



NOTTINGHAMSHIRE
Fire & Rescue Service
Creating Safer Communities

Nottinghamshire and City of Nottingham
Fire and Rescue Authority
Finance and Resources Committee

CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC FINANCE AND ACCOUNTANCY (CIPFA) CONFERENCE 2008

Report of the Chief Fire Officer

Agenda Item No:

Date: 4 April 2008

Purpose of Report:

To report back to Members on the attendance by the Chair of Finance and Resources Committee at CIPFA Conference 2008 held in Brighton on 17-19 June 2008.

CONTACT OFFICER

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1. BACKGROUND

CIPFA Conference is the largest event in the area of local government and public sector finance. It presents an opportunity for delegates to hear some of the leading experts in the field of finance speaking on a range of current issues for the public sector.

2. REPORT

- 2.1 A summary of conference proceedings is attached as Appendix A to this report.
- 2.2 The theme of this year's conference is "Future Perfect. Developing future public services" and speakers will include:
- John Prescott MP, former Deputy Prime Minister
 - John Healey MP, Minister of State, Dept for Communities and Local Government
 - Edward Leigh MP, Chairman, PAC
 - Lord Coe
 - Sir Simon Milton, Chairman, LGA
 - Lucy de Groot, Executive Director, IDeA
- 2.3 The usual format of the conference is that there are a number of plenary sessions as well as specific "interest streams" which will include:
- Emergency Planning - What Price Safety?
 - The Role of the Modern Day Director of Finance
 - How Lean is Your Organisation? (Lean Thinking)
 - Modern Democracy
 - Shared Services
 - Sustainability
 - What Makes Organisations Successful?
 - The Comprehensive Area Assessment and Local Area Agreements
 - Regeneration
- 2.4 As well as being a busy conference in terms of attendance at sessions it also presents a useful networking opportunity.
- 2.5 The Head of Finance and Resources will accompany the Chair of Finance at this conference.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The cost of attending the conference, including accommodation for two nights, travel and subsistence will be approximately £850. This will be met from the budgetary provision for Members Conference Expenses and Officer Conference Expenses.

4. HUMAN RESOURCES AND LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no human resources or learning and development implications arising from this report.

5. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An equality impact assessment has been undertaken and is attached as Appendix B.

6. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications arising from this report.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members note the contents of this report.

9. BACKGROUND PAPERS FOR INSPECTION (OTHER THAN PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS)

None.

Frank Swann
CHIEF FIRE OFFICER

Appendix A



CIPFA 2008 – THE PUBLIC FINANCE CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION

**Hilton Brighton Metropole Hotel
17-19 June 2008**

**Early bird saving for bookings
before 29th February!**

See www.cipfaconference.org.uk

AT THE HEART OF
PUBLIC SERVICES 



Featured Speakers include:

John Prescott MP, former Deputy Prime Minister
Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP, Chief Secretary to the Treasury
John Healey MP, Minister of State, Dept for Communities and Local Government

Choice Sessions Include:

EMERGENCY PLANNING – WHAT PRICE SAFETY?

The floods in the summer of 2007 cost the affected local authorities an estimated quarter of a billion pounds. The prospect of climate change is likely to see further such occurrences in the future. Chaired by Kate Silverton who reported on the 2007 Floods for 'Panorama' this session will examine the impact of such catastrophic events. Peter Antill, Director of Resources at Tewkesbury Borough Council and speakers from Zurich and the Audit Commission will share the learning from their experiences.

THE ROLE OF THE MODERN DAY DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

Reform of the public services has catapulted Directors of Finance into leadership challenges. This session will examine the findings of a major CIPFA survey of Directors of Finance across the public services. The discussion, chaired by Jon Pittam, County Treasurer of Hampshire County Council and Chair of CIPFA's newly established panel on the role of the Finance Director, will include in-depth analysis of the leadership priorities, how the role is changing, and what this means for the next generation of finance leaders.

