

NORTH WEST SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017

31 March 2017

St George's Hall, Liverpool

www.cipfa.org/uk/regions/nw

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance Accountancy Registered with the Charity Commissioners of England and Wales Number 231060

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To all Members of the Society:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

You are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of the Society and Presidential Address.

The meeting will take place at St George's Hall, Liverpool, on Friday 31 March 2017 at 9am.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Welcome – Shaer Halewood
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Parr Hall, Warrington on Friday 18 March 2016
4. North West Society Constitutional Changes
5. Annual Report and Accounts for 2016
6. Officers and Members of the Society in 2016
7. Election of Officers and Members of the Society 2017
8. Presidential Address – Mike Thomas, Grant Thornton

GUEST SPEAKERS

9. Andrew Burns, CIPFA Vice President and Director of Finance and Resources, Staffordshire County Council
10. Dr Joe Rafferty, Chief Executive, Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust
11. Ed Cox, Director, Institute for Public Policy Research
12. Event Close – Mike Thomas

Venue details - <http://liverpoolcityhalls.co.uk/st-georges-hall>

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NORTH WEST SOCIETY OF CIPFA

Parr Hall, Warrington - Friday 18 March 2016

Welcome

The Regional President, Shaer Halewood, welcomed members to the event and gave a short potted history of the building and the room in which the meeting was being held, highlighting that the building was run by a Community Interest Company.

Agenda

1. Attendance

There were 42 members present.

2. Apologies for Absence

There were 7 apologies for absence.

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Warrington Wolves Rugby Stadium on Friday 26 March 2015

The minutes were approved without amendment.

4. Agenda for 2015-16 AGM

The current Chair and President of the Society, Shaer Halewood opened the meeting by thanking members for their support during her first year as President and Chairman. She spoke briefly of some of the difficulties faced by members during the current times, but also reflected on the strength that can be gained from participating in the Society and its activities. Shaer highlighted that appointments were on a two year basis and she was greatly looking forward to her second year as President. Shaer then briefly ran through the current Council appointments and membership.

5. Election of Society President 2015-17

Shaer Halewood was elected as president for a period of two year at March 2015.

6. Election of Society Vice-President 2015-17

Mike Thomas was elected as Vice-President for a period of two years from March 2015.

7. Election of Society Officers

The President informed the meeting that following the recent nominations and there being no other nominations the following officers were elected to serve on the Council for 2016-17:

Honorary Secretary

Honorary Treasurer

Regional Representative

Nicholas Atlay, Homes and
Communities Agency

Jonathan Davies

Lee Yale Helms

8. Election of Corporate Members of the Council

A number of nominations were received to be corporate members of the Council. In line with the Council's Constitution the following members were nominated and accepted onto the Council:

Chris Pyke
Ian Coleman
David Taylor-Smith
Simon Rafaelli
Steve Freeman
Ian Cosh
Mike Owen
Stephanie Donaldson
Rebecca Davis
Jeremy Valentine
Liga Berzina
Carol McDonnell

9. Election of Auditor to the Society

The current auditor to the Society, Steve Kenyon from Bury MBC was duly confirmed to continue in this post.

10. Annual Report 2015-16

The Annual Report was received. The Chair paid tribute to the hard work of the Society Officers and volunteers in the groups and sections.

11. Annual Accounts 2015-16

The Annual Accounts were circulated to all members for comment. SH highlighted the improved position regarding income generated from events and thanked members for their continued support. It was agreed that the Draft Accounts would be subject to audit on 22 March and would then be signed and sent to CIIPFA.

That concluded the formal business for the AGM.

12. Presidential Address

The Presidential Address was given by Shaer Halewood.

The past 12 months has seen a lot of achievement in the North West and I really proud of our successes. During the year we re-established a Retired Members group but have yet to hold an event – I'm hoping that our first event will be in July before the National AGM to enable our retired members to catch up with old acquaintances. Following that we hope to stage two events a year that will be topical but not too serious in nature for members to attend. Supporting our retired members is an important aspect of the region, especially as we have many very active retired members who, having left work might not have access to the same level of information as they did previously but still want to maintain an active interest in public sector finance.

We made good progress with our twinning and mentoring ambition last year but we are yet to understand how this will fully work, and we'll be working with CIPFA on this during the year. I am hoping that we can support CIPFA's international agenda by offering help and guidance to our overseas colleagues as they do not have a support network as we

do in the regions, or as we do as members. Over the coming 12 months we will be looking to work with Pakistan to support employees and employers in the public sector, which mainly centres on External Audit. There is a need for soft skills support such as interview skills, CV writing etc. and I am hopeful that our student network can link in as mentors to help with this.

We all recognise that the skills needed to be a public sector finance professional go far wider than those we learn on the PQ as we are expected to have influencing, negotiating, project management, commissioning and contracting skills among others I am looking to provide some further events and training that address this in bitesize chunks. Other courses and tools that CIPFA provide such as CIPFA thinks, Voices and the Leadership Academy will also support this, and I am very much looking forward to finding out more on the business partnering qualification that CIPFA have launched this year. The free learning and tools on the CMI Management Direct is also an excellent way to gain new skills and knowledge and I'd like to arrange a demo of this to members and students that might not be aware of it.

We see the National conference return to Manchester this year after 3 years and the region will be hosting a stand. The conference theme 'Powering Growth, Transforming Public Services' is particularly pertinent to the North West and I expect that the devolution agenda will touch us all in some shape or form, whether it is directly with modelling and meetings, providing assurance, consulting and commissioning or just because it's happening somewhere we live. We all have a fantastic opportunity now to become involved and shape the north for the future. If you are attending the Conference please do come and see us on the stand, and even if you are not attending and are around Manchester, please just pop in to say hello.

