

# Finance Advisory Network

## Introduction to Local Government Finance

### Webinar

25 June 2024  
5 November 2024

### Purpose

This introductory course will provide delegates with an understanding of local government finance. Delegates will gain background knowledge to wider context of public finance in which local government sits. They will gain an understanding of local government structures, and governance along with learning about different sources of local government funding and the complications and considerations that go alongside them. Delegates will also receive an introduction to important financial concepts such as capital and revenue, budgeting and financial reporting. This interactive course will involve quizzes, discussion points and plenty of opportunities to ask questions about local government finance.

### Learning Outcomes

Attendees will benefit from:

- Gaining an understanding of the unique context in which local government operates including regulatory frameworks important for those working in the sector
- Understanding how local government is funded, including the restrictions that it must operate within and opportunities available to local government
- Understanding the difference between capital and revenue and how they are each financed
- An awareness of the various structures within local authorities and the governance arrangements for reporting and decision making
- An introduction to important financial concepts such as budgeting and financial reporting
- The opportunity to look at the risks and opportunities faced by local government and discuss the future of local government finance with colleagues

## Who Will Benefit

This course is perfect for anyone new to local government and wants to get a better understanding of local government finance, how it is funded and understand financial concepts unique to local government.

It will also be useful for people new to managing budgets or finance roles, or those who want a refresher.

## Programme

09:30 – 9:45

### Registration Period

09:45 – 10:00

### Introductions & Housekeeping

10:00 – 10:30

### Macroeconomics & The Wider Picture

This session will cover the wider context within which Local Government organisations are operating, including central government and how it is funded.

10:30 – 11:00

### Local Government Structure

This session will cover the various structures of Local Authorities and the role of devolution.

11:00 – 11:15

### Morning Break

11:15 – 12:15

### Local Government Funding

In this session we will explore the various funding methods in local government including local taxation, grant funding and charging mechanisms

12:15 – 13:00

### Capital Vs Revenue

We will look at the key differences between capital and revenue expenditure and how capital is funded differently from revenue.

13:00 – 13:45

### Lunch

13:45 – 14:15

### Treasury Management

This session will give a brief overview of treasury management including the regulatory framework and its role in the financing of local government organisations

14:15 – 14:45

### Governance Arrangements

This session will look at the governance arrangements for local authorities including different structures and control mechanisms

14:45 – 15:00

### Afternoon Break

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15:00 – 15:35

**Budgeting & Financial Reporting**

Delegates will learn about the requirement to set a balanced budget and the different methodologies for building a budget. This session will also look at financial reporting requirements including the financial statements and how to read them

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15:35 – 16:50

**The Future: Demand, cost pressure and opportunity**

This final session will briefly explore the future and the factors likely to affect local government finance going forward

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15:50 – 16:00

**Q&A and Closing Remarks**

This event can also be delivered on-site. Please contact Jennifer Bevan [jennifer.bevan@cipfa.org](mailto:jennifer.bevan@cipfa.org) for further information.

*We reserve the right to alter the timing or content of sessions where circumstances require.*



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