

# **CIPFA Police and Fire Network**

## **Introduction to Police Finance**

By webinar

20 April 2021

### **Purpose**

This course will provide delegates with a solid understanding of the complex structure and functions of the police finance system, including an understanding of the principles underpinning budgeting, financial accounting and reporting for police bodies and police collaboration, plus an overview of governance and audit considerations in the police context.

### **Learning Outcomes**

By attending this webinar you will be provided with an understanding and awareness of:

- the legislative framework for the current police arrangements
- police funding in England and Wales
- the statutory requirements for preparation of local authority and police accounts
- audit arrangements and the role of the police joint audit committee
- budgeting and estimating processes
- the principles of accounting for capital, assets and links to treasury management
- the definition of joint control and accounting for collaborative arrangements.

### **Who Will Benefit**

All those new to working in police, including those who are new to finance as a whole and those with finance experience from outside the sector who wish to gain an overview of how police finance works.

## Programme

10:00 – 10:05

### **Introductions and webinar overview**

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10:05 – 10:35

### **The legislative framework and governance of policing**

- An overview of the legislative framework for policing in England and Wales
- the journey of police reform over the past few years
- the relationship between PCCs and chief constables
- governance arrangements.

Alison Dewhirst

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10:35 – 11:15

### **Police funding, income and expenditure**

- An overview of the legislative framework for policing in England and Wales
- The context of public finances
- How policing is funded
- What PCCs/police forces spends their money on
- Generating income
- The difference between revenue and capital expenditure and why this is important.

Alison Dewhirst and David Ellis

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11:15 – 11:30

### **Break**

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11:30 – 12:30

### **Budgeting and financial management**

- The process of financial management and forecasting
- An exercise in determining budget priorities.

David Ellis and Alison Dewhirst

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12:30 – 13:15

### **Lunch**

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13:15 – 14:15

### **Capital expenditure and Treasury Management**

- The definition of capital expenditure
- the prudential framework
- capital financing
- accounting for assets
- the links between capital and the treasury management function.

David Ellis

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14:15 – 14:30

### **Break**

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14:30 – 15:30

**Financial reporting and audit arrangements**

- The Accounting Code of Practice for Local Authorities in the UK and how it applies to policing bodies
- the Code's requirements in respect of publishing PCC and chief constable financial statements
- accounting for groups and collaborative arrangements
- the annual governance statement
- external audit arrangements
- the role of the police joint audit committee.

David Ellis and Alison Dewhirst

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15:30 – 15:45

**Hot Topics and Quiz**

- Latest hot topics in police finance
- A quick quiz to round off the day.

David Ellis and Alison Dewhirst

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15:45 – 16:00

**Any further questions and close of event**

Your facilitators will be David Ellis, FAN Advisor, CIPFA and Alison Dewhirst, Police Advisor, CIPFA.

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



**CIPFA Sustainability Policy**

CIPFA is delivering all of our training courses, workshops and seminars in accordance with our sustainability strategy. We do not provide hardcopy course materials to delegates and these are now distributed by email in advance of the event. We are striving to reduce our carbon footprint in every way that we can, and we hope that we can count on your support.