

CIPFA Training and Development

Leeds – 29 May 2019

Understanding your Council's Financial Reporting Requirements

10.30 - 11.00	Arrival and Refreshments
11.00 - 11.10	Introduction and Welcome
11.10 - 11.45	Overview of Local Government Financial Reporting <p>The opening session of the day sets out the regulatory background to local authority financial reporting, exploring the overall objectives, the key roles, responsibilities, processes and timelines involved.</p>
11.45 - 13.00	A Councillor's Guide to the Accounting Statements <p>In order to fulfil their governance responsibilities, it is essential that elected members have a sound understanding of the core local authority financial statements, and how they illustrate the financial performance and position of their authority.</p> <p>This session provides a guided tour through a typical set of local authority accounts highlighting the main messages it contains, and how the various parts of the statements and disclosure notes link together. The session also covers the role of the Annual Governance Statement in providing additional assurance over the financial performance statements.</p>
13.00 - 13.45	Lunch
13.45 - 14.45	Latest Changes in Local Authority Financial Reporting <p>This session highlights the main changes in the 2018/19 Accounting Code of Practice, summarising the background to those accounting changes and their likely impact on the presentation of local authority performance in the financial statements and disclosure notes.</p>
14.45 - 15.25	Key Questions and Governance Considerations for Elected Members <p>The final session of the day will focus on areas of scrutiny and engagement for elected members as part of their role in approving the accounts, ensuring the authority is reporting performance transparently and held accountable to the stakeholders they represent.</p>
15.25 - 15.30	Summary and Close