

Social Care Network (SCN)

# Your network membership

2024/25

[cipfa.org](https://cipfa.org)

# The network offer

The CIPFA Social Care Network (SCN) supports all those involved in local government social care through their current and future challenges.

SCN offers a wide range of valuable webinars as well as expert support and guidance that is centred on supporting those in both adult social care and children's services. A mix of paid-for and free webinars are planned for the year.

As well as our 'open' events programme, our regular and ad-hoc workshops can also be delivered on-site (webinar or face to face), at a special discounted rate for subscribers.

Our website contains the documentation written to accompany SCN open events along with briefing notes, newsletters and archive material from previous years, all of which can be downloaded free of charge by subscribers.

Our monthly subscriber newsletter contains briefings relevant to those working in social care together with details of scheduled events and conferences, funding updates and links to news stories that might be of interest.

For those with specific questions, the SCN advisor is on hand to help and can be accessed via email, telephone or through our 'Contact your Advisor' feature on the website. Think of the SCN advisor as an additional resource to your team who can help with any social care - related query that you may have.

# How to join?

## Joining the SCN

If you are interested in joining SCN or have any questions, please email [cipfanetworks@cipfa.org](mailto: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

- Support and guidance from expert advisors
- Attendance at a wide selection of webinar and regional open training courses for this network using pre-purchased places or on a pay-as-you-go basis at special reduced subscriber rates
- A series of action learning workshops enabling you to share knowledge and best practice with peers to create an environment where the key financial and policy issues of the day can be debated and addressed
- Timely updates and briefings on relevant policy, financial and legislative developments giving you all the facts at your fingertips, and information on how these issues will affect the sector and your wider organisation.
- Exclusive website access to a wealth of published information including regular updates, our current and past event presentation materials, briefings, newsletters and topical articles
- Regular newsletters to keep you updated on the latest issues affecting your work
- Opportunities for networking, career development and CPD
- Discounts on any CIPFA Essentials or other open training events run by other CIPFA Networks
- Preferential rates for any on-site SCAN network workshops and free attendance at the action learning workshops
- Access to other network events when bought under a corporate membership arrangement
- A regional and national practitioner network for you to share your views and concerns

## What our members say



“The day was well organised, informative and engaging. The presenters clearly knew their subject areas well and were happy to let the expectations of the group and their objectives for the day shape the content and structure of the day. ”



“The course couldn't have come at the most appropriate time in my career. It has greatly improved my understanding and knowledge. Any questions I had were comprehensively answered.”



“ The presenter was very knowledgeable and the session was informative.”



“Well researched and presented webinar which provides finance professionals with some navigational tools in very stormy waters.”



“The presenter was very knowledgeable and I enjoyed his insight into policies and social care issues outside of what was on the slides”



“I just wanted to say how well the presentation went. We were kept engaged with a complex topic”



“Really interesting and informative as ever from SCAN events.”

# 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 will 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 and SCN newsletters.



## February 2024

### **Local authority adult social care assurance: lessons so far**

With five pilot assessments carried out in 2023, we will look at the lessons learned, and how you and your team can best prepare for the forthcoming CQC assessments.



## March 2024

### **Finance business partnering in demand-led services**

In this session, we will explore the benefits of finance business partnering in adults and children's social care, and the formative role that the finance business partner has on the success of the team. We will learn about best practice in enhancing the relationship between finance and non-finance professionals in your organization, and cover the complexities of what finance business partners need to know in demand-led services.



## April 2024

### **Managing demand and delivering best value in demand-led services**

Managing demand is crucial to local authority financial and operational sustainability. In this session, we will look at real-life examples of best practice in delivering good value in demand-led children's and adult social care.



## May 2024

### **Markets and sustainable commissioning in social care**

This session is aimed at those involved in commissioning social care and everyone with an interest in care market shaping. You will learn best practice in meeting your duties under the Care Act to commission social care in a way that supports sustainable care markets that offer local people a diverse range of quality care services.

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#### June 2024

##### **Social care data and benchmarking**

This session focuses on the effective use of data in adult social care, and will cover effective benchmarking, progress with data reform, the use of predictive data, and more.



#### July 2024 and November 2024

##### **Two Half Day Sessions – Essential Series (At a discounted rate)**

###### **An Overview of Children’s Services**

Aimed at those new to children’s services or who need a refresher on the fundamental concepts.

###### **An Overview of Adult Social Care**

Aimed at those new to adult social care or who need a refresher on the fundamental concepts.



#### October 2024

##### **Best value in SEND**

With the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) provisionally no longer ring-fenced from 2026, local authorities need to undertake work to avoid or reduce deficits in this area. This session will explore delivering best value in SEND, and the steps that local authorities can take to ensure their financial resilience, reflecting on CIPFA’s involvement in the Delivering Best Value in SEND programme.

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#### **On the Agenda**

Further short updates/briefings delivered by webinar on the latest topical issues throughout the year. These briefings will be accessible to subscribers only, helping you to stay up to date, ask questions and share practice with other subscribers.

Full details of these events will be available at [www.cipfa.org/events](http://www.cipfa.org/events).

# Further support

## **On-site delivery**

Most SCN workshops are available as an on-site delivery. Contact us for more information - either email [cipfanetworks@cipfa.org](mailto:cipfanetworks@cipfa.org) or call CIPFA on 020 7543 5600.

## **CIPFA Essentials**

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 SCN can provide support to those working in children's services or adult social care through on-site training, webinars and on-going advice.



# 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 email [cipfanetworks@cipfa.org](mailto:cipfanetworks@cipfa.org) or call CIPFA on 020 7543 5600.

## **Our current networks are:**

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



77 Mansell Street, London E1 8AN  
+44 (0)20 7543 5600

**[cipfa.org](https://cipfa.org)**

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