

# Local Government Finance Conversion Course

Finance professionals know that their support and advice must be provided in a manner that is relevant to the context of the organisation. However, many accountants who move into local government are taken aback by the differences they find both in organisational context and accounting rules and regulation.

This programme is designed to support finance professionals who have recently moved into the local government sector to appreciate the key differences in financial accounting and control.

Over two 1.5 hour workshops.

**By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to:**

- Understand the role of the finance professional at a local council.
- Provide effective financial information and advice in a political context.
- Understand the differences between private sector and local council financial reporting.
- Understand the structure of the published financial statements and the role of the external auditor in local government.

# CURRICULUM

## Week 1

**Wednesday 3rd November, 10:30 - 12:00**

An overview of the function and role of local government and the overall financial context. The key elements of financial reporting and control in a local council. Dealing with elected members.

## Week 2

**Wednesday 10th November, 10:30 - 12:00**

Local government finance in greater detail. Capital accounting. The published financial statements.



## Presenter:

**Dr Ian Fifield BSc (Econ), CPFA**  
Managing Director, Fifield Training Ltd

Ian is an experienced trainer and facilitator with over 25 years' experience in designing and delivering finance, audit

and governance training for local authorities and other public service organisations.

He has an excellent reputation in making subjects that are considered by many as difficult and dry, relevant and understandable. He has worked with the Local Government Association on their councillor training programmes for over 10 years, including facilitating the Finance and Audit Committee leadership essential programmes. He also delivers a wide variety of finance and audit related in-house training programmes tailored for local councillors, service managers or finance professionals.

Ian is CIPFA qualified and, prior to running his own training company, worked as an accountant in local government, as an external auditor for local government and health bodies and as a university lecturer. He has served as the Independent Advisor to the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham's Audit Committee.

## Who should attend?

Qualified accountants who are new to the local government sector.

Trainee accountants who wish to better understand the financial and accounting context at a local council.

## Why attend?

Build your understanding of local government financial accounting and control.

Develop your skills in providing relevant financial support and advice in a political context.

Understand the major differences between private sector and local government financial reporting.

Opportunities to ask questions and gain insight from our expert trainer and other delegates.

## Why Room151 Training?

Room151 is the online resource for local authority finance and treasury teams covering treasury, strategic finance, funding, resources and risk with unique insight into the challenges faced by local authorities. Our training courses are developed in conjunction with leading industry professionals and are designed to provide practical solutions.

**REGISTER HERE** for 2 x 90-minute sessions starting at 10:30 on 3rd November and continuing on 10th November

- The course fee is £195 + VAT.
- Content will be available to participants on demand, post-event.
- This course has been independently reviewed & certified as conforming to universally accepted Continuing Professional Development (CPD) guidelines.
- Any questions please contact [peter.braham@room151.co.uk](mailto:peter.braham@room151.co.uk)