonia



PACT students in Macedonia

CIPFA and the Centre of Excellence and Finance (CEF) based in Slovenia have started delivering two new qualification programmes in Macedonia, building on the partnership's success in public finance training in the former Yugoslav republic since 2007.

A group of public sector finance professionals has now started Public Accountants Certification Training (PACT) at diploma level, having completed the certificate level already.

By the end of the course, successful students will have completed six CIPFA IPFM modules, been awarded the CIPFA Diploma in International Public Financial Management and will be eligible for CIPFA affiliate membership.

A fourth cohort of auditor trainees also started the Training of Internal Auditors in the Public Sector (TIAPS) programme in September.

Victoria Bainbridge, CIPFA's South East Europe Business Development Manager, said: 'This expansion of programmes in Macedonia and the on-going local commitment including donor funding is a marker of the respect for, and continuing success of, CIPFA's long-standing partnership with CEF in South East Europe.'

[www.cef-see.org/news/start-of-new-season-of-training-for-internal-auditors-in-macedonia-2015-08-27](http://www.cef-see.org/news/start-of-new-season-of-training-for-internal-auditors-in-macedonia-2015-08-27)

**CIPFA assesses feasibility of cross-national council comparisons within UK**

The Public Policy Institute for Wales (PPIW) has published a study into the feasibility of comparing the performance of Welsh, English and Scottish councils, conducted by CIPFA.

The CIPFA study - *Comparing Council Performance: The Feasibility of Cross-National Comparisons within the UK* - covered the 22 Welsh unitary authorities, 91 English unitary authorities and metropolitan districts and 32 Scottish unitary authorities.

The report identifies indicators that provide a basis for reliable comparisons of expenditure and performance at service level, and it outlines methods to take account of issues such as deprivation and funding arrangements to ensure like-for-like comparisons.

The report concludes that much of the financial data is collected in a consistent manner and there are a number of financial and performance indicators that are comparable across all three countries. However, there is no reliable basis on which to compare overall council performance across the UK. This lack of comparable analysis needs to be addressed, and the report recommends that audit bodies, local authority associations and governments collaborate to achieve this.

View the report on the [PPIW website](#).

**New e-learning for staff highlights importance of whistleblowing**

Staff are the eyes and ears of any organisation, and whistleblowing arrangements are a vital component of good governance and risk management.

The CIPFA Counter Fraud Centre has developed a new, accessible e-learning course on whistleblowing in partnership with Mazars and the whistleblowing charity Public Concern at Work.

The course has been designed for use by all staff in local authorities and charities and is ideal if your organisation has a whistleblowing policy in place. It aims to dispel some of the common myths around whistleblowing, to highlight its importance and to explain how to raise and report concerns at work. The course features high profile examples which bring the content to life, sector-specific case studies and definitions.

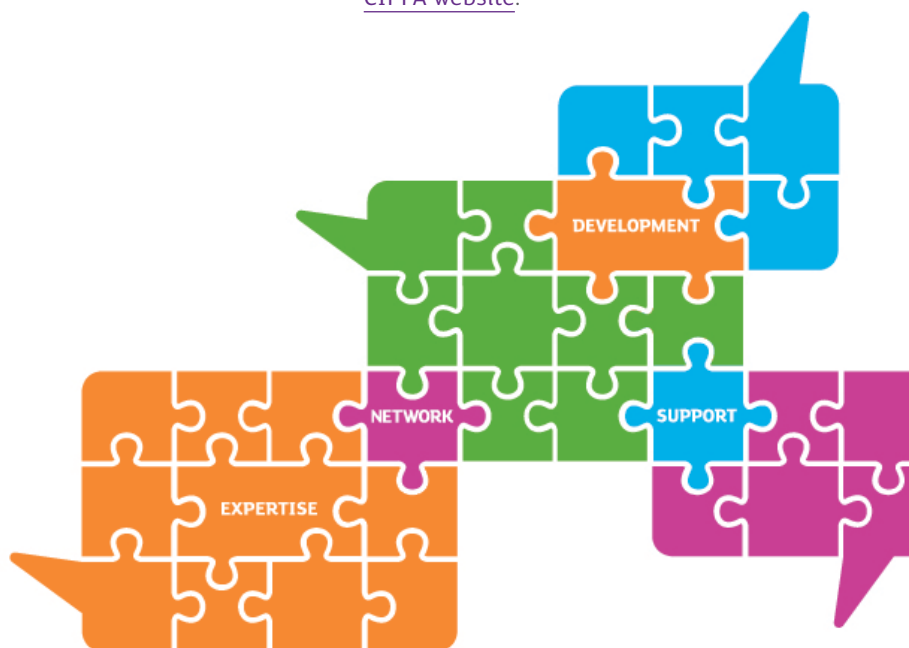
To find out more and place your order, visit the [CIPFA website](#).

**New Assessment Tool launched to support counter fraud code of practice**

The Better Governance Forum and the CIPFA Counter Fraud Centre have developed an accessible, interactive Assessment Tool, designed to help public sector organisations measure their counter-fraud arrangements against the Code of Practice on Managing the Risk of Fraud and Corruption.

The Code was published in October 2014 and sets out the five key principles that define the governance and operational arrangements necessary for an effective counter fraud response. The Tool helps organisations to apply these principles in practice by generating reports and graphs to illustrate performance, recording comments and tracking team progress.

Local authorities will find the tool particularly useful when they come to prepare their annual governance statement. For full details and to watch a short introductory webinar, visit the [CIPFA website](#).



**CIPFA sets out measures to improve corporate governance in Irish government**

CIPFA has urged the Irish government to implement a series of reforms to help improve its corporate governance.

In its submission to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform’s consultation on governance, CIPFA welcomed the draft standard but said that more could be done to build on this to raise standards further across central government departments.

Specifically, CIPFA recommended that departmental management boards move away from a strict management function to greater leadership roles to signal wider change and transformation throughout the organisation.

Departmental management boards would also benefit from external independent membership. The Northern Ireland Civil Service,

for example, typically includes two independent board members for each government department, adding objectivity, challenge and breadth of experience.

CIPFA also said that boards should move away from self-assessment and instead use an external facilitator annually, with a more comprehensive external governance review every five years, to remove the risks and pitfalls of self-assessment where boards can overestimate their performance because of a lack of objective and independent review.

Pushing governance further up the political agenda, CIPFA Republic of Ireland ran a special session on 2 September in Dublin to discuss the prevailing issues, chaired by Jim Kelly,

Chair of the Branch. He highlighted the 2014 IFAC/CIPFA Governance Framework and discussed how public bodies might strive for excellence using the Framework.

[www.cipfa.org/about-cipfa/press-office/latest-press-releases/irish-government-corporate-governance](http://www.cipfa.org/about-cipfa/press-office/latest-press-releases/irish-government-corporate-governance)



CIPFA ROI ran a governance event in Dublin on 2 September

**CIPFA Charity Conference addresses sector challenges**



Charity Commission CEO Paula Sussex is the keynote speaker at the charity conference

These are challenging times for charities, with changes in the levels and sources of income, increasing emphasis on accountability, and the need to provide evidence of effective outcomes and social value.

The CIPFA Charity Conference on 3 November is part of CIPFA’s growing work in this area and will provide key updates on developments on regulatory matters, governance and financial reporting as well as looking at measuring social value and what makes a successful charity.

