

## TRAINING OUTLINE

### Local Government Finance Explained

Every local council is facing significant funding reductions and changes to the local government funding system. In times of change, a sound understanding of finance and budgets and the effects of funding changes is essential for effective service planning.

This seminar is specifically designed to explain where a local authority obtains its money from, how it agrees a budget and how it monitors its spending plans.

The course is highly accessible and will provide a stimulating and relevant training experience. It will not only explain how local government finance works, but also illustrate and apply the principles to your individual authority's context.

#### By the end of the seminar, participants will be able to:

- Understand the overall legislative and best practice frameworks relevant to local authority finance and the effects of the Government's Spending Review 2010
- Identify, and be aware of, the sources of revenue and capital finance
- Understand how a local authority prepares its budget, and your role in the financial planning process
- Understand how a local authority monitors its budget, and your role in the budget monitoring process
- Understand the importance of integrating service and financial performance information

#### Who should attend?

This seminar is designed for all those who want to understand how local authority finance works. No prior experience or knowledge will be assumed, and all terminology, jargon and acronyms will be fully explained in plain English.

#### About LG Futures

**LG Futures delivers a unique blend of financial advice and training, focusing exclusively on the public sector. Our areas of expertise include:**

- Improving financial management capabilities
- Savings identification and delivery
- Policy and research
- Funding formulae and financial modelling
- Providing in-depth briefings on the latest financial developments

Since being established in 2004, we have worked with over 200 public sector organisations, and would welcome the opportunity to discuss how we could potentially support your organisation.

**For more information on our training services, please contact:**

Ian Fifield, Head of Training, at [ian.fifield@lgfutures.co.uk](mailto:ian.fifield@lgfutures.co.uk) or on 01908 424387.

## FINANCE WITH VISION

## Agenda

<b>10 mins</b>	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b>
<b>20 mins</b>	<b>The Rules of Local Government Finance</b> An overview of local government finance legislation The General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account Capital and revenue
<b>60 mins</b>	<b>Revenue and Capital Funding Explained</b> Sources of revenue funding identified and explained Sources of capital funding identified and explained
<b>15 mins</b>	<b>Refreshments</b>
<b>30 mins</b>	<b>Setting the Budget</b> The financial planning process Roles and responsibilities How the budget is calculated and agreed
<b>30 mins</b>	<b>Monitoring the Budget</b> The financial management process Roles and responsibilities Integrating budget and performance information
<b>15 mins</b>	<b>Course summary, evaluation and close</b>
<b>3 hours total</b>	

**This course can be presented at a time that suits your needs.**

**Please contact Ian Fifield for more details.**

### **Ian Fifield PhD CPFA Head of Training**

Ian is a CIPFA qualified accountant and an experienced trainer and facilitator, with more than 25 years experience of financial management in the public sector.

Ian specialises in financial management training for local authorities and other public service organisations and has also worked as an accountant in local government and an external auditor for both local government and health bodies.

Ian has provided training to a wide range of finance stakeholders, including finance professionals, service managers and elected members.

Ian also designs and delivers training specifically tailored to clients' individual systems and processes, ensuring that training directly addresses local client needs and requirements.