

L A K E

Housing Finance Survey 2017

IT Investment Priorities | Finance Management



Introduction

This report looks at the priorities for investment in finance systems for the next 12 months and beyond. The report is based on a mailed questionnaire (Appendix 1) along with a survey of delegates to the Housing Finance Conference and Exhibition 2017. Organisations taking part in the survey ranged in size from 400 to well over 100,000 homes owned or under management. The median size was 6,300 homes.

About the Author

LAKE Financial Systems is a specialist provider of financial management systems for the social housing sector. Our solutions are based on the following:

- Infor SunSystems – Financials
- Proactis – Purchase-to-Pay and Procurement
- IBM Cognos Express – Budgeting, Planning & Business Intelligence

Results and Analysis

Finance Management

87% of all companies responding to this survey indicated that investment in finance systems is a priority for the next 12 months. The focus of that investment was spread across the range of options with significant interest in all areas. The only exception was expense claim management which appears to remain more of an aspiration rather than real focus.

The spread of priorities was the same regardless of company size. Figure 2 compares responses from smaller companies (*) with those of all companies. The only exception here appears be document management with smaller companies being less likely to invest.

** Smaller companies are those on or below median size.*

Figure 1. All Companies

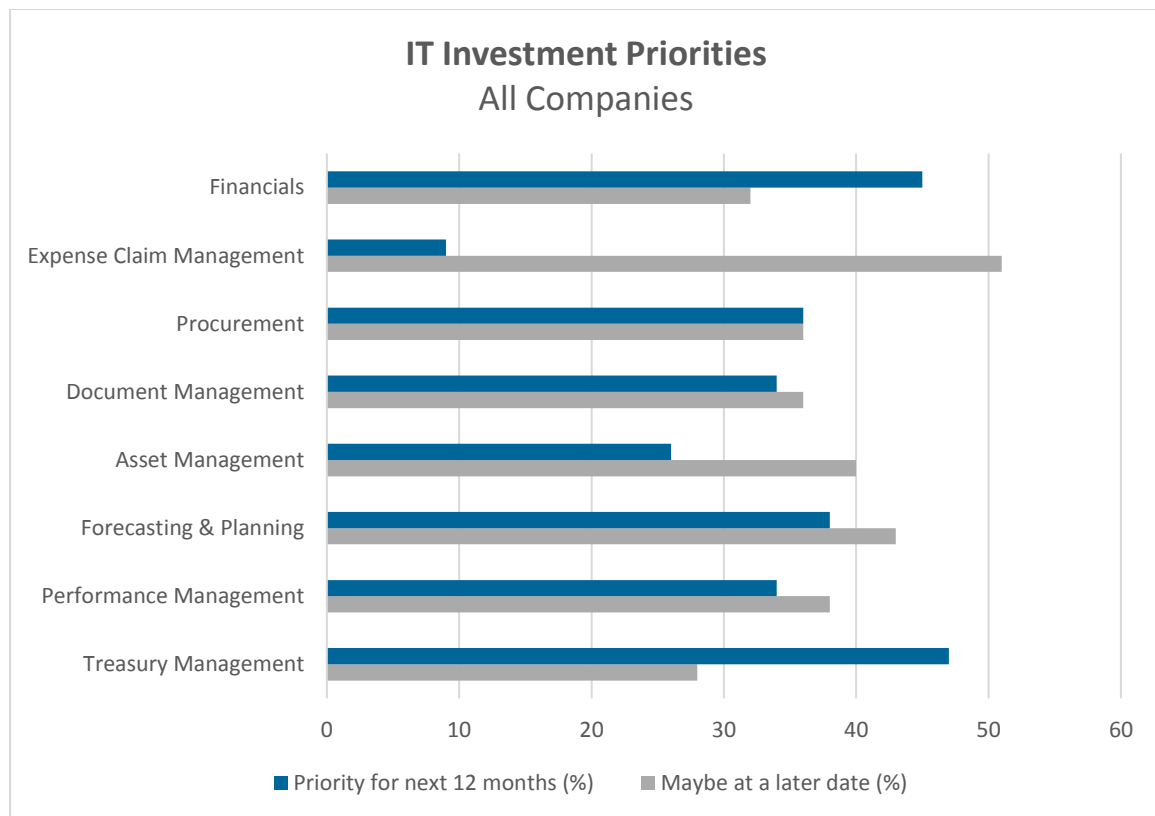
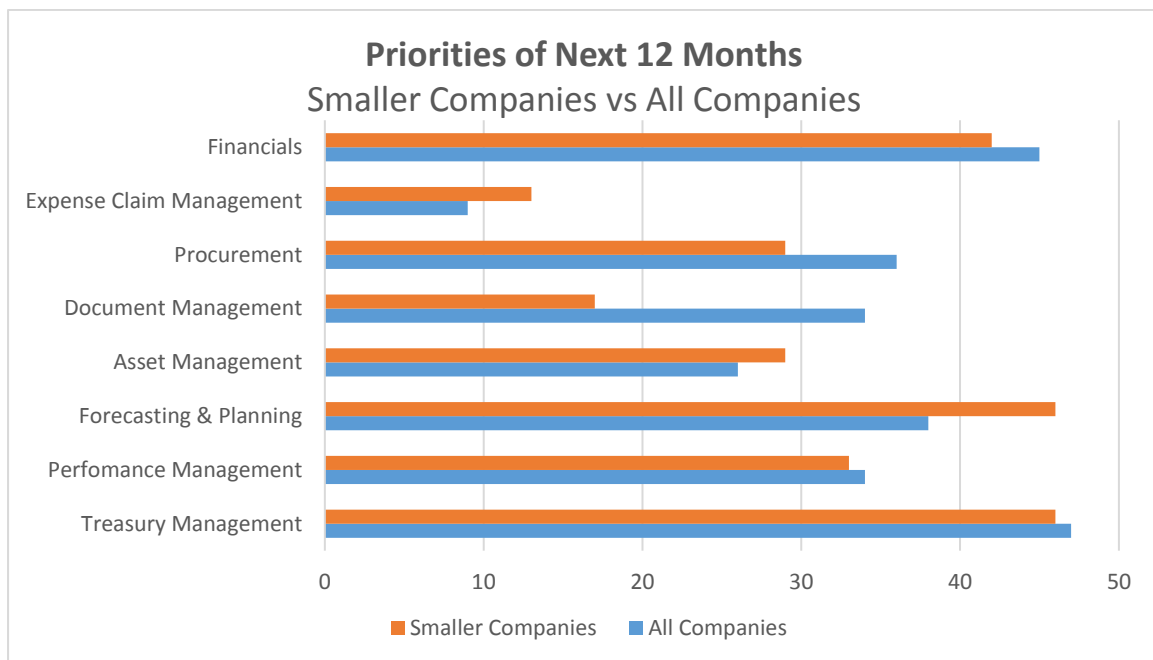