As our region will also be hosting the regional dinner at the Conference we are organising an event to be held in Manchester Central on the Tuesday, before the national AGM. It is free event so please book on by emailing cipfanwnw@cipfa.org. Alongside this we will be holding a number of events this year across the region to support members and students with CPD, new developments and training events. Our volunteer base is excellent and I am always amazed by the enthusiasm and commitment they bring to the region. So I would like to formally express my thanks to them for the superb work they do, especially alongside other commitments such as a day job, family life and other outside interests. It is very much appreciated.

13. Presentations

John Matheson – CIPFA National President

John congratulated a number of members on their contribution to the region and CIPFA. In particular he thanked Liga Berzina for her contribution to the Students Society. John also singled out the prize won by Ian Coleman at the National Conference for the Regions for his work over 25 years or more for CIPFA nationally and within the region. John focused his Presidential Themes on 3 areas:

- Working across the Public Sector
- Innovation
- Succession Planning

He outlined the themes in relation to his time as Director of Finance at Health Scotland.

He focused on the 4 P's:

Prevention - how to shift a culture from spending £12bn on illness and £1bn on public health prevention to a different way of thinking and rewarding successful outcomes

Partnership - working with drug companies and innovators to get more for less. How Health Scotland invested in innovation to deliver change.

People - HS has 155,000 staff so productivity amongst the workforce was a key driver of greater efficiency

Performance - focusing how to specify and measure outcomes.

He discussed the Health and Social Care Integration agenda in Scotland and how this was different from England.

He outlined the challenges of making £40bn of resource reductions over 10 years.

He then went on to talk about CIPFA and the profession and the challenges for the future. This included the types of skills needed for the future, the need for succession planning and the sourcing of accountants from different backgrounds such as modern apprenticeships.

He then outlined some of the international changes within CIPFA as part of the new Governance structure. Finally he talked about the opportunities afforded by new qualifications such as the ICAS.

He also covered new ventures such as CFOi with Grant Thornton

Brexit – and possible impacts

Fellowship approach that is being considered to increase numbers and engage a broader membership

Finally he mused on what the next 130 years of the Institute might hold

It was a stimulating presentation and personal insight into his time as a CIPFA President and member.

Sharon Senior – North West Employers

Gave a very thought provoking insight to the challenges faced by all of us as part of the wider partnership and collaboration agenda, including an interactive presentation on emotional intelligence.

Meeting closed at 4pm

AGENDA ITEM 5

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

President's and Chairman's Report - Shaer Halewood

It's a sad time for me to be writing my last Annual Report as I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as North West Society President. We've achieved so much as a region over the past two years which is a credit to all the volunteers, especially when they have jobs, are studying, have other volunteer work, need to take care of their families and still make time for a rest and some 'me' time. We are one of, if not the strongest and most active region across CIPFA and this has been demonstrated by all our accomplishments during the year such as:

- Council Member Ian Coleman winning the Hedley Marshall Award in October 2016
- Presenting two news awards for lifetime contribution and volunteer of the year at our Society Dinner in November 2016
- Hosting the free pre-conference event in July 2016
- Winning the Regional Innovation Award in October 2016
- Hosting an extensive programme of an average of 12 events each year
- Supporting all the University careers fairs over the past two years including speaking at two of them
- A President's blog each month over the past two years
- Being the only region to utilise the on-line regional forum to post Council papers so that all members and students have access to them
- Establishing a regional development plan to set out our aims and objectives for 2017
- Being shortlisted for the PQ Student Awards in February 2017



- Developing a PEP mentoring scheme for students who are struggling to complete their PEP before becoming a member to go live in 2017
 - Developing an Induction Pack and Role statements for new volunteers to go live in 2017
 - Revising our Society Constitution and adopting the National Junior Vice President model
 - Re-establishment of the Retired Members group who held three events during 2016
 - Presenting at the NHS Regional Skills Network event and establishing some draft ideas for joint events, sharing speakers and potential shadowing and secondment opportunities across health
- Developing an events database to include all CIPFA events within the region over the year

- Having articles in every edition of Spreadsheet over the past two years and sending out 22 out of 24 possible newsletters over the past 2 years
- Having a diverse skills set on the Society Council with representation from every area of the public sector

As you can see we've achieved a huge amount which demonstrates how resilient and motivated we are to keep going and to continually seek out improvements for the benefit of the member, students and other finance professionals working in the public sector in the North West.

Celebrating Success

During the past 12 months two of our Society Council Members have received awards. In November last Year National CIPFA President, Brian Roberts presented the William Joliffe Award for Volunteer of the Year to Carol McDonnell. Carol was instrumental in setting up the new North West CIPFA Student Network which has gone from strength to strength.



And former North West and North Wales President Ken Finch was awarded the Barbara Kay Award for his significant contribution to supporting the Society both when the Society was joined up with North Wales and also since it has been separated. These were two very well deserved winners and I was delighted to have seen them presented during my Presidential term.



The Society also won the Regional Innovation Award last year competing against all the other CIPFA regions for our free pre-conference event in July. We were very aware that not everyone has an opportunity to attend the National Conference so we hoped by hosting this full day event that was free to attend, that delegates could come and have access to some excellent speakers and feel a bit of that conference vibe that happens every year. The Student Network were short-listed for the PQ Awards

earlier on this year and two representatives went To London to attend the ceremony, more on this in the sub-groups section.

