

## TRAINING OUTLINE

### The Excellent Finance Team

Excellent financial management starts with an excellent finance team.

This one-day seminar is specifically designed to provide an opportunity for the finance team to evaluate its role, assess performance against current best practice and set an action plan for the future.

The seminar is highly interactive, with much of the day spent in groups, assessing current team performance and making plans for the future. The day will be led and facilitated by one of LG Futures experienced trainers and facilitators to ensure maximum impact.

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

- Understand current best practice in financial management
- Evaluate current performance in the light of best practice, identifying strengths and weaknesses
- Identify the current challenges faced by the council, and develop strategies for the finance team to meet the challenges faced
- Action plan future developments and changes

#### Who should attend?

This seminar is designed for teams of finance professionals who are looking to ensure that they maximise their contribution to excellent financial management. The programme would make an ideal agenda for a team development session.

#### About LG Futures

**Public sector specialists, LG Futures delivers bespoke financial consultancy and training, with a particular focus upon local and central government. Our areas of expertise include:**

- Improving financial management capabilities
- Strengthening strategic and financial planning
- Optimising value for money
- Maximising funding levels
- Assessing the impact of government policies
- Providing in-depth briefings on the latest financial developments

Since being established in 2004, we have worked with over 100 individual public sector organisations, and would welcome the opportunity to discuss how we could potentially support your organisation.

For more information on LG Futures, please contact: [Jude Ranasinghe](mailto:jude.ranasinghe@lgfutures.co.uk), Director of Consultancy and Training, at [jude.ranasinghe@lgfutures.co.uk](mailto:jude.ranasinghe@lgfutures.co.uk) or on 07921 168450.

## FINANCE WITH VISION

## Agenda

- 9.15 – 9.30**      **Welcome and Introductions**
- 9.30 – 10.20**    **Defining Excellence**  
 Reviewing current good practice requirements in financial management to identify and draw out the attributes of an excellent finance team
- 10.20 – 11.15**    **Taking Stock – Workshop**  
 Group assessment of how far best practice is currently embedded within the finance function.  
 Identifying strengths and weaknesses
- 11.15 – 11.35**    **Refreshments**
- 11.35 – 12.00**    **Taking Stock - Feedback**  
 Analysis of the workshop results and group discussion
- 12.00 – 12.30**    **Looking ahead – Identifying the challenge**  
 What are the key challenges that the council faces over the next 2-3 years?
- 12.30 – 13.30**    **Lunch**
- 13.30 – 14.15**    **Looking ahead – Meeting the challenge**  
 How will the finance function need to evolve to meet these challenges?
- 14.15 – 15.00**    **Planning for excellence (1)**  
 Group work to identify recommendations for development and change.
- 15.00 – 15.20**    **Refreshments**
- 15.20 – 15.45**    **Planning for excellence (2)**  
 Discussion and evaluation of proposals.  
 Action planning the next steps
- 15.45 – 16.00**    **Course summary, evaluation and close**

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

Ian is a CIPFA qualified accountant and an experienced trainer and facilitator, with more than 20 years experience of financial management in the public services.

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.

For more information on our training sessions, please contact: Ian Fifield at [ian.fifield@lgfutures.co.uk](mailto:ian.fifield@lgfutures.co.uk) or on 07710 955276.