

Foreword

There is no doubting the scale of the financial challenge facing the NHS in the coming years. This makes it all the more vital that finance professionals adapt to ensure they add value to the whole organisation, and to that end CIPFA recently published *The Excellent Finance Business Partner* (2015), the seventh in its series of cornerstone guides for public sector organisations. The other publications are:

- *Better Benchmarking for High Performance* (2010)
- *Counting Costs: Understanding and Using Costing Information to Make Better Decisions* (2011)
- *Option Appraisal: A Practical Guide for Public Service Organisations* (2011)
- *The Performance Pulse: Managing Performance to Achieve Strategic Outcomes* (2011)
- *Thinking Ahead: Developing a Financial Strategy* (2012)
- *A Guide to Forecasting Methods in Public Services* (2013).

CIPFA wants to make sure the NHS can apply the thinking on business partnering as efficiently as possible, and so its Health Panel has overseen the production of this edition, which aims to streamline the reading, add practical checklists and provide a focus on the issues that matter in the NHS.



Bob Alexander

Chair of the CIPFA Health Panel

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