Support for CIPFA National Conference

I was over the moon that Manchester was the home of the CIPFA National Conference last year as it was a great opportunity to showcase our region and what we have to offer. As well as our free pre-conference event we had a regional stand where delegates could come and have a chat and find out what all regions had to offer in terms of support and events. The regional brochure highlighted all the activity for the year for all of the regions and delegates could come and chat to the regional volunteers on the stand to find out more.





We had some famous North West produce on offer in the form of Boddingtons and Vimto and Manchester Tarts and Chorley Cakes. These were a resounding success and delegates could sample the produce while having a go at our two quizzes. The Japanese delegates even came to taste our Boddingtons! The region hosted a dinner on the Wednesday evening where any conference delegates, regional volunteers and key CIPFA contacts could attend and catch up.

I am equally delighted that the feedback and attendance from the national conference was so good that it's coming back to Manchester again for 2017 and planning is now on to see how we can surpass ourselves!

Council Meetings and Activities

The Council met on 4 occasions during the year all with representation from each of the sub-groups. The meetings are an opportunity to disseminate, consider and debate what is happening at CIPFA centrally and the impact on the region. It is also a forum for us to influence and feedback on future CIPFA strategy and policy with our links to CIPFA through our regional CIPFA business development lead who also attend the Council meetings. In January we reviewed our Society Constitution in which a very long and positive debate led to us revising the document to ensure it was fit for purpose. This will be agreed at our AGM on 31 March 2017.

We had some new Council members during the year with Stephanie Donaldson, Carol McDonnell and Liga Babikir joining us as corporate members and Andrew Buck and Richard Lee being co-opted onto the Council. We also had resignations from Jonathan Davies and Claire Shield as Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer respectively and I would like to thank them very much for the excellent work they have done for the Society in ensuring our accounts are up to date, audited and submitted on time.

Regional Conference and Annual Dinner



I love our flagship events that are the Regional Conference and Dinner. This full day and evening event brings together delegates from different areas of the public sector to hear from a variety of superb speakers. Last November we once again had excellent numbers for these events which were held in the North of the North West near Blackburn. The conference generated excellent feedback and the new attendees we had at the dinner enjoyed it so much they said they would come again next year.

Our speakers last year were again really engaging as we like to have a variety of topics that cuts across all areas and skillsets of the sector and I have to say that magician and motivational speaker John Hotowka stole the show when he closed the conference in November.

We aim to alternative these events in the North And South of the region so that at least every other year travel is minimised for our members and students and once again we were able to offer the conference free of charge to all students. We were delighted to have National President Brian Roberts at the dinner who formally presented our new members with their membership certificates and our award winners with their gifts. It is important for us to have the National President at these events to give our members an opportunity to meet and have a chat with him and to showcase our successes from our new members in the region.



Sub-Group reports

The activity going on within the sub-groups is fantastic as all groups are really proactive and host a diverse range of seminars, training and social events to support members and students across the region:

(a) AUDIT, RISK & GOVERNANCE GROUP – Chair, Jean Gleave

My first year as Chair of the group has been very enjoyable and I would like to extend my appreciation to the group members for their continued enthusiasm and support during the year. The year has also been very challenging both within the group, as established members retired from the group, and within the group members' working environments as the economic climate continues to put pressure on public sector funding.



The North West has seen devolution and integration of health and social care services gather pace over the year. In this changing landscape, group members are often Taking on more responsibility in their roles and are under continuing increased pressures as workloads increase. The willingness of group members to take on tasks and support events is key to the continued success of the group; this support allows the group to continue to be sustainable and to provide topical, value for money training events throughout the year.

The group have maintained numbers in attendance at events by consulting colleagues in local authorities and health on topics for presentations and workshops. The continued support indicates the relevance, value and quality of events that the group provide. Income generated from events allows the group to meet the subsidy for the Annual Conference and break even over the year.

Strategy and Membership

The group continue to provide events that offer value for money and also meet the needs of members and employers to ensure that delegates are kept up to date with key issues and have the opportunity to participate in practical workshops and training

events. The diverse membership of the group with members from Local Authorities; NHS; and retired members brings a breadth of experience and qualifications that contribute to the success of the group.

Sadly a number of our colleagues chose to offer their resignation from the group during the year and I would like to thank them for their long standing service on the group over many years. Martyn Kenyon was actively involved in the group and the heads of internal audit group in the North West during his years on audit, and was recipient of volunteer of the year from CIPFA North West in recent years. Martyn was very helpful to me when I joined local government; his friendship and support helped me personally in my role in audit and in my work with the group. Eric Cadman received the Barbara Kay Lifetime Achievement Award in the previous year for his work with the group and is another long standing member whose support and sense of fun will be missed. I would also like to extend thanks to Stephanie Donaldson and Margaret Wood who also resigned from the group, and thank them for their hard work and commitment.

New members were welcomed onto the group during the year. We welcomed Tim Crowley, Director of Mersey Internal Audit Agency and Chair of the CIPFA Audit Panel, which allows the group to maintain contact with health colleagues, and Ruth Baker from St Helens. New members are always welcome on the group and they bring new skills and ideas with a fresh enthusiasm.

Activities & Events

The CIPFA NW Audit, Risk and Governance Group have been very active in 2016. Practical workshops and training events have been held in the following areas:

- Safeguarding
- Introduction to Internal Audit

The group are planning further workshops in the coming year that will provide valuable CPD events and practical solutions that can be taken back to the work place.



Last year's annual training event at Shrigley Hall was very successful, and had similar delegate numbers to the previous year. Feedback from the event was excellent and once again the event was delivered within the agreed budget.

