

CIPFA Benefits and Revenues Service
(CBRS)

Your network membership

2021/22

The network offer

The CIPFA Benefits and Revenues Service (CBRS), which has been established more than 25 years, aims to support the public sector in informing and promoting good practice in benefits and revenues services.

The two network advisors have in excess of 40 years' combined experience of working in the area of benefits and revenues which they can draw on to support practitioners in their current and future challenges.

By offering a range of valuable events as well as expert support and guidance in all aspects of benefits and revenues we ensure practitioners are aware of changes in the sector and are appropriately skilled to tackle the challenges they face.

Due to the issues faced in 2020-21 delivery of events had to move away from the traditional face-to-face model to a remote platform, a move which has been very well received. These events have reached more delegates than ever before, with just under 1,000 delegates attending the 17 formal events delivered between 1st April 2020 and 31st December 2020 and over 100 delegates attending each of the ad-hoc briefing webinars held at the height of the pandemic support announcements. We plan for remote delivery continuing in 2021-22, with face-to-face events being the exception rather than the norm.

Our regular E-alerts service, provided to around 1,000 members, contains updates on changes in legislation, recent case law and comments on policy and topical issues. In addition, ad-hoc notifications are issued where information needs more urgent communication.

Our website contains documentation to accompany the events along with briefing notes, newsletters and archive material, all of which is available free of charge to network subscribers.

For those with specific questions, our subscriber enquiry service is there to help. Our highly skilled and dedicated advisors deal with over one thousand queries each year and can be accessed, free of charge, by subscribers to the network via email or telephone.

How to join?



If you would like further information about the benefits of subscribing to the CBRS, please contact our network advisors who will be delighted to assist you.

[Adrian Blaylock](#) – 07718 242833

[Sheldon Wood](#) – 07747 788654

Joining CIPFA's Benefits and Revenues Service

If you are interested in joining CIPFA's Benefits and Revenues Service or have any questions, please email cipfanetworks@cipfa.org or call CIPFA on 020 7543 5600 and we can provide a quote based on your required level of membership.

Features and benefits

- Attendance at a wide selection of network events, open training courses for this networks and topical conferences either using pre-purchased places or on a pay-as-you-go basis at a reduced rate
- Technical support and guidance from expert advisors
- Timely updates on relevant political, financial and legislative issues giving you all the facts and information on how these will affect your job role, service delivery and your wider authority
- Opportunities for networking, career development and CPD
- Sharing of knowledge and best practice with peers to create an environment where the key financial and policy issues can be debated and addressed
- Exclusive website access – network websites contain a wealth of published information including regular briefings, newsletters and updates, as well as current and past event presentation materials to allow you to engage with colleagues and members in your area and share best practice
- Regular and ad-hoc E-alerts to keep you updated on the latest Benefits and Revenues issues affecting your area of activity
- Discounts off any CIPFA Essentials training events run by other CIPFA Networks
- Access to other network events when bought under a corporate membership arrangement.

What our members say



“Your updates are vital, they are concise, plain English and cut through all the details to get to the “nitty gritty”, your support has been invaluable.”



“Sheldon has an excellent technical knowledge and the course was really informative and a positive experience.



“I just wanted to say the presenter was absolutely amazing and I could tell he had extensive background and experience in this field.”

Programme of events

Our planned headline events below are complemented by alerts and briefings, monthly newsletters and dedicated advisor support for practitioners in subscribing organisations. Prepaid places can be used to attend any events set out in this service plan.

New events may be added during the year and details of these, along with options for use of pre-paid places, will be confirmed as part of the event promotion materials, CBRS newsletters and alerts.

Our technical events, held throughout the year, will cover provide updates on current issues, best practice, regulatory and case law updates relevant at the time. Areas expected to feature include: updates on the welfare reform process, universal credit, council tax and council tax support, changes to non-domestic rating and business rates retention.



January 2021

Update on support for housing costs for those living in Supported and temporary accommodation

This annual event offers a comprehensive examination of the latest rules for eligibility for and administration of housing benefit claims for those living in specified and temporary accommodation.



February/March 2021

Benefits Technical Update

These events provide updates on the latest technical and strategic issues, developments in legislation and case law affecting benefits and revenues services.



March 2021

Completing the 2020/21 Housing Benefit Subsidy Claim Form

This annual event provides up to date details of the 2020/21 housing benefit subsidy arrangements and the accurate completion of the claim form.



March 2021

Completing and accounting for the NNDR3 2020/21

This annual event provides up to date details on completing the NNDR3 form, the accounting implications of each section and finalising the NNDR3 process



April 2021
Introduction to....

Our “introduction to..” events are aimed at those new to the revenues team and give a basic overview of billing, discounts, exemptions and recovery.



May/June 2021
Revenues Technical Update

These events provide updates on the latest technical and strategic issues, developments in legislation and case law affecting benefits and revenues services.



June/July 2021
Benefits Technical Update

These events provide updates on the latest technical and strategic issues, developments in legislation and case law affecting benefits and revenues services.



September/October 2021
Benefits Technical Update
Revenues Technical Update

These events provide updates on the latest technical and strategic issues, developments in legislation and case law affecting benefits and revenues services.



November 2021
Introduction to....

Our “introduction to..” events are aimed at those new to the revenues team and give a basic overview of billing, discounts, exemptions and recovery.



December 2021/January 2022
Benefits Technical Update
Revenues Technical Update

These events provide updates on the latest technical and strategic issues, developments in legislation and case law affecting benefits and revenues services.

Full details of these events will be available at www.cipfa.org/events or contact one of the advisors for further details..

Further support

On-site delivery

All CBRS events are available as an on-site delivery. Contact us for more information.

CIPFA Essentials

In addition our 'Introduction to ...' Essentials programme is designed to help support those who may be new to the sector, or perhaps working in a new role, and may also benefit non-finance staff and elected Members. These interactive workshops are a great way to help develop knowledge and awareness of a specific service area and are proving increasingly popular with staff development programmes.

Specialist support

The CBRS can also offer peer-to-peer support. Examples of support provided to date includes reviews of tax base calculations and reviews of performance and monitoring.

Our networks

Looking for more support from our networks?

We offer a number of other networks across a range of topics. We also offer corporate subscriptions for your organisation allowing you and your colleagues to access events and support across multiple CIPFA networks according to your needs.

For any other network enquiries, or for details about our corporate network support package, please contact:

Sandra Beard

Interim Senior Networks Manager

sandra.beard@cipfa.org

Our current networks are:

- Alternative Service Delivery Network
- Better Governance Forum
- Benefits and Revenues Service
- Social Care Finance Advisory Network
- Finance Advisory Network
- Insurance Network
- Pensions Network
- Police and Fire Network
- Procurement and Commissioning Network
- Treasury Management Network



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