Conference speakers include:

- Paula Sussex, Chief Executive, Charity Commission
- Ian Oakley-Smith, Director and Head of Charities PwC

- Steve Harper, Senior Manager, Grant Thornton
- Nigel Davies, Head of Accountancy Services, Charity Commission
- Stuart Parkinson, Associate Director, Baker Tilly Tax and Accounting
- Pesh Framjee, Partner, Head of Non Profits Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP
- Andrew Hind, Editor of Charity Finance, Civil Society

Download the programme and book online at: [www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-charity-conference-20151103-london](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-charity-conference-20151103-london)

Find out more about the work of the [CIPFA Charities & Social Enterprises Panel](#) on CIPFA’s website.

## Institute matters

### Malawi government delegation visits Japan

A delegation of government finance officials from Malawi recently visited Japan, and were hosted by CIPFA Japan's President, Prof Toshihiko Ishihara, who showed them the Japanese public sector in action as part of his volunteering work for the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

Prof Ishihara said: 'JICA has been supporting Malawi for more than 40 years, and they asked me to help the Malawi delegation visit some Japanese local government as an academic advisor.'

'Before that, I invited them to my university, Kwansai Gakuin, and gave them some lectures - including one about the excellence of CIPFA in public sector financial management.'

'They were very interested in performance management and preparing balance sheets for budgeting.'



CIPFA memory sticks made popular souvenirs for the Malawian visitors

I have taught about ten Japanese local authorities these themes and the local government which we visited is very famous for their successful introduction of these management techniques. Of course, my teaching has been based on CIPFA's framework.'

Prof Toshihiko Ishihara said: 'The delegation knows well about CIPFA and they hope to introduce the qualification system which is concentrated on public finance. On behalf of CIPFA, I presented them with CIPFA USB sticks!'

### Financial management model goes global

Over 300 organisations, across all sectors, have benefited from using the CIPFA Financial Management (FM) Model to transform their financial management.

Our success is also resonating further afield - our team of experts have just returned from a project with CPA Australia, one of the world's largest accounting bodies, where they have been working closely with the Treasury to train a local team to roll it out across their public sector.

The FM Model's online diagnostic toolkit for assessing the financial performance of public sector organisations is also catching the attention of the charity sector. And because it is flexible, it can be tailored to focus on a particular

aspect that you wish to improve, or to conduct a full review of your whole organisation's financial management.

Find out [what some of our users think](#). And find out more about the [FM Model](#) and how it can help you. Email Stuart Fair at E: [stuart.fair@cipfa.org](mailto:stuart.fair@cipfa.org) with any queries.

### Free affiliate membership for counter fraud practitioners until the end of the year

CIPFA Affiliate membership is now open to practitioners who work in counter fraud and corruption roles for public, private and not-for-profit sectors and whose work includes interaction with law enforcement agencies and the criminal justice system.

Rachael Tiffen, Head of Counter Fraud and Governance, said: 'This

is an important step towards the professionalisation and formal recognition of this specialist field.'

From now until the end of the year, applicants will be exempt from the standard fee and will gain from the full range of members benefits, including a free webinar on 'Setting Counter Fraud Standards' with speakers from CIPFA, City of London Police, NHS Protect and universities.

The CIPFA Counter Fraud Centre is now working collaboratively with the City of London Police Economic Crime Academy to improve skill sets and knowledge across the sector through training and development and to advance the concept of professional status.

For more details, visit [www.cipfa.org/members/become-a-member](http://www.cipfa.org/members/become-a-member).



**New PAC chair to speak at CIPFA Governance and Counter Fraud Summit**

The UK public sector’s most comprehensive and established governance event, the CIPFA Governance and Counter Fraud Summit, is being held at London Zoo on 13 October.

The programme features high profile speakers, including Meg Hillier MP, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, Julie Parker, Chair of the joint CIPFA and Solace working group, David Harper, Director of Intelligence at the Competition and Markets Authority and Darren Hughes, Deputy Chief Executive of the Electoral Reform Society.

They will inspire, inform and challenge your thinking on governance and counter fraud. For full programme details and to book your place, visit the [CIPFA website](#). For details on all the Centre’s future events, including training opportunities, visit its [‘Upcoming events’](#) page.

**Pensions partnership with Barnett Waddingham**

Barnett Waddingham, the UK’s leading independent firm of actuaries, has joined forces with CIPFA to provide support and training for local pension board members.

The partnership follows the introduction of new governance arrangements for public sector pension schemes which mean that as of 1 April 2015, local pension boards must be set up and that their members must, by law, have and maintain knowledge and understanding in prescribed areas.

CIPFA and Barnett Waddingham now offer bespoke assessment, training, support and monitoring programmes for Local Government Pension Scheme and other public sector local pension boards and their members, built around the new requirements and specific requirements of each local pension board.

Barnett Waddingham have also recently contributed to CIPFA’s technical knowledge and [skills framework document](#) for local pension boards.

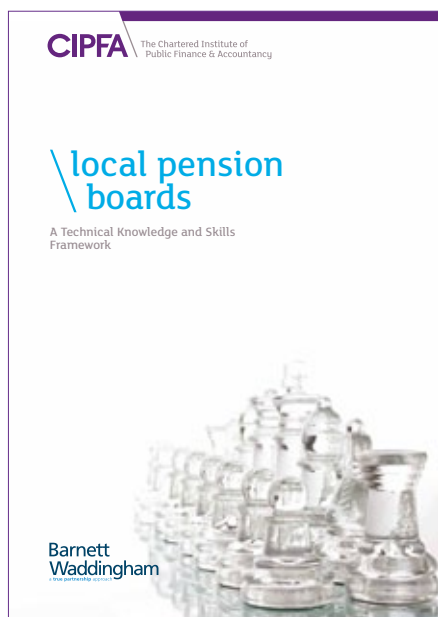
**Pensions Panel chair vacancy**

Following the retirement of its long-standing chair, CIPFA’s Pensions Panel is looking for a replacement to lead on informing and publicising CIPFA pensions policy and supporting practitioners in delivering best practice in public sector pensions governance and financial management.

The Panel plays a major role in the public sector pensions arena, particularly in local government, where it is a key advisor to government, regulators and the Scheme Advisory Board. It also has oversight of CIPFA’s wide range of pensions publications.

The role would suit a current or former local authority treasurer with experience of a leadership role in the financial administration of the Local Government Pension Scheme. The successful applicant will need to demonstrate an informed understanding of the existing public sector pensions’ landscape and the current issues, particularly in local government. Above all, applicants must demonstrate proven leadership and consensus building skills.

More [information on the role and how to apply](#) before Friday 30 October 2015 can be found online. Interviews are scheduled for the week commencing 16 November 2015.



**Guidance for public service pension scheme boards produced with Barnett Waddingham**

**Welsh finance minister given honorary membership**

CIPFA has awarded the Welsh Government’s Minister for Finance and Government Business, Jane Hutt, honorary membership in recognition of her work in implementing financial reforms in Wales.

The Minister’s work has included the Welsh Government’s response to the Commission on Devolution for Wales (the Silk Commission) and the UK Government’s St David’s Day announcement in 2014, both of which secured greater fiscal and borrowing powers for Wales.

Ms Hutt has also successfully navigated and secured four Budgets through the Welsh Assembly - a significant achievement given that the Welsh Labour Government operated as a

minority government throughout the entire period of the fourth Assembly.

CIPFA awards only a limited number of individuals an honorary membership in recognition of their outstanding contribution towards the public services.