The Autumn Seminar in Manchester in October was successful and again attracted around 100 delegates. The format of the event has a focus on fraud for half the day and includes general topics for the other half. This year topics included cybersecurity; health and social care integration; and public health arrangements in local authorities.

CIPFA Regional and National Events

The group have continued to work with the NW region to provide support. We have produced a development plan to support the NW regional development plan to feed into CIPFA nationally. We have an official email address as part of working more closely with the region and corporate CIPFA.

I attended the regional autumn forum in London in October. It provided an opportunity to discuss how the regions can support CIPFA and provide events that do not clash with CIPFA events. We sent representatives to the NW annual dinner in November. I attended the AGM with Mat and have attended all the NW Council meetings during the year in order to keep in touch with the work of the NW Council.

Conclusion

I would like to thank each member of the group for their hard work and contribution to what has been another successful year for the group. I would particularly like to thank Mat, Stewart and Janet in their roles as vice chair, treasurer and secretary for their support and advice. The enthusiasm and efforts of group members allows the group to continue to raise awareness of current issues and key topics via our programme of events, offer value for money training and continue to adopt strong financial procedures to ensure the group's resources are used effectively.

Jean Gleave

(b) NORTHERN SECTION- Chair, Ian Cosh

The Northern Section held two events in 2016/176. The first was in June 2016 at Lancashire Constabulary headquarters titled 'Fitness for the Future'. Over 50 delegates gathered to hear speakers presenting a number of topical case studies. These were from the National Audit office, Head of Media & Engagement from Lancashire Constabulary, Student Services at CIPFA, Corporate Programme Manager from Royal Liverpool and Broad green University Hospitals Trust and the Managing Director of the Local Pensions Partnership.



The second event was held at the Castle Green Hotel in Kendal in September 2016. This was titled 'Public Finances in a post referendum world' and 70 delegates attended for a full day of speakers covering issues on public sector finances. This included a talk on 'Brexit - the impact on the public sector' and 'Maintaining Financial Resilience for the Public Sector in Challenging Times'.

As the Chair for the Northern I would like to thank our Deputy Ian Wilson and the team for the all of the effort they put in creating these events and making them happen. This is all in aid of supporting members' continuous professional development.
Ian Cosh



(c) SOUTHERN SECTION – Chair, Jeremy Valentine



The Section's focus for the year this year has concentrated on major regional events in the year. Members of the Section have supported the regional event at the start of the National Conference at Manchester Central in July by sourcing speakers for the event, and co-organising the Regional Conference and Dinner at the Dunkenhagh, Clayton-Le-Moors in November. The Southern Section executive members led the volunteering on the regional stand at the National Conference in July and organised the quiz.

The Chair of the Southern section was also appointed as events co-ordinator for the Society Council and has developed the regional events programme for the 2017. Southern Section members also supported the University fairs during the year. It is our intention to develop a separate Southern Section programme of events for delivery in 2017, in addition to continuing support to those for the Region as a whole.

Within the Southern Section we have a small but enthusiastic and dedicated team and I would like to thank them for their support over the past 12 months and look forward to developing our programme with their help and support for 2017

Jeremy Valentine

(d) NORTH WEST CIPFA STUDENT NETWORK- Jen Pope, Student President

Volunteers

We began the year with 10 members. During the year, we gained 1 new member. Prior to our AGM we asked members to confirm their participation, we had 1 member leave – thus at the end of the year our number remains at 10. While our current membership base is active and engaged, plans have been discussed for a recruitment drive in the coming year.

2016/17



Building on from an excellent year in 2015/16 the NW CSN has had another successful year and has continued to build our profile with students. We have appeared in Spreadsheet Magazine and PQ Magazine. We have seen engagement from our social media pages

and have launched a new Facebook group with the hope of further engagement.



We were also pleased to be chosen as one of five student groups from both the public and private sectors to be shortlisted for PQ Magazine's 'Student Body of the Year Award' at the PQ Awards 2017. Myself and Carol had the opportunity to attend the awards ceremony at Café de Paris where we joined with CIPFA colleagues in London, and engaged with the National CSN.



We also engaged with the Accounting department at the University of Central Lancashire and hope to build a relationship with them going forward.

Events

We have held a number of well received events during the past 12 months.

In May 2016, the NW CSN utilised some of the John Marriott fund in order to pilot a scheme to fund students to attend CETC revision courses. The scheme was piloted with PSFR as this course was recognised to both be of importance to students in the public sector and had particularly low pass rates. After positive feedback and an above average pass rate from participants a report was presented to Council and the scheme is now in the course of being piloted across all modules. Cost of the Event was £2,016

In July, the NW CSN welcomed students from all regions to Manchester for the CIPFA Annual Conference by hosting an evening student reception. The event was a huge success with attendees from regions including South East, Yorkshire & Humber and Northern Ireland. It provided an excellent networking student for CIPFA students from across Great Britain. Cost of the event was £556.30

In November, we facilitated a strategic level revision study session. This session was well received and something we believe was extremely useful in helping students to prepare for their final CIPFA exams. The cost of this event was £59.09

In February, we held an Advanced Microsoft Excel course to allow CIPFA students to enhance necessary skills for the workplace. This course was extremely well received and had excellent feedback with a strong desire to hold a similar event in the future. This event also engaged students that we had not previously attended our events including CIPFA students from the NHS Leadership Academy. The cost of this event was £1,253.05

The NW CSN is committed to providing high quality events to students at low cost. The group managed to cut costs in providing these events including obtaining free facility hire for the Annual Conference Student Reception and Strategic Revision Sessions. We intend to continue to try and use free or discounted facilities where possible to be able to utilise our budget to provide maximum benefit to the students in our region. A development plan was submitted to Council for 2017.

