

Conference in association with **CIPFA** | The Chartered Institute of
Public Finance & Accountancy

ASSURANCE FRAMEWORKS AND EXPECTATIONS

- SOURCES OF ASSURANCE FOR BOARDS AND SENIOR EXECUTIVES

23 MARCH 2018 AT THE IPA, LANSDOWNE ROAD

There is increasing discussion and emphasis on the quality and effectiveness of assurance and accountability processes and systems within organisations and the role of external oversight of these systems. This discussion is increasingly focused on the nature and extent of the organisational assurance frameworks that exist and the role of management in confirming how they have ensured an effective, compliant and performance driven culture. The state body code obligations and, in particular, the reviews of the effectiveness of the systems of internal control has brought an increased recognition on the role of risk management, audit, inspection and regulatory reviews in addition to the efficacy of internal business arrangements and the key role of management and leadership.

At this special conference, we are very pleased to have a range of expert contributors who will share their own insights and perspectives on the topic of assurance and accountability. The event will also provide an opportunity for engagement and questions. Among the questions to be considered are:

- Does public accountability rely on assurances and what are the implications of this reliance?
- How can we ensure the effectiveness of assurance systems?
- How can we ensure an appropriate balance between performance assurance and compliance assurance?
- How is the role of the auditor evolving in the context of the changing operating environment for organisations, increasing stakeholder expectations and evolving governance requirements?
- What is the experience in other countries and lessons that can be learned?

The programme for the event is as follows:

9.00 **Registration and Coffee**

9.30 **Welcome** – Aidan Horan, Director of Governance, Finance and Audit Services, IPA

9.35 **ASSURANCE IN THE LOCAL AUTHORITY SECTOR – WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES?**

Chairperson: Noreen Fahy, Senior Governance and Finance Specialist, IPA

Speakers:

Niamh Larkin, Director of the Local Government Audit Service, Dept. of Housing, Planning and Local Government

Brian Roberts, ex-President of CIPFA, Director of Corporate Services and Deputy Chief Executive at Leicestershire County Council

Additional Panelist:

- **Philip Byrne**, Senior Local Government Specialist, IPA

10.50 Tea/Coffee

11.15 **ASSURANCE IN THE CIVIL SERVICE/STATE BODY SECTOR**

Chairperson: Aidan Horan, Director of Governance, Finance and Audit Services, IPA

Speakers:

Seán Fleming TD, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee

Another speaker TBC

Additional Panelists:

- **Ross Boreland**, Chair, Institute of Internal Auditors Ireland Branch

Open Discussion

12.45 **Concluding Comments** – Aidan Horan, Director of Governance, Finance and Audit Services, IPA