Jane Hutt AM said: ‘I am honoured to receive CIPFA membership, an organisation that has strong links with the Welsh Government. These are challenging times for public services across the UK and particularly in Wales. Effective budget planning and financial management are key to meeting the challenge.’

Ms Hutt is due to address the [CIPFA Wales Annual Conference](#) on 26 November.



Jane Hutt has received honorary CIPFA membership for her financial reforms in Wales



Tony Travers, Chair of the Commission  
© LSE / Nigel Stead

**Welsh Independent Finance Commission launched to reform local government**

An Independent Commission set up to examine the current local government finance system in Wales is calling for evidence.

Recognising that there is a real and pressing need to reform the existing system, the Independent Commission on Local Government Finance Wales aims to look at how to deliver a better deal for councils, tax payers and local communities. It is chaired by local government expert Tony Travers, Director of LSE London.

The commissioners would like to hear from any interested parties by Friday 16 October 2015, although they will consider responses received up until 30 October.

Any evidence received will be used to help the Commission form its views on

the current local government finance system in Wales.

CIPFA is supporting the Commission, which consists of independent experts with a wealth of public sector finance experience in Wales and England.

Tony Travers said:

‘We will be considering a range of possible changes, including possibly radical ones. People in Wales deserve local government which is accountable and where people have more influence over how the Welsh government and councils use the taxes they pay.’

Responses will be posted on the [Commission website](#) which contains further information about the Commission, its work and those involved.

## Transport infrastructure assets questionnaire

CIPFA is currently [consulting](#) on fundamental changes to the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK as a result of the planned change in measurement requirements for transport infrastructure assets from 2016/17.

The change will require the highways network asset, including roads, bridges, footpaths, cycleways, street furniture and street lighting to be valued in accordance with the Code of Practice on Transport Infrastructure Assets.

To supplement the consultation, and to provide valuable information on readiness and progress against LAAP 100, we are seeking your views through this short [questionnaire](#).

As the measurement requirements cover all authorities (not just highways authorities), we would like to hear from all types of local authority covered by the Accounting Code of Practice.

We are happy to receive separate or combined responses, because this change will impact on both finance and engineering colleagues. Please submit your responses by 9 October 2015.

More details about transport infrastructure assets can be found on the [CIPFA website](#). Please contact Mandy Bretherton [Mandy.bretherton@cipfa.org](mailto:Mandy.bretherton@cipfa.org) for more information.

## New free lunch and learn webinars from CIPFA

CIPFA is running a series of free webinars on a range of topics as a great way for members and students to pick up information and knowledge from the comfort of your home or office.

The 45-minute lunch-time webinars will cover a range of topics, so you can take a lunch break and improve your skills or knowledge at the same time. To find out more or to register, click on the links below, select 'book now' and we will send you joining instructions.

### [Top tips for business cases](#)

*12.30-13.15 on 28 September 2015*

Top tips for making sure your business case is as robust as possible.

### [Delivering differently](#)

*12.30-13.15 on 28 October 2015*

An assessment of current service delivery arrangements and asking the question 'can we deliver this more efficiently and more effectively through an alternative means'?

### [Making sense of governance](#)

*12.30-13.15 on 3 November 2015*

A presentation of the governance journey in an interactive and entertaining way that will inspire as well as provide moments for reflection.

### [Leading complex change](#)

*12.30-13.15 on 12 November 2015*

A taste of the highly visual workshop that takes you through the thinking needed to plan complex organisational change.

### [Accounting for grants](#)

*12.30-13.15 on 25 November 2015*

An overview of the accounting arrangements for grants and contributions, including understanding the difference between stipulations, restrictions and conditions.

## Changes to the Disciplinary Regulations

Changes to the Institute's Disciplinary Regulations were approved by Council and, subsequently, by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA) and will come into effect in October 2015. The amendments relate to the review and re-consideration of decisions taken to close cases after investigation. They concern:

- the Reviewer of Complaints having the right to review a decision of the Chair of the Investigations Committee to close a matter based on a conviction
- the Reviewer of Complaints having the right to review a decision of the Investigations Committee to close a matter where, in its opinion, it is not in the public interest for the matter to proceed or there is no realistic prospect of the matter being proved
- that all matters referred back for re-consideration following a review by the Reviewer of Complaints are considered by a newly constituted Investigations Committee
- the Chair of the Investigations Committee being able to delegate his/her powers to another independent member of the committee if this is required for the efficient operation of the committee
- clarification that the Chair of the Investigations Committee must consider, in all cases, if referral to the Joint Disciplinary Scheme is appropriate, and that the Appeal Committee is able to make a compensatory order.

Further detail of the changes to the Disciplinary Regulations can be viewed on the [Institute's website](#).

## Members news

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### Welcome to new members

A warm welcome to our new members who have joined CIPFA in the past few months.

May we wish you a long and prosperous career. Don't forget that as a **CIPFA Member** you are a chartered public finance accountant and can use the designation **CPFA**.

**Rebecca Cherrett**  
Hampshire County Council

**John Robert Barrigan**  
North Yorkshire County Council

**Colin Stuart Denby**  
Kirklees Council

**Tim John Finney**  
Enfield Council

**Ankur Gupta**  
Legal Aid Agency

**Mahad Abdulkadir Mohamed**  
KPMG (Canada)

**Matthew Roberts**  
Mersey Internal Audit Agency

**Andrew Rooke**  
Liverpool City Council

**Graeme Smith**  
DKC Accounting Ltd

**Toni Thompson**  
City of Wolverhampton Council

**Richard Vialard**  
PWC

**Sudesh Kumar Chander**  
BDO LLP

**Paul Davies**  
Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

**Robert James Evans**  
CCLA Investment Management

**Ruairi Hughes**  
London Borough of Ealing

**Jayne Ruth Jones**  
Northamptonshire County Council

**Nicola Eve Knobel**  
Portsmouth City Council

**Joseph Farai Mugwagwa**  
Ernst & Young

**Wadzanai Mutyasera**  
Surrey County Council

**Jonathan Price**  
Hampshire County Council

**Andrew James Singleton**  
Nottinghamshire County Council

**Sarah Jessica Solo**  
Paperrocket Accounting

**David Gareth Thomas**  
Government Internal Audit Agency

## Member focus

### Judith Hartley, volunteer accountant in Burundi

Judith Hartley used her CIPFA background to volunteer in Burundi for three weeks with Action on Armed Violence (AOAV), who help people affected by armed conflicts to rebuild their lives.

Judith's placement was arranged through Accounting for International Development (AfID), who offer accountants like Judith the opportunity to provide invaluable support to grassroots organisations across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

'Having worked in the UK charity sector for several years, and having a long-standing interest in the developing world, I took voluntary redundancy from my previous post to have a career break and try to make the move into the international NGO sector. I lacked experience working overseas in the field, so the volunteer placement with two small NGOs in Burundi was just what I needed. It gave me the opportunity to improve my French, as well.

'Before I left, I was anxious about meeting their expectations, but I received such a warm welcome, and they were so grateful, that it was quite humbling. One of them said that just by being there, and showing an interest in their work, I had helped to give them a renewed sense of purpose.



Judith received a warm welcome in Burundi

'The training I received at London South Bank University, in conjunction with CIPFA, gave me a good foundation in charity accounting, and on the placement I was mentoring two finance officers, evaluating their financial management procedures, and compiling a finance procedures manual.