AGM

The NW CSN AGM was held on Friday 3rd March 2017. It was attended by 7 people made up of 6 members and 1 guest, and the new executive was elected. At the AGM, Naomi Jackson took over as the new Student President for the coming 12 months.

The NW CSN would like to thank PWC for facilitating our AGM.



Conclusion

I would like to thank the North-West Society Council for its continued support of the NW CSN in our activities. I would also like to say a huge thankyou to all the students who give up their time to volunteer with the NW CSN, despite balancing full time work with a demanding qualification, they continue to give up their limited free time to ensure that other CIPFA Students get additional support and the opportunity to develop their skills and networks. These events would not be possible without all their hard work. I would like to wish the new executive the best of luck and while I have really enjoyed being president I am pleased to be handing over to such a dedicated and capable individual, in Naomi Jackson, who I know will do an excellent job in the coming year.

Jen Pope

(e) RETIRED MEMBERS GROUP – Chair, David Johnston



It had been a while in the planning, but the first event for the newly reformed CIPFA NW Retired Members' Group took place on 12 July 2016 in Manchester. It coincided with the "free" day for the North West members prior to National Conference and it was agreed by those members attending that it was a very good day indeed.

We started the day with the other CIPFA members and students and had an entertaining, thought – provoking and terrifying insight into the life of cyber criminals and the sheer ease by which you and your "private" data and information can soon be made to part company. We all agreed that the sophistication of some of the latest cyber scams is staggering. Let that be a lesson to those of you who are casual about passwords and who think that no-one is listening to your mobile phone conversations.....!

After a very good lunch and time for networking with ex-colleagues (some of whom hadn't seen each other for over 10 years!) It was time for our main event – a "behind the scenes" explorer tour of the Sir John Rylands library in Deansgate, Manchester. If you have never visited before then it is worth a trip for the architecture and history of the building.

We were lucky to be shown parts of the library, from the cellars to above the reading room, where the general public are not allowed, and to get an insight into why the Library was built, and the history of the Rylands family. It was an atmospheric trip through the special collections and one we all agreed was a real success. So thanks to the staff of the library who made it come to life for us.

The CIPFA NW Retired Members Group held a Christmas celebration event in Liverpool on 30 November 2016. Fifteen of us gathered at the Anglican Cathedral where we split into two groups for a guided tour of the Cathedral. Even those of us who had been in the Cathedral previously agreed that the knowledge of our guides was so comprehensive that we all saw things that ordinary visitors would never notice, such as the hidden mouse, the Titanic plaque, and the "real" front door complete with bullet holes from WWII.



Our time in the Cathedral was up all too quickly - we all thought that we could have spent a lot longer there. However, Christmas lunch with Prosecco at the Philharmonic Restaurant was beckoning so we had to move on. The Philharmonic staff must have suspected that we might be a rowdy bunch as they let us have the upstairs dining room to ourselves! The meal was a great success and gave us all a chance to renew old acquaintances and make new ones. It was surprising how many of us knew so many people in common.

We got ideas for future events from those present, and those members who had worked hard to check out Liverpool watering holes were thanked for their dedication to duty.

We've had a great start with the newly formed group and I'd like to thank the group members and especially the group Secretary Sheila Don for making the year a great success

David Johnston

And finally.....

In conclusion although I am sad to leaving my role as President, I am equally as happy, if not overjoyed for Mike Thomas to be taking over. Mike will be an excellent President and brings with him extensive knowledge and experience of the public sector as well as a very wide network of contacts and supporters of the region. Our incoming Vice-President and Junior Vice-President, Stephanie Donaldson and Andrew Buck will be the faces and driving force of the region for the foreseeable future and I am excited that the Society is in their safe hands.

I would like to thank all the volunteers within the region, not just those who I see and work with on the Society Council and the sub groups but those who I don't get to see who volunteer at university fairs, write articles, provide training opportunities, speak at events and promote the work of and raise awareness of the Region. Without you we wouldn't have a region, let alone such a thriving and flourishing one. And we also like to

have a good laugh and enjoy our socials. So very many thanks to all of you, you make me very proud to be part of such a fantastic region.

I am really proud to be part of the North West Region and I can see with our student network the brilliant talent coming forward who will be our future leaders and drivers to ensure public services are fit for purpose and sustainable in the longer term. There are huge challenges ahead of us but exciting ones at that and I am looking forward to what the future brings. The links we have developed with Heath and the Third sector will stand us in good stead to ensure our citizens are adequately supported to support themselves and public sector financial leadership has a significant part to play in enabling this.

One final thank you goes to our sponsors. One of our main aims is to make our events accessible to all and this means keeping the cost low or free. The help we received from our sponsors during the year – Axon Resourcing, Zurich, Heylo Housing, Grant Thornton, KPMG and John Barker enabled us to do just that and it is very much appreciated.



Shaer Halewood

Society President and Chair

HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

This year has seen the Region successfully host the National CIPFA Conference in Manchester. The Region had its own stand and pre-conference event to promote the work of the Region and its sub-groups. This was the first time in three years that the National CIPFA Conference has been hosted outside London, proving so successful that it will return to Manchester in July 2017.

The year has also seen the continuing success of the Regions student network which continues to support students across the North West with their studies through the provision of revision courses and networking events. The Region also hosted its annual Regional Conference as well as the successful delivery of events for accountancy and audit members through the Regions sub-groups.

