

2023 CIPFA in the Midlands Sixth Form Management Team Games

Are you ready for the challenge?



"It was a great experience that made us reflect on areas such as teamwork, organisation, time management, but also as accounting students, our finance skills. I think that I can speak for myself and the others that we thoroughly enjoyed our day within this challenge and that we will use it in the future as a valuable experience!"

Student, 2021

Reasons to Attend...

- gain an insight into the issues facing public sector organisations, particularly those of a financial nature
- explore the challenges of managing under time pressure with uncertain outcomes
- discover and develop team and individual skills
- enjoy partaking in the interactive nature of the game
- have the support of a team mentor and learn about their role and work experiences

The day is an excellent introduction to the world of work and a way of developing and strengthening teamwork, leadership, management and organisational skills.

The dates for the 2023 games, which take place in person from 09:30 – 16:00, are as follows:

- Wednesday 21st June 2023 @ De Montfort University, Leicester
- Wednesday 28th June 2023 @ Birmingham University
- Wednesday 5th July 2023 @ Keele University, Stoke

Request a place now by e-mail: 6thForms@cipfa.org

More detail ...

... please read the following two pages carefully.

The games are valued by sixth form students and teaching staff alike and a flavour of what is on offer during the day can be found on the CIPFA website at:

<http://www.cipfa.org/members/regions/midlands/management-games>



One of the teachers left us the following comment after the 2021 (on-line) games:

"I wanted to thank you for organising the event which took place yesterday. It was the first time we had participated, and it was a fantastic experience. I have arranged to do a debrief with the students next week as I think there is much they can learn in terms of team work."

Teacher

The objectives of the game are:

- to allow players to gain an insight into the issues facing public sector organisations, particularly those of a financial nature
- to demonstrate the challenges of managing under time pressure with uncertain outcomes
- to develop team and individual skills
- to be fun and engaging
- to introduce 6th form students to public sector accountancy and CIPFA.



The game involves certain aspects of running a fictitious public body, with each sixth form providing a team of **seven** students (to form the "management team" for the organisation involved). The event is organised on a case study basis, allowing team members to participate as much as possible, as they each take up a specific role within the management team. The game is usually divided into two rounds, with the team producing a major piece of work in each round, either in the form of a written report or an oral presentation.

As in real life, work on this will be interrupted by a number of tasks and the team will need to agree the best way to deal with the interruptions.

The game tests presentational, organisation and communication skills as well as providing a small element of financial awareness, but the assessors will mark performance by the way the team handles problems, the relevance of answers, the approach taken to the tasks in hand and the quality and content of written and oral reports.

Students on Business Studies courses may particularly benefit from being involved, but the event is open to any students **aged 16 or over** at the time of the event, who are keen to develop as individuals **and who haven't taken part in the games previously**.

Teams will be supported and encouraged throughout the day by CIPFA students and members who have volunteered their time to assist with the game. Sign up soon at 6thForms@cipfa.org as it is likely that there will only be 18 spaces this year.

Please also ensure that the date is set aside in your calendars and that you have the wider support of the whole establishment - late withdrawals are unfair on students, deny other sixth forms an opportunity to take part and can result in the unnecessary waste of resources and associated cost for CIPFA.

Prizes and certificates will be provided by CIPFA, together with the game materials, stationery and a buffet lunch – there is no charge for sixth forms to take part, but they will be responsible for the team's travel arrangements to and from the event. Sixth forms will also need to ensure that they take on board any requirement for health and safety assessments and safeguarding. We can liaise with host organisations, but we simply do not have the resources to undertake assessments for everyone.



Each sixth form will normally only be able to enter one team, and this shouldn't include students who have taken part in the games in previous years. Sixth Forms who request a place should hear back within a week as to whether they have a place in the game or not. We will not consider the possibility of a second team taking part until much nearer the event when other sixth forms have had the opportunity to take up places. If there are still vacant places three weeks before the event then these may be offered to sixth forms who have expressed an interest in a second team taking part at the same event.



The sixth forms taking part will receive briefing material prior to the event and it is important that members of the team receive, consider and understand the briefing material or they may be at a disadvantage against the other teams.

CIPFA (the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) is one of the leading professional accountancy bodies in the UK and the only one that specialises in the public sector. CIPFA's members work, often at the most senior levels, in public service bodies, in the national audit agencies and major accountancy firms. All the time they spend on the management team games is in a volunteer capacity

A number of our volunteers may have undergone DBS checks for other organisations, but they will not have been checked for this activity, as we do not envisage them having a need to be on their own with 6th form students.



We look forward to seeing your sixth form at one of the games.

For more information or any further clarification, please contact us by e-mail 6thForms@cipfa.org

Holly Hancocks, Mark Lovell, Kelly Mercer, Martin Reohorn
Lead Volunteers