'I didn't have a lot of free time, but one day I took a trip out of Bujumbura, where I was working, to see a bit more of the country, and followed the coast of Lake Tanganyika southwards towards Tanzania, and saw some beautiful beaches and scenery, in contrast to the desperately poor living conditions of the rural population.

'I enjoyed the placement so much I was planning to do another one, when I was offered several interviews, and as a result have secured an interim position with an international NGO in London. I would definitely recommend an AfID placement to other CIPFA members.'

More than 30 CIPFA members have taken up an assignment through AfID since 2009 - could you be the next one?

Find out more at [www.afid.org.uk](http://www.afid.org.uk).

### CIPFA examiners needed

With the full implementation of the new Professional Qualification in 2016, CIPFA will need some new faces for our exams teams. Vacancies exist for subject experts to help develop and test exams across most modules but

especially for the new Strategic Public Finance module. While prior exam setting experience is an advantage, it is not essential as training can be provided. Further information on the new PQ syllabus can be found online at

[www.cipfa.org/qualifications/combined-professional-accounting-qualification/syllabus](http://www.cipfa.org/qualifications/combined-professional-accounting-qualification/syllabus). Appointments are due to be finalised during October.

Please email E: [aga.jop@cipfa.org](mailto:aga.jop@cipfa.org) to register your interest or to find out more.

## CIPFA at work in world's most remote island

Accountant Chris Standing is a CIPFA member working on the world's remotest permanently inhabited island - Tristan da Cunha - in the South Atlantic, almost halfway between the Cape of Good Hope and Cape Horn.

Chris is a 56-year-old Finance Officer working for the island's government. The seven-mile wide island is a British Overseas Territory and home to 267 Islanders, a few expatriates and their families. Tristan's main industry is rock lobster fishing which is exported to the EU as "Tristan Lobster". The economy also earns revenue from stamps, coins, tourism and conservation work, and receives funding from the British government and the EU.

'I saw this post advertised on the PFjobs website one Friday lunchtime and sent off my CV just in time for the deadline that afternoon. Two telephone interviews and some visits to London later, I found myself boarding the trawler M/V Edinburgh in Cape Town and making the six-day voyage to Tristan in November last year.

'The voyage was really beautiful. After a day or so I was the furthest from land I'd ever been on a ship and the sea had calmed down. We were accompanied all the way by a variety of Albatrosses, Petrels, Skuas and other sea-birds. I spent a lot of time on deck whale spotting and saw spouts or whales on four days out of six.'

Chris supports the Island's Administrator and Island Council as well as the Island's Finance Department, headed by Treasurer Lorraine Repetto MBE. Any changes, such as changing the Island's financial year to April-March and appointing new external auditors, have to be approved by the Council and the Governor of St. Helena, whom the Administrator reports to.



Chris sitting with his catch of the day – a Tristan Five Fingers, a local delicacy

Chris stood in as Acting Administrator for nearly four months whilst the Administrator travelled abroad – acting as President of the Island Council as well as Magistrate.

'It was an eventful few months and brought experiences that I would never have had working in English local government, such as chairing the Council, notarising wills and requesting an emergency drugs re-supply, which involved diverting the RFA Gold Rover here.

'Tristan da Cunha is a lovely island and the islanders are very kind, generous and good natured. I feel very lucky to be living in a place like no other and having such an interesting job.

'I was impressed when we felt a small earthquake and wondered if the volcano was going to act up but the Foreign Office let us know within 20 minutes that the epicentre was over 300 miles away and deep down under the mid-Atlantic ridge.'

Next year is the 200th anniversary of Tristan's permanent inhabitation after the Corporal Glass and two soldiers were given permission to stay when the small garrison stationed here was withdrawn – anyone fancy a visit?

For details on public sector finance job vacancies, visit the CIPFA-Penna website [www.cipfa.org/recruitment/cipfa-penna](http://www.cipfa.org/recruitment/cipfa-penna).

## Members news

### Obituary: Stephen Jones

Anyone who knew Stephen Jones will have been shocked to hear of his tragically early death in August at the age of 61.

He was most widely known for his lead in securing priority status for local authority deposits in Icelandic banks, enabling them to recover millions of pounds.

In his six years as Chief Finance Officer for the Local Government Association, he also played key roles in its negotiations for local government through two spending reviews. But this was only part of the picture.

He was a trained tax inspector, and before moving to the LGA was HMRC's first qualified Finance Director, being one of the first to take the CIPFA fast track route.

His success in merging the Customs and Revenue finance teams was recognised by the 2005 CIMA Public Sector Finance Team of the Year Award. Outside work he was a gifted musician – playing the viola to near professional standard.

A charming man, he is a real loss to the profession as well as to his family and friends.

*Ian Carruthers, CIPFA Executive Director, Policy & Standards*



Stephen Jones

### Members on the move

**Ian Roberts** has been appointed Deputy Chief Executive of St Helens Council, and Director of Finance.

Previously Assistant Chief Executive (Finance) with the authority, Ian has also assumed the additional role of Deputy Chief Executive – meaning there will be no increase in overall costs. The council's chief officer structure has been reduced over the last 12 months – following the retirement of Director of Urban Regeneration and Housing Bob Hepworth last year.

As Deputy Chief Executive, Ian will deputise for Chief Executive Mike Palin when necessary. Other duties will include ensuring a strong focus on service delivery and financial management and identifying key priorities against a background of reduced budgets over the next five years.

Ian has been with St Helens Council since 1977, joining as a trainee

accountant. Subsequent roles included Chief Internal Auditor, Assistant Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer.

**Clark Bailie** has been appointed Chief Executive of The Northern Ireland Housing Executive. Clark is a former chair of the CIPFA Northern Ireland branch and served on the Council.



Ian Roberts, Deputy Chief Executive of St Helens Council, and Director of Finance

**Claire Hodgson** has been appointed Finance Officer for the Community Council for Somerset. She was previously Audit Manager at South West Audit Partnership.

### Volunteer Treasurer - Lambeth and Southwark Housing Association (LSHA)

LSHA is a community-based, not-for-profit housing association, providing homes and housing services in South London.

We require a Treasurer to contribute to the strategy and good governance of a responsive and responsible social housing provider.

If you're interested and would like an informal chat about the role, please email the Chair, Howard Webber, at [hwebber@metronet.co.uk](mailto:hwebber@metronet.co.uk) or call him on 07917 224543.

**Membership rewards**

CIPFA Rewards gives you access to a range of benefits and discounts, designed to support members both personally and professionally. This month's highlights include:

LifeSearch - Life Assurance

CIPFA Rewards have teamed up with LifeSearch, one of the UK's leading life insurance advisers, who will provide you with help, guidance and advice that you need to make sure you are properly protected in the event that you may no longer be around or are unable to earn a living due to long term disability\*.

[View more information](#)

Great savings on a wide range of Apple products

CIPFA members can make savings of up to 10% on a wide range of Apple products including iPad, iPhone, iPod, MacBook Air, MacBook Pro, iMac, Apple branded accessories and more\*.