The financial statements are a consolidated set of accounts for the North West Region for the financial year ending 31 December 2016 and include the financial activity within:

- The North West Region
- The Northern Section
- The Southern Section
- The Audit, Risk and Governance Group
- The North West CIPFA Student Network

The 2016 outturn for the Region is a deficit of £1,671 made up of a £3,124 deficit for Council activities offset mainly by a £1,771 surplus achieved by the Audit, Risk and Governance Group.

The main reasons for the deficit on Council activities are as follows:

- Overspend against the Regional Forum budget as a result of higher than budgeted costs due to the event being held in London as opposed to Coventry where it has been held for a number of years. As the event will now be rotated across each region on an annual basis, the costs will even out against the budget over the period of rotation.
- The cost of the free pre-conference event that the Region held in July which was planned to be funded from reserves. This was a new initiative to provide an opportunity for members and students to promote and represent the Region at the National CIPFA Conference. It is hoped that CIPFA will support or contribute to this event going forward.
- Lower than planned sponsorship received during the year to support our annual events programme. As a result the Region are implementing a new sponsorship policy for 2017 and one of our objectives of the development plan is earlier planning and engagement with our existing and new sponsors.
- The cost of the student revision course which helped to support students with their CIPFA studies and exams. This was a new initiative funded from the John Marriot reserve given to support the education of students in the Region. The Student Network will be continuing this initiative and use of the John Marriot monies going forward.

Jonathan Davies, Honorary Treasurer

The draft financial statements are included at Appendix A

AGENDA ITEM 6

OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY IN 2016

Officers of the Society Council

President

Shaer Halewood
Oldham Borough Council
Assistant Director of Finance
West Street
Oldham, OL1 1UT

Vice President

Michael Thomas
Director
Grant Thornton LLP
4TH Floor Liver Buildings
Liverpool, L3 1PS

Honorary Secretary

Nicholas Atlay
Financial Analyst
Homes and Communities Agency
Piccadilly Gardens
Manchester, M1 1RG

Honorary Treasurer

Jonathan Davies
Senior Finance Manager
Oldham Council
West Street, OL1 1XJ

Auditor

Steve Kenyon
Section 151 Officer
Bury MBC
Knowsley Street, BL9 0SW

Regional Representative to Institute Council (transitional until July 2017)

Lee Yale Helms
Senior Consultant
PricewaterhouseCoopers
Lower Mosley Street
Manchester, M2 3PW

Members of the Society Council 2016

Corporate Members

Chris Pyke (2015)
Ian Coleman (2015)
David Taylor-Smith (2015)
Rebecca Davis (2016)
Mike Owen (2016)
Simon Rafaelli (2016)
Steve Freeman (2016)
Carol McDonnell (2016)
Liga Berzina (2016)
Steph Donaldson (2016)
Jeremy Valentine (2016)

Co-opted Members

Stephen Jones (2015)
James Williams (2016)
Andrew Buck (2016)
Jayne Stephenson (2016)
Richard Lee (2016)

Chairmen and Secretaries of the Sections and Groups 2016

CHAIR

SECRETARY

Southern Section

Jeremy Valentine
Consultant, Stockport

James Williams
Senior Associate, PwC

Northern Section

Ian Cosh
Director of Resources, Lancashire Constabulary

Debbie Sharkey
Business Analyst, Lancashire County Council

Audit, Risk & Governance Group

Jean Gleave
Chief Internal Audit Officer, Warrington Borough
Council

Janet Findlay
Retired Member

Senior Management Group

Vacant

Vacant

CIPFA Student Forum

Jennifer Pope
Accountant, Oldham Metropolitan Borough
Council

Ben Haydon
Executive, Grant Thornton

Retired Members Group

David Johnston
Retired Member

Sheila Don
Retired Member

AGENDA ITEM 7

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL 2017

(a) Election of Chair and Society President

Having been properly nominated and there being no other nominations it is recommended that **Mike Thomas**, Grant Thornton, be elected as Chair and President of CIPFA North West Society for the period covering 2017 and 2018.

(b) Election of Vice President

Having been properly nominated and there being no other nominations it is recommended that **Stephanie Donaldson**, Merseytravel, be elected as Vice President of the CIPFA North West Society for the period covering 2017 and 2018.

(c) Election of Junior Vice President

Having been properly nominated and there being no other nominations it is recommended that **Andrew Buck**, Liverpool City Council, be elected as Junior Vice President of the CIPFA North West Society for the period covering 2017 and 2018.

(d) Officers of the Society

Having been properly nominated and there being no other nominations it is recommended that the following officers serve on the Council for 2017:

Honorary Secretary

Nicholas Atlay, Homes and Communities Agency

Honorary Treasurer

Liga Babikir, Wigan Council

(e) Corporate Members of the Society

Having been properly nominated in 2016 as Corporate Members for a two year term, eight members will continue on Council for the coming year: Rebecca Davis, Simon Rafaelli, Steve Freeman, Carol McDonnell and Jeremy Valentine. Mike Owen has resigned as a corporate member.

