

Benefits Reform – impact, pitfalls and opportunities

Following on from an extremely successful IRRV Scottish Conference in September, the Institute is delighted to announce that it has a packed programme of key subjects for debate at the forthcoming Scottish Benefits Conference.



The Conference is – by popular demand – returning to the Crieff Hydro Hotel, and takes place on 30th November and 1st December. It comes at a time of hugely significant planned changes to welfare, including the provision of housing costs support, the Single Fraud Investigation Service proposals and the proposed localisation of Council Tax Benefit.

Speakers and subjects covered are extensive and include:

- **Ministerial Video Address** - *Lord Freud, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Welfare Reform)*
- **The Introduction of Universal Credit : A progress report** - *Julia Sweeney, Deputy Director, Department for Work and Pensions*
- **The Single Room Rent Changes : A view from Shelter** - *Gordon MacRae, Head of Communications and Policy, Shelter*
- **Housing Benefits – Developing an exit strategy** - *Linda Price, ICT and Contract Monitoring Client Manager, Sefton MBC*
- **Universal Credit – Capacity and Resilience Issues** - *John Giblin and Alan Sullivan, Performance Development Team, Department for Work and Pensions*
- **Conducting intelligence gathering for another authority** - *Bruce McFarlane, Senior Benefit Investigator, Glasgow City Council*
- **Using intelligent data and insight to support an efficient benefits service** - *Karl Chessell and John Kilner, Account Directors, Experian Public Sector*
- **SRAWEB Reporting Tool** - *Paul Brownlee, Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service*

- **Universal Credit and likely impacts on child poverty** - *Mark Willis, Welfare Rights Worker, Child Poverty Action Group in Scotland*
- **Overpayment Recovery – a good practice workshop** - *John Giblin and Alan Sullivan, Performance Development Team, Department for Work and Pensions*
- **Corporate Fraud Investigation – The Way Forward** - *Steve Talbot, Fraud Business Analyst, Civica UK Limited*
- **Single Fraud Investigation Service : What future for fraud investigation?** - *Lyn McDonald, Head of Fraud & Error Strategy, Department for Work and Pensions and Andy McLean, Sanctions and Fraud Manager, North Lanarkshire Council*
- **Universal Credit – A customer facing role for local authorities?** - *Louise Freeth, Revenues and Benefits Change and Service Development Manager, Liberata*
- **UK Border Agency – a Training Session** - *Adam Scarcliffe, Assistant Director – Scotland, UK Border Agency*
- **Channel Shift in the benefits environment** - *Rob De Felice, Group Sales Director, Gandlake*
- **The Welfare Reform Agenda – Wider Issues** - *David Magor OBE, Chief Executive, Institute of Revenues, Rating & Valuation*

We are delighted that Gandlake is sponsoring Scottish Benefits Conference.

You can download full details of Scottish Benefits Conference 2011, together with a booking form, by going to <http://tinyurl.com/irrvscbens2011>.



Jim McCafferty
IRRV Scottish Association President

Invites you

For Wine and Canapes at the
IRRV Scottish Association President's
Christmas Wine Reception
In the Councillors' Lounge,
Edinburgh City Chambers, Edinburgh,
On Tuesday 6th December 2011
5:15 pm - 8:00 pm

RSVP to Fraser Macpherson, IRRV Development Manager,
2a Argyle Street, Dundee, DD4 7AL - 01382 456029
E-mail : fraser.macpherson@irrv.org.uk



IRRV Scottish Conference 2011 – a great success!

The Institute had a highly successful Scottish Conference in September.

Here's some photographs from the event :



Above : The busy Scottish Conference 2011 exhibition.



Above : At the Scottish Performance Awards Village - with Jim McCafferty, IRRV Scottish Association President, and Kerry Macdermott, IRRV National President 2010-11. Dumfries & Galloway Council were winners of the Scottish Performance Award 2011.

Student Presentations 2011

IRRV Scotland is delighted to recognise the success of the many Institute students in Scotland who have passed their Institute qualifications.



Above : February 2011 – student success recognised at the IRRV Scottish Association’s AGM in Falkirk.



Above : September 2011 – student success recognised at the IRRV Scottish Conference in Crieff.

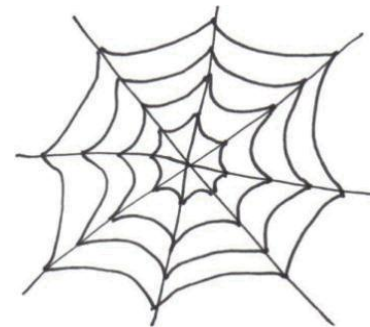


Above : Lynne Anderson, Dundee City Council, winner of the Janette Proud Memorial Educational Prize, congratulated by Jim McCafferty, IRRV Scottish Association President.



IRRV Scotland website : Read all the latest IRRV Scotland news, hear about our upcoming events and download presentations from our recent conferences and seminars :

www.irrvscotland.org.uk



Blog

IRRV Scottish Association Blog :
All the latest news, photos and activities from the IRRV Scottish Association :

<http://irrvscotland.blogspot.com/>

As part of a new initiative by IRRV Scotland and our partners *knowledgeable*, the following training events are the remaining part of a series all running in Glasgow this autumn.

Delegates registered through an *Individual Learning Account* can attend without charge :



- **Stress Awareness and Assertiveness Training for Benefits and Revenues Professionals - 17 November**
- **Stress Awareness and Assertiveness Training for Valuation Professionals – 6 December**
- **Equal Opportunities and Diversity Awareness for Revenues and Benefits Staff - 8 December**

PRACTITIONER GROUP MEETINGS :

The following practitioner group meetings are arranged in the near future :

- *SLAIG Fraud Officers' Group* – Stirling Council – 16 November
- *IRRV Scottish Revenues and Benefits Forum and joint meeting with Scottish Association* (includes visit by new IRRV National President Roger Messenger) – Aberdeen City Council – 24 November
- *NDR Practitioners Group* – Scottish Government Offices, Edinburgh – 5 December
- *Miscellaneous Income Network* – Dundee City Council – 9 December
- *Training Officers' Forum* – Fife Council – 13 January



Want more information? If you have any queries about any of the above events and meetings, please contact Fraser Macpherson, IRRV Development Manager, 2A Argyle Street, Dundee, DD4 7AL – Telephone/Fax – 01382 456029; email - scotland@irrv.org.uk.