[Visit the online CIPFA EPP Apple store](#)

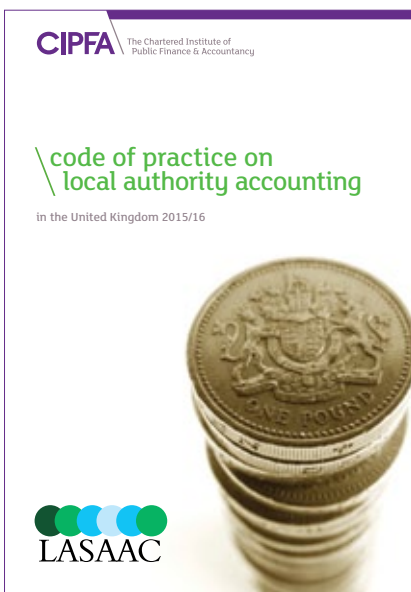


MyCashbackCards - Retail Cashback

Fancy earning cashback when you shop at the supermarket? With MyCashbackCards you can earn between 5% and 15% cashback at over 50 retailers including Sainsbury's, M&S, Currys PC World, Homebase, B&Q, Argos, Boots, House of Fraser and H Samuel\*.

[Sign up now](#)

\*Terms and conditions apply to all benefits. See website for details.



LAAP issues advice on local authority accounting issues, including the Code

**Local Authority Accounting Panel recruiting new members**

This is a critical time in the development of local authority financial reporting, given the increasingly tight financial situation, so the Local Authority Accounting Panel (LAAP) is seeking to appoint new members to provide a focus for its important role in delivering best practice.

The work of the Panel depends on the active participation of panel members who have a vital role in developing local government accounting guidance. This is an excellent opportunity for new LAAP members to influence local authority financial reporting at a national level.

We are looking for members of the local authority accounting profession at

all stages of their careers to contribute to the important work of LAAP and make a difference on the panel. Candidates will need to demonstrate a strong interest in local authority accounting together with an informed understanding of the existing framework and the current accounting issues faced by local authorities.

More information about the role can be found [online](#). Applicants should submit their CV with a covering letter setting out why they would be an excellent candidate for the role to [laura.deery@cipfa.org](mailto:laura.deery@cipfa.org).

The closing date for applications is 30 October 2015.



## Regional news

### Edinburgh office opens at James Bond's birthplace

The pride of CIPFA was on show when its new office suite in Edinburgh was formally opened on Friday 31 July. A range of invited dignitaries including a government minister, the CIPFA President, and past and present chairs of CIPFA in Scotland gathered at the new HQ in Scotland, on the same spot where Sean Connery – the original James Bond – was born.

Jamie Hepburn, the Minister for Health Improvement and Public Health, launched CIPFA's new financial management framework for self-directed support. The framework was commissioned by the Scottish Government and will be free for local authorities and third sector providers, supported by a series of training events hosted at the new CIPFA office.

John Matheson, CIPFA's first Scottish President since 1961, formally opened the new offices and described how they will be used for members and students alike. The three new suites (named after the Tay, Clyde and Forth rivers) will be the base for modern learning and development products from CIPFA.

A highlight of the opening ceremony was the first ever award by CIPFA of the Governance Mark of Excellence to Includem, a charitable body based in Scotland who piloted the Mark. This exciting new product from CIPFA formally recognises excellence in governance by organisations.



Don Peebles, Head of CIPFA Scotland; John Matheson, CIPFA President; David Robertson, Chair of CIPFA Scotland Branch Executive Committee



CIPFA Scotland Branch Executive Committee 2015/16

### CIPFA in the Midlands annual seminar

Join us on 9 October for the 2015 CIPFA in the Midlands annual seminar, sponsored by CCLA at Grant Thornton's Birmingham Offices. Once again we have lined up a series of high quality speakers to take you through this year's theme - time to

rebuild! As in previous years, the £50 fee is discounted for students and retired members. Places are limited and tend to fill up fast, find out more and book your place via [this link](#). We look forward to seeing you in October.



**CIPFA Cymru-Wales: annual conference and an evening with Richard Parks**

This year's CIPFA Cymru-Wales' conference on 26 November addresses the theme 'Improving performance – it's not just about the numbers' and will consider how we can make effective use of cost and performance information to deliver value-for-money services.

Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Finance and Government Business will address the annual conference at Cardiff City Hall, and other speakers include:

- Huw Vaughan Thomas, Auditor General for Wales
- Rob Whiteman, CIPFA Chief Executive
- Andy Burns, Director of Finance and Resources, Staffordshire County Council and pioneer of CIPFA's Aligning Local Services project
- PwC
- Zurich



Guest speaker Richard Parks is the fastest ever Brit to ski solo to the South Pole  
Picture courtesy of Antarctic Logistics & Expeditions.

The conference will run from 10.00-16.00 and will be followed at 18.30 by a drinks reception and celebratory evening dinner where the guest speaker will be Richard Parks,

former Wales rugby international turned extreme environment athlete. Full details and booking arrangements are on the [CIPFA Cymru-Wales region website](#).

**Conference for Regions**

The 2015 Conference for the Regions runs from 16-17 October at Warwick University and brings members together to share good practice and discuss global strategy, as well as networking and socialising with colleagues.

This year's conference theme, Reinventing the Regions for a Global Membership, will explore issues such as diversity and inclusiveness to ensure regions are equipped to accommodate CIPFA's growing global presence.

The conference will focus in particular on the changing role of regions in a global structure.

Outstanding work by regional volunteers will be rewarded with presentations by CIPFA's President John Matheson of the Hedley Marshall Memorial Award and other regional awards.

Speakers include representatives from CIPFA and local government, including former CIPFA President Sir Tony Redmond, CIPFA CEO Rob Whiteman and John Comber, CEO of Greenwich Council.

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-conference-for-the-regions-2015-20151016-midlands](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-conference-for-the-regions-2015-20151016-midlands)



Prizewinners at last year's Conference for the Regions

**Roundtable success in south west**

Following the success of CIPFA South West’s July round table conference on the integration of health and social care, there will be a follow-up meeting in Taunton on 9 November.

And, at the region’s Autumn Conference on 20 November, the lunchtime will be extended to allow local senior finance officials to meet informally over lunch to discuss these pressing issues.

On 8 October, members will be visiting local universities and colleges in Exeter (morning) and Bristol (afternoon) to inform and attract students to study with CIPFA. Sign up for these events, and find out more about the region’s activities on the [south west section](#) of the CIPFA website.



**North East region plans joint events**

CIPFA North East are busy firming up the agenda for their annual conference on 20 November and it will be available online very shortly.

Regional President Clive Johnson said:

‘We are running the Sixth Form Management games on three dates in October (2, 9, 16) and are publicising along with Baker Tilly an emergency services tax seminar on 22 October in Newcastle. We are also joining with Yorkshire and Humber region to support a joint event with Future Focused Finance in Leeds on 19 November.’

For more details, contact [president@cipfanortheast.org.uk](mailto:president@cipfanortheast.org.uk).

**Quiz night in London with CIPFA South East**

The annual CIPFA London Division and South East Student Society Pub Quiz returned with a vengeance in September. The event was a huge success, with ten teams of qualified and part-qualified CIPFA members fighting it out to be crowned quiz champions.

All teams also enjoyed some great pub grub from the Shooting Star in Liverpool St and one free drink on entry, sponsored by Hudson Recruitment and GO Accelerate Finance and Consulting.

Quizmasters Hamza Yusuf & Daniel van Bregt took entrants through six rounds of gruelling quiz questions ranging from science and nature to the hotly contested CIPFA culture with questions such as “CIPFA CEO Rob Whiteman often muses that he gave up a career as a [WHAT] to become a public sector accountant?”\*

Eventual winners ‘All the President’s Men & Women’ edged out ‘Universally Challenged’, needing a tie-breaker question to do so because the teams ended neck and neck.