By way of the constitution up to 12 members can be elected as Corporate Members of the Society. Having been properly nominated it is recommended the following members serve on Council for two years from 2017:

Chris Pyke

Ian Coleman

David Taylor-Smith

Jen Pope

Richard Lee

Jayne Stephenson

(f) Honorary Auditor to the Society

The Honorary Auditor to the Society for 2017 and until further notice will be:

Steve Kenyon, Bury MBC

North West & North Wales Student's Society Past Presidents

1975/76	W D Pearson	Lancashire
1976/77	C H Singleton	Blackburn
1977/78	K J Bridge	Greater Manchester
1978/79	W O Joliffe	Lancashire
1979/80	M Sharples	Tameside AHA
1980/81	R I Williams	Cumbria
1981/82	J Hill	Liverpool
1982/83	J M Marriott	Greater Manchester
1983/84	I Wood	Wirral
1984/85	P Johnson	Wigan
1985/86	P Warrington	Trafford
1986/87	J R Ford	Cumbria
1987/88	D A Bullock	North West RHA
1988/89	P Short	Manchester
1989/90	D Morgan	Lancashire
1990/91	R Wirth	Cumbria
1991/92	M G Scholes	Clwyd
1992/93	S Barnes	Pendle
1993/94	P Youle Grayling	Wigan
1994/95	J E H Whiteoak	Cheshire
1995/96	I Wood	PDFM Ltd
1996/97	P Hinton	Liverpool JMU
1997/98	S M Arnfield	Bolton
1998/99	K W Finch	Conwy
1999/00	P Warrington	Trafford
2000/01	B Renshaw	Flintshire
2001/02	L Childs	PWC
2002/03	J Birrell	Aintree Hospitals NHS Trust
2003/04	R Alker	Consultant
2004/05	B Parsonage	Wyre
2005/06	I Coleman	Wirral
2006/07	C Tidswell	PWC
2007/08	J Valentine	Trafford
2008/09	M Kenyon	Tameside
2009/10	M Owen	Bury

North West & North Wales Region Past Chairman

1975/76	W O Jolliffe	Lancashire
1976/77	J M Curley	Greater Manchester
1977/78	D F G Burton	Chester
1978/79	C T Fletcher	Cheshire
1979/80	J Hetherington	Manchester
1980/81	G K Woodhall	Preston Polytechnic
1981/82	I Wood	Wirral
1982/83	J R Ford	Cumbria
1983/84	D Merchant	Merseyside PTE
1984/85	C M Reddington	Liverpool
1985/86	D Morgan	Lancashire
1986/87	M C Morris	Colwyn
1987/88	D A Poppleton	Crewe & Nantwich
1988/89	B Collinge	Bolton
1989/90	J M Marriott	PDFM Ltd
1991/93	S Arnfield	Bolton
1993/95	B Aldred	Lancashire
1995/97	J M Marriott	PDFM Ltd
1997/99	R Alker	Lancashire
1999/01	L Sutton	Phillips & Drew
2001/03	I Coleman	Wirral
2003/05	C Tidswell	PWC
2005/07	S Curran	Bolton
2007/08	K Finch	Conwy
2008/09	B Parsonage	Wyre
2009/10	M Kenyon	Wigan

North West Society Past Chairman and President

2010/11	C Pyke	MMU
2011/13	L Yale Helms	PWC
2013/15	G Kilpatrick	Lancashire
2015/17	S Halewood	Warrington / Oldham

AGENDA ITEM 8

Presidential Address – Mike Thomas

AGENDA ITEM 9

Speaker – Andrew Burns

AGENDA ITEM 10

Speaker – Dr Joe Rafferty

AGENDA ITEM 11

Speaker – Ed Cox

AGENDA ITEM 12

Close of Event – Mike Thomas



Region: North West

REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2016

**FIVE YEAR SUMMARY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER**

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Income	23,205	29,412	43,463	42,663	41,541
Expenditure	(30,657)	(25,453)	(33,607)	(34,622)	(43,212)
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources	(7,452)	3,959	9,856	8,041	(1,671)

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

To the Members of the North West Region of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy. I (insert name of Honorary Auditor) have audited the accounts of (insert name of region or student society) for the year ended 31 December 2016 and confirm that the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the (insert name of region or student society) at 31 December 2016 and that they have been compiled in compliance with financial regulations.



Signed (Honorary Auditor)

Stephen Kenyon, CPFA
03 March 2017

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER**

Note	2016 £	2016 £	2015 £	2015 £
Incoming Resources				
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</i>				
Advancing public finance and promoting best practice	33,935		35,334	
Educating and training students	0	33,935	0	35,334
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>				
Donations	300		0	
Investment income	16	316	61	61
<i>Other incoming resources:</i>				
Subvention		7,290		7,268
Total Incoming Resources		<u>41,541</u>		<u>42,663</u>
Resources Expended				
<i>Charitable activities:</i>				
Advancing public finance and promoting best practice	(40,058)		(31,929)	
Educating and training students	(1,880)		(79)	
Debtors written off	0		(240)	
Regulating and supporting members	(235)	(42,173)	(1,068)	(33,316)
<i>Governance:</i>				
Regional Council and audit		(1,039)		(1,306)
3 Total Resources Expended		<u>(43,212)</u>		<u>(34,622)</u>
Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources		<u>(1,671)</u>		<u>8,041</u>
<i>Gains/(losses) on investment assets:</i>				
		0		0
Net Movement in Funds		<u>(1,671)</u>		<u>8,041</u>
Funds Balances Brought Forward at 1 January		<u>65,897</u>		<u>57,856</u>
Funds Balances Carried Forward at 31 December		<u>64,226</u>		<u>65,897</u>

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER**

Note		2016 £	2016 £	2015 £	2015 £
	Fixed Assets				
4	Investments	0		0	
	Current Assets				
	Stocks				
5	Debtors and Prepayments	16,058		11,813	
6	Investments			0	
	Cash at bank and in hand	<u>54,949</u>	71,007	<u>61,306</u>	73,119
	Current Liabilities				
7	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	<u>(6,781)</u>	(6,781)	<u>(7,222)</u>	(7,222)
	Net Current Assets				
			<u>64,226</u>		<u>65,897</u>
	Represented By:				
	Capital Funds				
	Restricted Funds:				
8	Trust Funds				0
	Income Funds:				
9	Designated Funds		22,440		24,120
10	Other Charitable Funds		41,786		41,777
			<u>64,226</u>		<u>65,897</u>