HOW LEAN IS YOUR ORGANISATION?

The adoption of "lean thinking" in the UK health sector is rapidly becoming a topical issue for many other parts of public services. This session will explore the application of "lean" and "systems" thinking. Given the CSR and other ongoing financial pressures, it is vital to understand how these concepts can help the public sector achieve efficiency savings.

MODERN DEMOCRACY

With turnout at elections falling, political parties struggling to find candidates, funding scandals hitting the headlines and politicians

less trusted than ever before, it seems the democratic framework in which we work is under threat. Although those of us who work in public services generally have quite on our plates without worrying about these issues, the truth is that without an effective, even vibrant democracy, the legitimacy for our work and our actions is in question. This session will explore the current themes in revitalizing democracy in the UK, and why it matters for the future of public services.

Sessions are also planned on the following topics:

- **Shared Services**
- **Sustainability**
- **What Makes Organisations Successful?**
- **The Comprehensive Area Assessment and Local Area Agreements**
- **Regeneration**

CIPFA 2008 also includes an extensive trade exhibition as well as social and networking events. We look forward to welcoming you to Brighton.

NETWORK OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE AT CIPFA 2008

We would be pleased to provide space at the conference hotel for groups to host their own team, board or other small meetings. Please let us know your requirements and we will do our best to accommodate you.

SAVE MONEY

Save money on your registration fee by taking advantage of our early booking discount. Reduced fees for multiple bookings are also available. The early booking deadline is **Friday 29 February 2008.**

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION RESERVATIONS

Should you wish to make hotel reservations in Brighton for the Conference, you can do so using VisitBrighton's online booking service at www.conferencebookings.co.uk/ and entering the code: BTNCIPFA2008.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON THE CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

We welcome your suggestions for sessions and speakers. Please email your ideas to sheila.fenton@cipfa.org

If you have to cancel your registration please note that, with the exception of retired members and students, this will be subject to an administration charge of £100 if the cancellation is made after Friday, 2nd May 2008.

Notice of cancellation must be made either in writing to:
Margot Gallie
CIPFA Annual Conference
3 Robert Street
London WC2N 6RL
or by email to margot.gallie@cipfa.org

Cancellation of registration will only be accepted up to and including Friday, 13th June. After this time, regretfully, payment of the fee will be due in cases of non-attendance.

INITIAL EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Appendix B

<i>Section</i>	<i>Manager</i>	<i>Date of Assessment</i>	<i>New or Existing</i>
Finance	Neil Timms	March 2008	N/A
Name of Report to be assessed		CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC FINANCE AND ACCOUNTANCY (CIPFA) CONFERENCE 2008	
1. Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the report.		To inform the Committee of the attendance of the Chair to the conference.	
2. Who is intended to benefit from this report and what are the outcomes?		The Chair of the Finance & Resources Committee will be aware of the latest news in the Public Finance & Accountancy remit and any possible impact on the organisation.	
3. Who are the main stakeholders in relation to the report?		Head of Finance & Resources	
4. Who implements and who is responsible for the report?		Head of Finance & Resources	
5. Please identify the differential impact in the terms of the six strands below. Please tick yes if you have identified any differential impacts. Please state evidence of negative or positive impacts below.			

<i>STRAND</i>	Y	N	<i>NEGATIVE IMPACT</i>	POSITIVE IMPACT				
Race		N						
Gender		N						
Disability		N						
Religion or Belief		N						
Sexuality		N						
Age		N						
6. Can this adverse impact be justified on the grounds of promoting equality of opportunity for one group?			Y	N	7. Should the policy/service proceed to a full impact assessment?		Y	N
								N

I am satisfied that this policy has been successfully impact assessed. I understand the impact assessment of this policy is a statutory obligation and that, as owners of this policy, we take responsibility for the completion and quality of this process.

Signed (completing person).....Neil Timms.....

DateMarch 2008.....