

# **CIPFA South East 60<sup>th</sup> Summer Conference**

**Wantage Hall, Reading: 7-9 September 2017**

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## A CIPFA view “State of the Nation”....

- Presidential themes
- Brexit
- Chancellors autumn budget
- Current topical issues
- International strategy
- UK focus
- Engagement with regions

## Presidential themes....

- Medium term financial planning and sustainability - managing balance sheets and capital investment programmes as well as revenue budgets.
- Better alignment and collaboration between local public services - integrated reporting, focusing on the value created by public services not just on financial outcomes.
- Digital, artificial intelligence and automation - impact on the accountancy profession and opportunities to improve public financial management and outcomes for citizens.

## Brexit....

- CIPFA Brexit Advisory Commission for Public Services
- CIPFA Scotland – impact on Scottish Government and fiscal shocks
- CIPFA Northern Ireland Manifesto – devolved powers and improve governance

## Chancellors Autumn Budget....

- Overall state of the public finances
- The end of austerity?
- Industrial strategy
- Public sector pay
- NHS and STPs and ACOs
- Social care green paper
- Schools funding
- Localisation of 100% business rates
- Post Grenfell – housing and accountability

## Current topical issues....

- Commercialisation agenda, property and investments
- Prudential Code, Treasury Management and Capital Strategy Consultations
- Governance issues – CFOs/CEOs/Members
- Council reserves

## International Strategy...

*.....“The biggest challenges facing CIPFA involve getting the right balance between growing our global influence and membership whilst continuing to focus on developing the core UK service offer in a volatile, uncertain, complex and ambiguous post-election and pre-Brexit environment”.....*

- **CIPFA’s Vision Statement:**

**“CIPFA – a global leader in public financial management and governance”**

## Four key aims underpinning vision...

1. To promote excellence in public financial management and governance around the world
2. To serve the public interest by improving public service outcomes
3. To offer an authoritative voice for the accounting and finance profession on public financial management across all levels of government
4. To continue to adopt a straightforward and honest approach towards professional and business relationships

## Delivering these aims will require...

- Improve our thought leadership and qualification to meet changing market demands
- Increase and support our members worldwide



## UK focus....

### Priority Markets

- Health
- Central Government
- Local Government

### Products and services

- FM Model
- Financial Resilience Reviews
- C.Co
- London Counter Fraud Hub
- Apprenticeships

## Engagement with Regions....

### How can we help each other to....

- Raise our profile and influence
- Increase numbers of members and students
- Develop our services and products.

### Regional Forum – Edinburgh 6 & 7 November...

# **Council self assessment & regions feedback**

**Hon Officer and CEO Thoughts to prompt further engagement.....**

## ISSUES RAISED INCLUDE.....

### Council self assessment

- Link with boards and faculties could be clearer
- Communication of agendas, minutes and workplans could be stronger
- Co-options imperfect/opaque
- Priorities
  - engagement with regions
  - students and members experience

### Regional feedback/concerns

- Void following Board for the Regions
- Support not well understood
- Subvention questioned
- Development plans patchy
- Student and member branch engagement
- Central planning of conference programme and related content priorities
- CPD support and link to the above

### Leadership:

Honorary Officer leads:

- Andy Burns: membership
- Brian Roberts: regions
- Carolyn Williamson: students

### CMB lead:

- Drew Cullen: coordinating staff support to regions
- Senior manager lead for each region

### Communications:

- Minutes and papers of all boards and faculties online

### Central Support:

- Events & sponsors
- Communications & marketing
- Web
- CPD & Thought Leadership
- Subventions

# Some Options to Work Through...

- **Coordination of Regional Forum**
  - Move to CIPFA HQ to organise
  - Ask and identify a template for regions – what are they for, what do regions want? What does the centre want?
  - Paid for regional coordinators (from subvention bids)
- **Consider new approach to subventions**
  - Consider what subvention is for, not just quantum
  - Bids to new Board Panel drawn from Council for business plan support rather than universal per capita funding
  - Over time include role of overseas subventions
- **Use of reserves**
  - Helps less affluent branches to take more risk and build reserves
  - Branches with larger reserves encouraged to not always need subventions
- **More centralised event organisation**
  - Reduce duplication & overlap
  - Better opportunities for sponsorship