Signed on behalf of the North West Region of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy on 31 March 2016



Shaer Halewood
Chairman

Nick Atlay
Honorary Secretary

Jonathan Davies
Honorary Treasurer

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER**

	2016	2016	2015	2015
	£	£	£	£
Net Cash Inflow (Outflow) from Operating Activities	(1,687)		2,389	
Returns on Investment and Servicing of Finance				
Investment Income	16		61	
Interest Paid	<u>0</u>	(1,671)	<u>0</u>	2,450
Capital Expenditure and Financial Investments				
Purchase of tangible assets	0		0	
Proceeds from Sale of Investments	0		0	
Purchase of Investments	<u>0</u>		<u>0</u>	
Net Cash Inflow (Outflow)		<u>(1,671)</u>		<u>2,450</u>

Notes to cash flow statement

1	2016	2015
	£	£
Changes in resources before revaluations	(1,687)	7,980
Investment income	16	61
Depreciation charges	0	0
(Increase) Decrease in Debtors	(4,245)	(4,210)
(Increase) Decrease in Stocks	0	0
Increase (Decrease) in Creditors	(441)	(1,381)
	<u>(6,357)</u>	<u>2,450</u>

2 Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net debt	2016	2015
	£	£
Increase/ (Decrease) in cash in the period	(6,357)	2,450
Change in net debt	0	0
Net debt at 1 January	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net debt at 31 December	<u>(6,357)</u>	<u>2,450</u>

3 Analysis of changes in net debt	At 1 Jan 2016	Cashflows	At 31 Dec 2016
	£	£	£
Cash in hand	61,306	(6,357)	54,949
Debt falling due after 1 year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>61,306</u>	<u>(6,357)</u>	<u>54,949</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with relevant guidance issued by the Accounting Standards Board and follow the requirements of the *Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting by Charities 2005*. The particular accounting policies adopted are described below

(a) **Accounting Convention**

The Financial Statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

(b) **Investments**

Investments held as fixed assets are stated at cost less provision for permanent diminution in value. Those held as current assets are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

(c) **Stocks**

Stocks are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

2 EMPLOYEES

	2016	2015
	£	£
Salaries and Wages (including temporary staff)	0	0
National Insurance	0	0
Superannuation	0	0
Other Staff Costs	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

The average number of employees was (2015:_____)

3 SUPPORT COSTS

	Directly	Apport-	Apport-	Total	Total
	Attrib-	ioned	-ioned	2016	2015
	utable	Support	Staff	£	£
	Costs	t Costs	Costs		
	£	£	£		
Advancing public finance and promoting best practice	0	0	0	0	0
Educating and training students	0	0	0	0	0
Regulating and supporting members	0	0	0	0	0
Governance and audit	0	0	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Basis of apportionment					
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4 FIXED ASSETS: INVESTMENTS

	2016	2015
	£	£
(Brief description of investments held)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	0	0

5 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	2016	2015
	£	£
Trade Debtors	9,878	6,096
Amounts owed by CIPFA excluding VAT	1,000	1,500
VAT repayment owed by CIPFA	2,975	834
Amounts owed by CIPFA Regions and Student Societies	320	0
Owed by CIPFA Business Ltd	1,385	983
Other tax and social security	0	0
Other debtors	0	0
Prepayments and Accrued Income	500	2,400
	<u>16,058</u>	<u>11,813</u>

6 CURRENT ASSETS: INVESTMENTS

	2016	2015
	£	£
(Brief description of investments held)	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	0	0

7 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2016	2015
	£	£
Trade Creditors	4,900	3,688
Owed to CIPFA excluding VAT	1,881	2,310
VAT owed to CIPFA	0	691
Amounts owed to CIPFA Regions and Student Societies	0	0
Owed to CIPFA Business Ltd	0	0
Other Tax, Social Security	0	0
Other Creditors	0	533
Receipts in Advance	0	0
	<u>6,781</u>	<u>7,222</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

8 RESTRICTED FUNDS

	2016	2015
	£	£
Balance at 1 January	0	0
For the Year	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Balance at 31 December	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

9 DESIGNATED FUNDS

The Income Funds of the Institute include the following Designated Funds that have been set aside out of unrestricted funds by the Executive Committee for Specific Purposes.

	2016	2015
	£	£
Educating and training students	<u>22,440</u>	<u>24,120</u>
	<u>22,440</u>	<u>24,120</u>

10 OTHER CHARITABLE FUNDS

	2016	2015
	£	£
As at 1 January	41,777	33,736
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year	<u>9</u>	<u>8,041</u>
As at 31 December	<u>41,786</u>	<u>41,777</u>

11 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2016	2015
	£	£
Authorised and Contracted	0	0
Authorised but not Contracted	0	0

12 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

	Land and Buildings 2016 £	Other 2016 £	Land and Buildings 2015 £	Other 2015 £
Leases which expire:				
– within one year	0	0	0	0
– within two to five years	0	0	0	0
– in over five years	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

13 COST OF AUDIT AND OTHER FINANCIAL SERVICES

	2016	2015
	£	£
Audit Fees	0	0
Taxation Advice	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

14 TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PERSONS

	2016	2015
	£	£
Remuneration and honoraria	0	0
Professional services rendered for a fee	0	0
Travel and subsistence expenses reimbursed for costs necessarily incurred on CIPFA business	1,426	0
	<u>1,426</u>	<u>0</u>
