

CIPFA Better Governance Forum

A Practical Understanding of Good Governance in Local Government

Webinar

21 and 22 January 2025 (a day's training split over two mornings)
Please make sure you are registered for both days.

Purpose

The framework of good governance underpins the vision and objectives of a local authority and provides confidence that its decisions are well made. It supports ethical working and public accountability.

This workshop will provide delegates with an understanding of the framework underpinning the Annual Governance Statement: *Delivering Good Governance in Local Government* CIPFA and Solace 2016.

Learning Outcomes

Delegates will have a greater understanding of how governance underpins the delivery of outcomes in a local authority.

They will gain examples of good practice and practical advice on working with the framework, including developing a local code of governance and improving their annual governance statement.

Who Will Benefit

The workshop will be of interest to anyone with a governance role or working on governance reviews or assurance, including: governance managers, internal auditors, risk managers, finance and legal professionals and strategic directors.

Programme

Day 1

09:45 – 10:00

[Join the webinar](#)

10:00 – 10:10

Introduction and plan for the morning

Diana Melville, Governance Advisor CIPFA

10:10 – 10:45

The Good Governance Framework for Local Government

This session will outline the Framework, the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Localism Act 2011, the Principles of Standards in Public Life and other key regulatory requirements and recommended practice that shape the governance of local government. It will also consider the roles and responsibilities of the leadership team.

Diana Melville, Governance Advisor CIPFA

10:45 – 11:15

Understanding the Good Governance Principles

The next session will examine the Framework in more detail, considering how performance against the Framework can be demonstrated in practice.

Achieving the Intended Outcomes While Acting in the Public Interest at all Times

- Principle A: Behaving with integrity, demonstrating strong commitment to ethical values, and respecting the rule of law
- Principle B: Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

Diana Melville, Governance Advisor CIPFA

11:15 – 11:30

Break

11:30 – 12:30

Understanding the Good Governance Principles

Continuing our examination of the Framework in more detail, the remaining Principles of the Framework will be reviewed, considering how conformance with the Framework can be demonstrated in practice

- Principle C: Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits
- Principle D: Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes
- Principle E: Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it
- Principle F: Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management
- Principle G: Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability

Diana Melville, Governance Advisor CIPFA

12:30 – 12:40

Review of Day 1 and Look Ahead to Day 2

Day 2

09:45 – 10:00	Join the webinar
10:00 – 10:10	Review of Day 1 and Look Ahead to Day 2 Diana Melville, Governance Advisor CIPFA
10:10 – 10:45	Preparing the Local Code of Governance Whilst it is not mandatory to prepare a local code, this is the recommended approach. This session will examine the purpose of a local code and share examples for discussion. Naomi Whitmore, Public Finance Advisor CIPFA
10:45 – 11:15	Obtaining Assurance on Governance This session will examine the role of internal audit and others who can provide assurance to support the annual review of governance and the overview provided by the audit committee. Naomi Whitmore, Public Finance Advisor CIPFA
11:15 – 11:30	Break
11:30 – 12:30	Preparing the Annual Governance Statement This session will look at good practice in developing an annual governance statement and the guidance available. This will include a workshop session to compare examples of actual governance statements. Naomi Whitmore, Public Finance Advisor CIPFA
12:30 – 12:45	Final questions and discussions

CIPFA will be running further webinars covering the annual governance statement for 2023/24 and future changes to CIPFA's guidance during February / March 2024. Please look out for more details in due course.



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.