Due to popular demand, the quiz will be back at the end of next summer - at a larger venue - so get your quizzing brains ready for 2016!

\* The answer is opera singer.



**North West Student Network break-out at regional conference**

There is no stopping the North West CIPFA Student Network - after the success of the Summer Event 2015, we are organising another student event as part of the Regional Conference on 13 November 2015 in Liverpool.

The student break out session has some amazing speakers and presentations lined up for the day. Aimee Bateman from Career Cake will give tips and advice to students on how to get the best out of social media when job hunting to advance their careers.

Students will get the chance to see the forthcoming e-assessment in action and to put questions to the CIPFA representatives who will be presenting the new system. There are many unknowns with regard to the e-assessments and students in the region are anxious about the changes, so the Q&A session aims to eliminate all the fears and doubts.

If you are just starting CIPFA, half way through or have nearly completed the studies, the PEP presentation will help you to kick start or complete your portfolio. Ideally, PEP should be completed on a continuing basis, but if you feel like you are struggling or just feel confused, the presentation will give you all the hints and tips to stay on top of your portfolio so you can send it for evaluation immediately after your last exam.

The day session is free of charge for CIPFA students and there is limited capacity so tickets will be available on the first come first served basis – so remember to book online or email E: [NorthWestStudent@cipga.org](mailto:NorthWestStudent@cipga.org).

North West students, remember you can follow NW CSN on @nw\_csn and like us on FB.

## Student news

### Peak time for apprenticeship scheme

The Equality and Human Rights Commission is the first central government department to join the CIPFA Apprenticeship Scheme, and interviews took place in September.

Amritpal Singh, Apprentice Programme Manager, said: 'As we reach the pinnacle time in recruiting apprentices for this year, the team are extremely busy screening, arranging interviews and securing late vacancies.'

'We are currently recruiting for seven vacancies at various Grant Thornton offices, including Manchester and Carlisle for the first time. Encouragingly, Grant Thornton have confirmed that they will employ all the apprentices who were involved in this year's cohort. They will be studying our new ICAS/PQ qualification.'

'We have also had a flux of health vacancies, and have extended AAT training to Leeds where North East NHS Trust have confirmed five vacancies.'



Amrit addressing an apprentices recruitment event at CIPFA

### Changes to FA and MA accounting modules

From December 2015, Financial Accounting and Management Accounting modules have been refreshed. The changes cover three main areas:

- Syllabus – while the content remains the same as in the June 2015 sitting, the % weightings of each syllabus have been rebalanced.
- Learning materials – new style workbooks have been updated and refreshed to reflect the syllabus

#### Last exam sitting of current syllabus

Please make sure you book your Diploma and Strategic level exams under the current syllabus at [www.cipfa.org/exams](http://www.cipfa.org/exams).

aims and new assessment. The new versions are available automatically to those who purchased them previously.

- Examinations – both modules will be examined online using 60 multiple choice questions (four options, one correct answer). Exams will be 120 minutes long and will have a pass mark of 60%.

For more information, visit [www.cipfa.org/students/student-news](http://www.cipfa.org/students/student-news).

Although bookings closed on 30 September 2015, late entries will be accepted until 7 October 2015.

### Changes to exam dates

We recently needed to change the dates of four of the exams in the December 2015 sittings, both to ensure the smooth implementation of the online assessment being piloted next sitting for two exams, and to address some significant scheduling clashes affecting students of a number of employers.

The scheduling of exams aims to balance a number of factors and changing any of the dates was a difficult decision.

However, after careful consideration, we felt that the changes were essential.

Full dates are available at [www.cipfa.org/students/exams](http://www.cipfa.org/students/exams)

**CIPFA President meets Scottish Future Focused Finance trainees**

In September, CIPFA President John Matheson met up with five NHS Scotland Future Focused Finance trainees at St Andrews House in Edinburgh.

The finance training scheme is a graduate development programme designed to bring new talent into the NHS, and works in partnership with CIPFA. In Scotland, the scheme is run by NHS Education for Scotland.

John said: ‘Meeting the trainees was the highlight of my week - oozing enthusiasm and energy with a great career ahead of them.’

As Director of Finance at NHS Scotland, John is the lead sponsor for the scheme and welcomes all new trainees into the programme personally.

Find out more [online](#).



From left, Tim Francis, Alasdair Dodds, Jenny Scollen, Sarah Dodds and Fraser Dick starting out on their finance careers in the NHS in Scotland

**Meet the tutors: Helen Brain, Principal Trainer, CETC**



Helen Brain was voted tutor of the year in 2014

Helen won the CIPFA Excellence in Education award in 2014, voted by students. Here she outlines her work.

‘Prior to joining CETC as a Trainer, I worked in external audit for the Audit Commission and KPMG. During my training contract I studied CIPFA at CETC in Birmingham. When I saw a Trainer position advertised at the centre post-qualification I jumped at the opportunity, which I suppose says something about how much I enjoyed studying here!’

‘CETC operates across a diverse range of activities, which makes for an interesting and challenging role. For me, the best part of being a trainer

is meeting and working with our students. I teach the CIPFA qualification to people from a variety of public service backgrounds, including senior executives on our Accelerated Route programme. I also teach AAT Level 4 to CIPFA’s Finance Apprentices.

‘This year I’ve been out to Macedonia to run a Train the Trainer course for the CIPFA IPFM qualification, which was a fantastic experience.

‘This autumn I’m teaching the first intake of students on the new CIPFA & ICAS Integrated Audit Qualification. The qualification is an exciting development for CIPFA and I’m looking forward to being involved in its delivery.’

### Mentoring scheme for UNDP students

CIPFA is launching a pilot innovative mentoring scheme intended to help improve the performance of students enrolled on the Finance Training and Certification Programme from the United Nations Development Programme.

Although the most recent exam results for UN bodies were generally good, some UNDP students are finding the going tougher than many of their counterparts. The mentoring scheme is an attempt to establish why that might be, and whether the support of a mentor throughout the semester will improve performance.

Mentors are being drawn largely from existing CIPFA members, although some UK based students have also offered to provide the service. Each mentor will take on two to three UNDP students, and make contact with them periodically throughout the study period running up to the exams in December 2015.

Although originally devised as a CIPFA initiative, the idea has the full support of UNDP. If it is successful it will be extended to other UN bodies, provided that we can secure the services of enough mentors to make this feasible.

Readers wishing to offer their services in this way, either for the pilot or for any later extension, should contact Brian Donnellan on E: [brian.donnellan@cipfa.org](mailto:brian.donnellan@cipfa.org).

### Top-up degrees for CIPFA members at Leeds Beckett University

Leeds Beckett University is now offering an MSc Accounting top-up degree to CIPFA members, delivered entirely online through the University's Leeds Business School.

The course is designed to enrich your professional experience with academic knowledge, enabling you to develop your professional practice, generate insights and assess choices for the public sector.

CIPFA members also have the opportunity to take a distance learning online MBA which will develop your skills and qualities in this field, so that you can show greater leadership, look at business problems and challenges with a fresh pair of eyes, think strategically and improve your analytical abilities.

Prices range from £3,750 to £4,560, depending on the course and your number of exemptions.

For more information email E: [directadmissions@leedsbeckett.ac.uk](mailto:directadmissions@leedsbeckett.ac.uk)

or visit: [www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/accountingtopup](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/accountingtopup)

or [www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/mbaonline](http://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/mbaonline)

### Online exams

Sitting CIPFA exams in ways that suit you best just became even easier: from December 2015, CIPFA and Calibrand will deliver online exams and assessments for CIPFA's new-look, industry-leading public finance and accountancy Professional Qualification.

