

# CIPFA Better Governance Forum

## Senior Internal Auditor Skills Workshop

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Webinar

14 & 15 May 2025 (Mornings only)

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### **Purpose**

This interactive workshop will provide tips and guidance for experienced auditors around Senior Auditor competencies. This programme is in line with the requirements of the GIAS Uk Public Sector and will include a section on Domain II Ethics and Professionalism as well as Domain V Performing Internal Audit Services. This workshop will be full of discussions about real issues and risks.

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### **Programme day one:**

09.50 – 10.00      **Join the workshop / course**

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10.00 – 10.10      **Introductions and course outline**

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10.10 – 10.55      **Ethics and Professionalism**

This session will cover the five GIAS principles in Domain II. We will look at what we do well as well as any challenges audit teams may face.

Naomi Whitmore, CIPFA

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10.55 – 11.30      **Critical thinking mindset**

This session will introduce the idea of root cause analysis, being a new GIAS requirement. We will also look to develop our critical thinking mindset, including an emphasis on insight and foresight.  
Naomi Whitmore, CIPFA

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11.30 – 11.40      **Break**

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11:40 – 12:20

**Artificial Intelligence Benefits, Risks and Responsibilities**

As artificial intelligence (AI) continues to shape the future of public service delivery, local authorities in the UK face new challenges in ensuring these powerful technologies are used responsibly and effectively. In this session you will gain a better understanding of how AI is transforming local government, and how internal auditors can take the lead in promoting responsible AI governance within their organisations.

Florence Bastos, CIPFA

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12:20 – 12:30

**Discussion and questions**

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**Programme day two:**

9.45-10.00 **Join the webinar/ course**

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10.00 – 10.10 **Recap from day one**

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10.10 – 10:55 **Local Government (LG) Financial Landscape and the changes coming in 2026/27**

Mark Catlow will be running through the current LG Financial Landscape. He will explain key risks facing many local authorities currently as well as changes that will impact the 2026/27 audit plan. This session aims to give Senior Auditors the chance to approach these audits with more confidence and knowledge.

Mark Catlow, Financial Advisory Network Advisor, CIPFA

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10.55 - 11.15 **Leading on Internal Audits**

As a senior auditor you may be required to be the lead auditor and supervise others. We will look at strategies to ensure that this process works well for both you and your teams.

Naomi Whitmore, CIPFA

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11.15 – 11.30 **Break**

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11.30– 12.20 **Relationships and Communicating with Stakeholders**

There are endless benefits of a strong and effective relationship with stakeholders. This session will cover strategies to develop strong and effective relationships with stakeholders. It will also look at:

- collaboration and communication
- risks in professional relationships
- impact on organisational culture
- Adding value.

Naomi Whitmore, CIPFA

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12.20 – 12.30 **Discussion and questions**

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