

28 August 2015

Network

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Events

Welcome to this week's CIPFA BGF E-Newsletter. To get the newsletter in your inbox every week please contact diana.melville@cipfa.org. Copies of previous newsletters are available on our website.

News of the week:

Ten lessons from a cyber-attack response exercise

Business continuity consultant, Charlie Maclean-Bristol FBCI, recently conducted a response exercise using cyber-attack as the scenario. In this article he captures ten lessons learnt from conducting the exercise.

[Continuity Central](#)

Counter Fraud

CIPFA Code of Practice on Managing the Risk of Fraud and Corruption

Now available to download from the CIPFA website. [CIPFA Code](#)

The school places police

As demand for places at high achieving state schools across the UK continues to grow, the schools admissions process is becoming an ever tougher battleground. One local authority in outer London has deployed investigators to the "front line", sent out to catch the parents trying to get round the rules. [BBC News](#)

Blue Badge thefts more than double in 12 months, LGA says

According to the LGA, thefts rose from 656 in 2013 to 1,756 in 2014 – a rise of 167%. The Association also reported that 565 offenders were prosecuted by local authorities for Blue Badge fraud in 2014. [Local Government Lawyer](#)

Risk Management

Almost half of social care providers failing in central region

Almost half of the adult social care services across the central region need to improve, according to recent reports by the Care Quality Commission (CQC). The inspections, which focus on whether services are safe, effective, caring, responsive and well-led, rated 14 services as "requiring improvement" in a total of 37 locations. [Public Sector Executive](#)

Councils increasingly calling in bailiffs to collect debts

The number of debt recovery cases sent by local councils to bailiffs has increased by one-sixth in just over two years, figures from the Money Advice Trust have revealed. According to a report published by the trust today, councils in England and Wales instructed bailiffs to collect debts on 2.1 million occasions in 2014/15, a 16% increase from 1.84 million occasions identified in a similar survey for the 2012 calendar year.

[Public Finance](#)

How risk managers can make intangible risks tangible

Reputation risk has long been considered by the insurance industry as unquantifiable and uninsurable because the triggers to a potential loss are unclear and underwriting data is lacking. For risk managers, reputational threats are hard to identify and the losses hard to measure. [Strategic Risk](#)

Audit

Update on the implementation of the EU Audit Directive and Regulation

The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) will publish a formal consultation in the next few weeks in response to the EU directive. It will focus on the definition of a public interest entity (PIE), FRC powers and Professional Bodies' responsibilities, mandatory retendering and rotation of PIE auditor appointments and other issues. The Financial Reporting Council will consult further on changes to auditing and ethical standards, including prohibited non-audit services to audit clients. [Business, Innovation and Skills](#)

Information Governance

The EU Regulation – approaching the home straight?

The ICO's Deputy Commissioner discusses recent progress made in relation to the EU's data protection regulation. [Information Commissioner's Office](#)

Handling the compliance risks that the EU General Data Protection Regulation creates for your organisation

With the impending EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) on the horizon, are you aware of the impact this will have on your current data management policies, processes and systems? Those who underestimate the challenge of getting their data management systems and policies ready by the 2017 GDPR deadline could find themselves in severe financial and reputational hot water. [Continuity Central](#)

Corporate and Ethical Governance

Delivering Good Governance in Local Government: Framework (CIPFA/SOLACE)

The introduction of new responsibilities and the development of new collaborative structures and ways of working provide challenges for ensuring transparency, demonstrating accountability and, in particular, for managing risk. It is crucial therefore that leaders and chief executives keep their governance arrangements up to date and relevant.

