

TRAINING OUTLINE

Assessing and Improving Value for Money and Efficiency

Local councils have always had a responsibility to act as good stewards over public money, but increasing demands for services, together with the current economic climate, have made it even more important that every pound counts in terms of maximising service outcomes.

This seminar is designed to provide elected members with an overview of the need to assess the extent to which the council is currently providing value for money, and to plan further efficiency and value for money improvements.

The course is highly interactive and will provide a stimulating and relevant training experience. Illustrative examples of various tools, techniques and approaches designed to improve value for money and efficiency will be used throughout the seminar. Plenty of time will be available for discussion, together with an action planning session to ensure that participants can consider practical next steps.

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

- Understand the current national and local agendas on value for money and efficiency
- Explain, compare and contrast what is meant by value for money and efficiency
- Understand how to assess whether value for money is being achieved
- Understand tools and techniques that could potentially be used to improve value for money and efficiency

Who should attend?

This course is designed for elected members. No prior experience will be assumed, and all terminology, jargon and acronyms will be fully explained in plain English.

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](#), Director of Consultancy and Training, at jude.ranasinghe@lgfutures.co.uk or on 07921 168450.

FINANCE WITH VISION

Agenda

15 mins	Welcome and Introductions
60 mins	<p>Assessing Value for Money</p> <p>An overview of the current efficiency and VFM agenda for local government</p> <p>VFM and efficiency defined, compared and contrasted</p> <p>Assessing VFM – information sources, tools and techniques</p> <p>Roles and responsibilities in assessing VFM</p> <p>Questions and Discussion</p>
15mins	Refreshments
60 mins	<p>Improving Value for Money</p> <p>Short term tools, techniques and approaches to improve VFM and efficiency</p> <p>Medium/long term tools, techniques and approaches to improve VFM and efficiency</p> <p>Questions and Discussion</p>
20 mins	<p>Action Planning</p> <p>Planning the next steps</p>
10 mins	Course summary, evaluation and close
3 hours total	

This seminar can be held at a time that suits you. Please contact Ian Fifield for further details.

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
 or on 07710 955276.