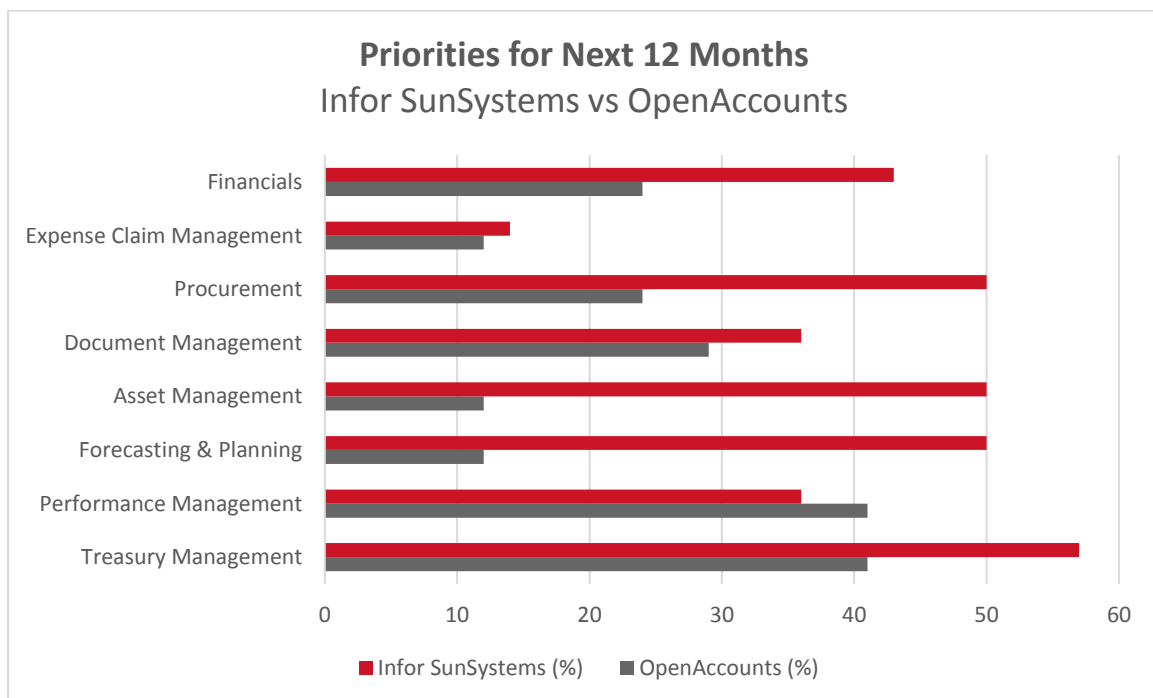
Figure 2. Comparison of Smaller Companies and All Companies



A Tale of Two Systems

The market for finance systems in the social housing sector is dominated by Infor SunSystems and OpenAccounts. This survey reflects the market presence of these two systems with two thirds of respondents stating they use one or other of them. Interestingly, there was a marked difference in the responses users of SunSystems gave; they were much more likely to be prioritising investment over the next 12 months (Figure 3).

Figure 3. Comparison of Users of SunSystems and OpenAccounts



Appendix 1

Housing Finance Survey 2017

IT Investment Priorities | Finance Management

The role of Finance is evolving. Housing Associations are looking to Finance to provide greater decision support and performance management. In too many cases, however, finance systems struggle to keep up with expectations. This survey looks at the priorit

Fax to 0191 273 9300



LAKE Financial Systems

Stable Mews

Beechwoods

Elmete Lane

Leeds

LS8 2LQ

0113 273 7788

www.lake.co.uk