The CIPFA-Calibrand partnership means that CIPFA students around the world can sit their exams online.

The new online exams will launch in stages:

- November 2015 - Online exams for Financial Accounting and Management Accounting will commence.
- June 2016 - full rollout across ALL modules.

But don't worry - practice questions will be available to make sure you're ready for the real thing and we will be providing webinars and regional events to take you through the transition.

Online assessment will produce the next generation of outstanding public finance professionals and assessment will be as rigorous as current exams, with the same competence required to become a CPFA.

Further information will be published on the CIPFA website [www.cipfa.org/students/exams](http://www.cipfa.org/students/exams).



### **Grant Thornton students in audit qualification first**

Accountancy students at Grant Thornton UK LLP have become the first to sign up for a unique new integrated qualification in audit.

Grant Thornton students will enjoy greater flexibility and movement in their careers through the qualification, which draws on the respective strengths and experience of ICAS and CIPFA in corporate and public sector audit.

The students will embark on 11 ICAS Chartered Accountant (CA) modules and four CPFA modules over a three-year period.

The professional study, training and practical experience will give Grant Thornton students a deeper and wider knowledge of the audit world. It is also unique in enabling students to become members of both ICAS and CIPFA – greatly enhancing their career and networking opportunities.

The qualification is aimed at prospective students and existing practitioners who will be working within this expanding mixed private/public sector environment, and this is the first in a series of initiatives which ICAS and CIPFA hope to announce, heralding a new working relationship between the two institutes.

<http://www.cipfa.org/about-cipfa/press-office/latest-press-releases/grant-thornton-students-in-audit-qualification-first>



The Grant Thornton students will be regular visitors to CIPFA over the next few years

## Events

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### Conferences

CIPFA hold key conferences across a range of areas from technical guidance to debate and food for thought provided by leading speakers, experts and commentators.

Search under 'conferences' at [www.cipfa.org/events](http://www.cipfa.org/events) for our full listing.

#### CIPFA ACADEMIES CONFERENCE

*7 October, London*

A conference for all those who deal with academies' money, addressing the latest issues in financial management and reporting, auditing, governance, business and more at this key academies event.

[www.cipfa.org/training/t/the-5th-annual-cipfa-academies-conference-20151007-london](http://www.cipfa.org/training/t/the-5th-annual-cipfa-academies-conference-20151007-london)

#### CIPFA NORTHERN IRELAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2015

*8-9 October, Hilton Templepatrick*

Under the banner 'A new dawn, working together to build sustainable public services', this is the must-attend event for all those working in the public sector in Northern Ireland. Take time out, learn and reflect on best practice in latest Assembly finance policy, innovation and change in public services, the NI economic landscape, Public Finance Initiative and value for money.

[www.cipfa.org/training/cipfa-northern-ireland-annual-conference-2015](http://www.cipfa.org/training/cipfa-northern-ireland-annual-conference-2015)

#### CIPFA CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE

*13 October, London*

Aimed at all central government finance professionals, the conference is free to attend and CPD accredited.

[www.cipfa.org/Training/C/Central-Government-Finance-Conference-20151013-London](http://www.cipfa.org/Training/C/Central-Government-Finance-Conference-20151013-London)

#### CIPFA GOVERNANCE AND COUNTER FRAUD ANNUAL SUMMIT

*13 October, London*

This one day summit is the UK public sector's most comprehensive and established governance event. The programme features high profile speakers, including Meg Hillier MP, Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, Julie Parker, Chair of the joint CIPFA and Solace working group, David Harper, Director of Intelligence at the Competition and Markets Authority and Darren Hughes, Deputy Chief Executive of the Electoral Reform Society.

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-governance-and-counter-fraud-annual-summit-20151013-london](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-governance-and-counter-fraud-annual-summit-20151013-london)

#### CONFERENCE FOR THE REGIONS

*16-17 October, Coventry*

This year's conference, Reinventing the Regions for a Global Membership, will explore themes such as diversity and inclusiveness to ensure regions are equipped to accommodate CIPFA's growing global presence and in particular will focus on 'The changing role of regions in a global structure'.

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-conference-for-the-regions-2015-20151016-midlands](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-conference-for-the-regions-2015-20151016-midlands)

#### CIPFA SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH CONFERENCE

*21 October, Manchester*

This timely conference will give finance professionals better insight into how to deal with the multiple challenges of limited resources, ambitious targets and big plans facing the health and social care system.

[www.cipfa.org/training/s/social-care-and-health-conference-20151021-north-west](http://www.cipfa.org/training/s/social-care-and-health-conference-20151021-north-west)

#### CIPFA CHARITY CONFERENCE

*3 November, London*

The CIPFA Charity Conference will provide updates on regulatory matters, governance and financial reporting as well as measuring social value and what makes a successful charity.

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-charity-conference-20151103-london](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-charity-conference-20151103-london)

#### CIPFA POLICE CONFERENCE

*4 November, London*

Themed 'Police reform: the future' the event will consider the strategic future direction of policing, examining the strategic issues involved and the practical implications for PCCs, chief constables and partners. The event will also specifically consider the potential impact in terms of finance, governance and corporate issues.

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-police-conference-2015-20151104-london](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-police-conference-2015-20151104-london)

#### CIPFA PENSIONS CONFERENCE 2015

*11 November 2015, London*

This conference will provide an opportunity for all those involved in the Local Government Pension Scheme to hear from experts on a range of topics affecting the management of the scheme.

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-pensions-conference-2015-the-lgps-another-year-on](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-pensions-conference-2015-the-lgps-another-year-on)

#### CIPFA NORTHERN IRELAND GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE

*18 November 2015, Belfast*

The findings of a major governance research project will be launched at the CIPFA NI Governance conference on 18 November 2015 in Belfast.

[www.cipfa.org/training/g/governance-and-leadership-conference-northern-ireland-20151118](http://www.cipfa.org/training/g/governance-and-leadership-conference-northern-ireland-20151118)



## Accredited Training Programmes

### INSPIRING BOARDROOM LEADERSHIP

Starts 7 October, Belfast

[www.cipfa.org/training/i/inspiring-boardroom-leadership-20151007](http://www.cipfa.org/training/i/inspiring-boardroom-leadership-20151007)

### CERTIFICATE IN CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

Starts 4 November, Belfast

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/certificate-in-contract-management-20150701](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/certificate-in-contract-management-20150701)

### DIPLOMA IN CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Starts 28 October, Edinburgh

[www.cipfa.org/training/d/diploma-in-corporate-governance-20150901-scotland](http://www.cipfa.org/training/d/diploma-in-corporate-governance-20150901-scotland)

Starts 29 October, Cardiff

[www.cipfa.org/training/d/diploma-in-corporate-governance-20150902-cardiff](http://www.cipfa.org/training/d/diploma-in-corporate-governance-20150902-cardiff)

Starts 3 November, Belfast

[www.cipfa.org/training/d/diploma-in-corporate-governance-20150528](http://www.cipfa.org/training/d/diploma-in-corporate-governance-20150528)

### BETTER BUSINESS CASES

6-7 October, Edinburgh

[www.cipfa.org/training/b/better-business-cases-2-day-foundation-20151006](http://www.cipfa.org/training/b/better-business-cases-2-day-foundation-20151006)

