



SOLGM's Financial Working Party Newsletter

The SOLGM Financial Working Party (FWP) met on 20 March.

The following are the issues of interest from that meeting:

Microsoft / Koorb Strategic Finance Forum Now One Month Away

The Microsoft / Koorb SOLGM Strategic Finance Forum is now only one month away (23 and 24 April, Kingsgate, Hamilton). The list of speakers is an exciting one and includes

- Smart Solutions from Shared Services: the Waikato Insurance Collective (Blair Bowcott, Hamilton City Council)
- Smart Solutions from Procurement: the Performance Based Roading Contract (Gary Allis, Western Bay of Plenty)
- Smart Solutions from Software: the Integrated Regional Information System (Mike Nield, Taranaki Region)
- Smart Solutions from Asset Management: Haydn Read, Wellington City Council
- the economic outlook: Ganesh Nana, BERL
- technology and the finance manager
- accounting standards
- insurance
- audit reflections on the financial and infrastructure strategies.

The Forum has been timed for the end of the CD consultation window and 'misses' school holidays. There's no excuse for missing out on professional development that isn't even half the cost of what a private provider will charge.

You can find more details and the registration form at:

http://www.solgm.org.nz/Event?Action=View&Event_id=283

Look for an LTP Debriefing Survey Soon

SOLGM will be administering a post LTP survey. Finance Managers could be asked to input into this in one of two ways. Those who are project managers for the LTP should fill out the more extensive project managers questionnaire, and those who had a role other than as a project manager will be asked to fill out the finance staff questionnaire.

Additionally this working party and PWP will be reviewing financial and infrastructure strategies. If you would like to volunteer yours, or volunteer to assist with the review (sounds like a good development opportunity) then please contact Raymond.

A Taxing Time to Come

Richard Toovey and Michelle Macdonald provided us a briefing on the latest on tax matters. The Minister of Revenue recently gave a speech signalling the priority items for the next few years. Erosion of the tax base is a notable inclusion. You can find the speech at:

<http://beehive.govt.nz/speech/address-ifa-annual-conference-queenstown>

Fraud Prevention and Detection Events

SOLGM has issued an RFP for a private provider to deliver a sector specific fraud prevention and detection roadshow. Expect announcements on dates and a provider late next month.

We will also be releasing a fact sheet that explains how the adjustors are constructed and (most importantly) why they, and not the CPI, reflect movements in the costs councils face.