In response to these challenges, CIPFA and SOLACE are undertaking a fundamental review of the *Framework: Delivering Good Governance in Local Government* to ensure that it remains “fit for purpose”. A consultation on the new draft Framework is available on the CIPFA website until 28 September. [CIPFA consultations](#)

Rotherham to remain under Government control until 2019

In its response to the communities and local government select committee's report on child sexual exploitation in Rotherham, it said: 'All functions are expected to be returned to the council within four years. The terms of the intervention will remain in force until 31 March 2019, unless amended or revoked at an earlier date.' It is also planning to launch new measures designed to ensure 'there can be no cover-ups' across local government. [LocalGov](#)

'Wilful neglect' could apply to public sector workers who fail to flag abuse

The government is to consult on whether to extend the crime of 'wilful neglect' to social workers, teachers and councillors. In the DCLG's response to the report on child sexual exploitation in Rotherham, it said: "The consultation will seek views on sanctions for failure to take action on child abuse or neglect where it is a professional responsibility to do so, including the option of extending the crime of 'wilful neglect' to cover children's social care and education." [Public Sector Executive](#)

Constitution of governing bodies of maintained schools

Statutory guidance setting out the arrangements for the constitution of school governing bodies. [Department for Education](#)

Don't be evil

Corporate ethics are often just soundbites. "Ethical questions – about what we should do and be – aren't optional," says Dr Sam Clark, a moral philosopher at Lancaster University. "Ethics aren't just for private life. To say, for example, 'I just pursue my organisation's aims when I'm at work' is already an ethical decision, and a very dubious one." [People Management](#)

You passed the ethics test, but why do you still feel compromised at work?

The Corporate Philosopher, Roger Steare, explains why our beliefs inevitably clash with 'the system'. [People Management](#)

Miscellaneous

Mystery Shopper results: 2015

These quarterly updates show the issues raised and resolution of cases investigated in 2015 under the Mystery Shopper scheme covering public procurements. [Cabinet Office](#)

Government policymakers lack financial literacy – ACCA

Policymakers are unable to take advantage of benefits available from consolidated government accounts because of a lack of financial literacy and the use of overly complex financial reporting, ACCA has said. [Accountancy Age](#)

Events

2015 BGF workshops

BGF subscribers can use a pre-paid place to attend.

Procurement and Contract Audit Seminar

[23 September, Birmingham](#)

Confirmed speakers include the NAO on open book accounting and Baker Tilly on contract management. Gill Hayman of MOPAC on preventing procurement fraud and David Gollancz, Barrister will provide a procurement law update.

Internal Audit Professional Standards Workshops

These events will focus on the practical application of the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards including the July 2015 updates to the professional framework.

- [5 October, London](#)
- [8 October, York](#)
- [21 October, Birmingham](#)

Now open for booking!!

CIPFA Governance and Counter Fraud Summit

[13 October London Zoo, Regent's Park London](#)

Confirmed speakers:

- Meg Hillier MP the new Chair of the Public Accounts Committee.
- Julie Parker, Chair of the CIPFA/Solace Joint Working Group will be speaking on proposals for the updated *Good Governance Framework for Local Government* and results of the consultation.
- David Harper, Director of Intelligence, Competition and Markets Authority, will speak on spotting cartels.

We expect to announce further details of speakers shortly.

Delegates attending the summit at this iconic venue will benefit from a complimentary visit to London Zoo for one hour after the end of the summit.

Future events and dates for your diary

CIPFA Audit Update

26 November, London

What's New in Fraud

[2 December, York](#)

8 December, London

Development day for local government audit committees

3 December, York

9 December, Birmingham

CIPFA Counter Fraud Centre roundtables and events

The centre will be holding a number of events covering bribery and corruption, social media and identity theft. For full details see the [CIPFA website](#).

[For information on other CIPFA events and online booking click here.](#)

In-house training for audit committees

We have many years' experience in delivering training in-house for audit committees. A range of options are available including:

- key roles and responsibilities
- effective chairing and support for the committee
- working with internal and external auditors
- public sector internal audit standards
- corporate governance
- strategic risk management
- value for money
- counter fraud
- reviewing the financial statements
- treasury management
- assurance arrangements
- partnership assurance.

We can also develop bespoke training to meet your needs. See our [brochure](#) for more details.

E-Learning, Good Governance in the Public Services

For more details see the [CIPFA website](#).

Fast track route to becoming CIPFA and IIA qualified

CIPFA is in a new training partnership with tuition provider BHBi to offer dual CIPFA and IIA membership. [Visit the BHBi website](#) for more information.

This newsletter is prepared for the benefit of subscribers to the CIPFA Better Governance Forum.