27 & 28 October, Cardiff

[www.cipfa.org/training/b/better-business-cases-2-day-foundation-20151027](http://www.cipfa.org/training/b/better-business-cases-2-day-foundation-20151027)

### PRINCE2

Starts 9 November, Edinburgh

[www.cipfa.org/training/p/prince2-foundation-and-practitioner-20151109](http://www.cipfa.org/training/p/prince2-foundation-and-practitioner-20151109)

### CIPFA ACCREDITED COUNTER FRAUD TECHNICIAN

Starts 5 October, London

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-technician-intake-6-london-20151005](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-technician-intake-6-london-20151005)

Starts 5 October, Manchester

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-technician-cacft-20151005-manchester](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-technician-cacft-20151005-manchester)

Starts 15 February 2016, Manchester

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-technician-intake-6--london-20160215](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-technician-intake-6--london-20160215)

Starts 6 June 2016, London

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-technician-intake-6--london-20160606](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-technician-intake-6--london-20160606)

### CIPFA ACCREDITED COUNTER FRAUD SPECIALIST

Starts 25 January 2016, Bristol

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-specialist-course-1-cacfs-20160125](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-specialist-course-1-cacfs-20160125)

Starts 8 February 2016, London

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-specialist-course-1-cacfs-20160208](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-specialist-course-1-cacfs-20160208)

Starts 29 March 2016, Leeds

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-specialist-course-1-cacfs-20160329](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-accredited-counter-fraud-specialist-course-1-cacfs-20160329)

## Regional Training

### Midlands

CIPFA IN THE MIDLANDS ANNUAL SEMINAR  
9 October 2015

If the cut in central funding is permanent, how do local public services maintain their quality? Rather than cutting back further, can we regenerate and grow our way out of austerity? We are not just talking about building, but ensuring that public health and well-being is where it needs to be. Sponsored by CCLA.

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-midlands-discount-events-20151009-midlands](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-midlands-discount-events-20151009-midlands)

CIPFA IN THE MIDLANDS STUDENT SOCIETY E-ASSESSMENT DEMONSTRATION AND PQ UPDATES

19 October, Birmingham

This CIPFA Midlands event will give students a demonstration of the new online examination system due to be rolled out. Students will be able to ask any questions they may have about the new system and will also be able to find out about other updates to the Professional Qualification. Sponsored by Grant Thornton.

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-in-the-midlands-student-society-eassessment-demonstration-and-pq-updates-20151019](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-in-the-midlands-student-society-eassessment-demonstration-and-pq-updates-20151019)

### North East

CIPFA IN THE NORTH EAST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20 November 2015, Gateshead

Save the date – details will be online shortly

### Northern Ireland

LUNCHTIME EVENT: REDUCING FRAUD IN PUBLIC BODIES

20 October, Belfast

[www.cipfa.org/training/l/branch-events-2015--reducing-fraud-in-public-bodies-20151020-northern-ireland](http://www.cipfa.org/training/l/branch-events-2015--reducing-fraud-in-public-bodies-20151020-northern-ireland)

BREAKFAST TIME EVENT: LESSONS FROM AUDIT  
9 December, Belfast

[www.cipfa.org/training/b/branch-events-2015--lessons-from-audit-20151209-northern-ireland](http://www.cipfa.org/training/b/branch-events-2015--lessons-from-audit-20151209-northern-ireland)



**North West**

CIPFA NORTH WEST REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL DINNER

13 November 2015, Liverpool

This year's annual conference theme is 'Driving growth – transforming the next generation public sector' and will be followed by the Annual Society Dinner and Awards Ceremony.

Dinner only:

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-in-the-north-west-annual-dinner-20151113-north-west](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-in-the-north-west-annual-dinner-20151113-north-west)

Conference only:

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-in-the-north-west-annual-conference-20151113](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/cipfa-in-the-north-west-annual-conference-20151113)

Package:

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-north-west-events-20151113-north-west](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-north-west-events-20151113-north-west)

**South East**

CIPFA SOUTH EAST AUTUMN CONFERENCE

21-22 October 2015, Northamptonshire

The conference theme is 'Keeping the Faith: Moving Forward and Facing the Challenges of the Political and Economic Climate' and starts with an optional pre-conference fringe event on Wednesday 21 October, with a session to develop negotiation and partnership skills, followed by dinner and a quiz. The main conference, on 22 October, will include updates on Better Care Fund and new EU procurement rules, becoming more commercial, and further self-development sessions.

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-south-east-discount-events-20151022](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-south-east-discount-events-20151022)

LONDON DIVISION: OUR HOUSE IN THE MIDDLE OF OUR CITY - THE MADNESS OF HOUSING

9 October, BDO London

London's housing crisis is arguably the political challenge of the moment,

exaggerating social and financial disparities in our capital. We need to build at least 50,000 new homes a year just to keep pace with demand. Affordability is an ever increasing issue, and where do we put all these new homes?

[www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-south-east-events-20151009-london](http://www.cipfa.org/training/c/regions-south-east-events-20151009-london)

FIGHTING AND DETECTING FRAUD - NEW STRATEGIES AND TECHNIQUES

15 October, Mansell St, London

[www.cipfa.org/training/u/using-data-analytics-to-tackle-fraud-20151015-london](http://www.cipfa.org/training/u/using-data-analytics-to-tackle-fraud-20151015-london)

CIPFA SOUTH EAST ANNUAL REGIONAL DINNER

20 November, London Marriott Hotel, Grosvenor Square

[www.cipfa.org/regions/south-east/whats-going-on](http://www.cipfa.org/regions/south-east/whats-going-on)

For more information about CIPFA South East events, please email John Barker on E: [csejb@live.co.uk](mailto:csejb@live.co.uk) or call 07885 585670.

**Scotland**

EXCELLENT GOVERNANCE IN A DAY

2 December, Edinburgh

[www.cipfa.org/training/e/excellent-governance-in-a-day-20151202](http://www.cipfa.org/training/e/excellent-governance-in-a-day-20151202)

FROM CUTS TO TRANSFORMATION - DEVELOPING A PRACTICAL APPROACH

16 December, Belfast, £195+VAT

This imaginative, innovative and cost-effective seminar will allow a forum for NI's decision makers to meet, discuss and plan for transformation and public service redesign whilst ensuring the continuing performance of our public services.

[www.cipfa.org/training/f/from-cuts-to-transformation--developing-a-practical-approach-20150911-northern-ireland](http://www.cipfa.org/training/f/from-cuts-to-transformation--developing-a-practical-approach-20150911-northern-ireland)

**South West**

CIPFA SOUTH WEST ANNUAL CONFERENCE

20 November 2015, Somerset

The 2015 CIPFA South West annual conference is addressing the theme 'optimising local services in a demanding national political arena'.

[www.cipfa.org/training/o/regions-south-west-events-20151120](http://www.cipfa.org/training/o/regions-south-west-events-20151120)

**Wales**

CIPFA CYMRU-WALES: ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AN EVENING WITH RICHARD PARKS

26 November 2015, City Hall, Cardiff

[www.cipfa.org/training/cipfa-wales-annual-conference-2015](http://www.cipfa.org/training/cipfa-wales-annual-conference-2015)

# Who's who at CIPFA

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Use this mini-directory to find the right people to contact at CIPFA about a specific area of our work. Where no direct line is provided, call our contact centre on 020 7543 5600 and ask for the relevant person.

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