



Supported by:



National Conference

The Future of Local Government Audit

Thursday 3rd November 2011, Westminster Studio, London SW1



Speakers include:

Michael O'Higgins

Chairman,
Audit Commission

Patrick White

Director, Local Government Policy
and Productivity
Department for Communities and
Local Government

Steve Freer

Chief Executive,
CIPFA

Vernon Soare

Executive Director,
Institute of Chartered Accountants in
England and Wales

Clive Betts MP

Chair,
Department for Communities and Local
Government Select Committee

Jessica Crowe

Executive Director,
Centre for Public Scrutiny



Why you must attend this event:

- **Get an insider's briefing** from Michael O'Higgins, Chairman, Audit Commission, on what the future audit and inspection landscape will look like
- **What will this new era of auditing really mean for councils?** – 14 expert speakers share their insights, so you have a blueprint for financial transparency and controlling risk
- **Understand the key pointers for success** – hear best practice on regional successes and gain strategies and tactics to implement back in the office
- **Maximum learning value** – watch the conference again online! All delegates receive post-event access to watch speaker presentations via the Policy Review TV service, AND can download all conference papers

The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Eric Pickles MP, has announced plans to disband the Audit Commission. What will this mean for councils and accountability? What will it mean for local government audit? How will the landscape change?

This conference and TV broadcast will provide you the opportunity to debate, discuss and explore the vital answers to these questions. Sector leaders and audit experts will explore best practice and provide vital solutions you'll find invaluable.

For more information please visit:

www.neilstewartassociates.com/sa275

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See inside for details



Agenda (subject to change)

09:00 Registration, refreshments and exhibition

Session One:

 Available on policyreview.tv

Setting the scene

- 09:30 Welcome and introduction from conference Chair
Michael Burton, Editor, The MJ
- 09:35 Opening keynote address: the abolition of the audit and inspection regime- what next?
Michael O'Higgins, Chairman, Audit Commission
- 09:50 Government guidance: feedback from the consultation
Patrick White, Director, Local Government Policy and Productivity, Department for Communities and Local Government
- 10:05 Regulating the future of local public audit
Vernon Soare, Executive Director, Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
- 10:20 Panel discussion: How can value be secured from outsourcing audit functions?
Hear from session speakers above

10:40 Refreshments, networking and exhibition

Session Two:

 Available on policyreview.tv

Maintaining audit excellence

- 11:10 Keynote: Findings from the Select Committee: the scope of audit, competition and standards
Clive Betts MP, Chair of the Department for Communities and Local Government Select Committee
- 11:30 Accountability and self-regulation: linking financial audit with wider "scrutiny" processes
Jessica Crowe, Executive Director, Centre for Public Scrutiny
- 11:50 Meeting the needs of local government: procuring external audit
Steve Freer, Chief Executive, CIPFA
- 12:10 Case Study: the changing face of audit
Contribution by one of the leading audit firms
- 12:30 Panel discussion:
How can we ensure that the skills and experience of the current audit staff are not lost?
How can councils offset some of the external audit costs by internal audit?
Should central government facilitate external audit procurement by creating a select list?
Nigel Johnson, Lead Public Sector Audit Partner, Deloitte LLP
To be joined by session speakers

13:00 Buffet lunch, networking and exhibition

Session Three:

The future of audit

- 14:00 Welcome and introduction by afternoon Chair
Tony Travers, Director of Research at the Greater London Group, London School of Economics
- 14:10 Afternoon keynote
Michael Whitehouse, Chief Operating Officer, National Audit Office
- 14:35 Open public services: maintaining effective and nondisruptive transparency
Check website for speaker updates
- 14:50 Panel discussion:
Can the new proposed structure work?
Jon Roberts, Public Sector Assurance Partner, Grant Thornton UK LLP
To be joined by session speakers

15:10 Refreshments, networking and exhibition

Session Four:

Discussion groups

- 15:35 Delegates should choose to attend one seminar from the list below. Seminars are designed to be interactive and participatory in nature. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and are subject to maximum capacities.
- 1 How might changing the extent and focus of audits impact on local government
Ian Carruthers, Policy and Technical Director, CIPFA
 - 2 Eradicating Duplicate Payments
Geoff Bail, Director, BK Data Limited
- 16:30 Close of conference

Register online today:

www.neilstewartassociates.com/sa275

Tel: 020 7324 4330 / Fax: 020 7490 8830

Watch Speaker Presentations Online!
As a delegate you can watch the speakers' presentations and download conference papers online post-show. This extra service is provided free via Policy Review TV

Purpose of the Conference:

Specifically, attending this conference will enable you to:

- Explore what the abolition of the Audit Commission will mean for the future of local government audit
- Hear central Government guidance on 'what's next' for audit practice
- Discuss whether outsourcing audit work to the private sector will benefit local government professionals
- Discuss whether we will see new kinds of auditor services emerge
- Consider issues about rotating auditors
- Assess what the challenges ahead are for local government auditors
- Understand the impact of self-regulation to accountability and whether linking financial audit to wider scrutiny processes can benefit local government
- Hear best practice in maintaining and benefiting from financial transparency
- Discuss how local government can ensure that the skills and experience of the current audit staff are not lost
- Hear from the National Audit Office on key features of the future of local government audit
- Understand the needs of local government audit and finance in outsourced and diversified supply chains
- Discuss how audit facilities might support new forms of working, Big Society initiatives, and transparency
- Discuss how the new proposed structure might work and key pointers for success
- Benefit from hearing best practice on regional successes, good news stories and gain practical information to implement in your day-to-day role through interactive partnership seminars examining key issues on:
 - > Eradicating duplicate payments
 - > Determining the impact of focusing on a financial audit

Who should attend:

Local Government :

- Chief Financial Officers
- Auditors
- Heads of Internal Audit & Risks
- Heads of Asset Management
- Director of Finance
- Chief Executives
- Treasurers
- Corporate Directors
- Borough Secretaries
- Principal Accountants
- Heads of Strategic Finance
- Finance Officers
- Heads of Policy and Performance
- Directors of Finance and E-Gov
- Cabinet Members for Finance
- Section 151 Officers

Private and independent sector :

- Heads of Business Management
- Senior Management Accountants
- Accountants
- Finance Directors
- Finance Consultants

Sponsorship and Exhibition Opportunities

This conference will attract a diverse audience of top level decision-makers and key policy professionals, from both the public and the private sector. Sponsoring or exhibiting at this event will ensure your organisation leadership positioning amongst this key target audience.

To find out more about the bespoke packages on offer please contact **Katie Wright** on **020 7960 6852** or e-mail katie.wright@neilstewartassociates.co.uk



Can't attend? Time poor? Diary clash?

Attend a regional satellite conference near you

Can't get away, can't afford the time or full cost? Need network feedback? Attend a regional satellite conference!

- See and hear all the speakers and interact remotely
- Receive all the back-up papers and research
- Network with your peers, benchmark your own work and make contacts for follow up
- Environmentally friendly option

Attending a satellite conference costs just **£195.00 + VAT** (£234.00). See the conference website for locations near you or complete the booking form.

For further information email

paul.rushworth@policyreview.tv

Watch online

Keep up to date with the policy insight you need

- Broadcast exclusively on Policy Review TV - watch the conference live or later on-demand
- Fully interactive - watch live and submit questions, just like a delegate
- Ultimate conference reporting, watch the full online presentations after the event
- Your own expert video library to keep - ideal for management and staff briefing
- Unique insight into the choices and dilemmas faced by policy makers and managers
- Find out how your peers are solving the policy challenges you face
- You save on travel, cost and time

The costs of the live broadcast and access to the video archive are:

Individual licences

£99 + VAT (£118.80)

Group licences - per person

1-2 viewers £99.00 + VAT (£118.80)

3-9 viewers £89.00 + VAT (£106.80)

10-19 viewers £79.00 + VAT (£94.80)

20-29 viewers £65.00 + VAT (£78.00)

The Future of Local Government Audit

Thursday 3rd November 2011, Westminster Studio, London SW1

To Register

Please photocopy this booking form for additional delegates.

Complete all relevant sections of this form and either:

Fax: 020 7490 8830

Online: www.neilstewartassociates.com/sa275

Post: Neil Stewart Associates Ltd, 10 Greycoat Place, Westminster, London SW1P 1SB

Alternatively call us on **020 7324 4330** or email us at **customer.services@neilstewartassociates.co.uk**

Delegate Information

sa275

Brochure no.

WEB

Title (Mr/Ms/Dr/Prof/Other)

Full Name

Position

Organisation

Sector: Health Social Care Central/Regional Government Local Government Education and Skills Commercial
 Non Departmental Public Body / Association or Membership Organisation 3rd Sector Organisation Criminal Justice

Email

Address

Postcode

Tel No.

Direct Line? (Yes/No)

Fax No.

Training Manager

Email

I have read and agree to the terms and conditions below

Signature

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Cardholder's address: _____

Postcode: _____

Signature: _____

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS Please indicate any additional requirements below



Delegate Rates

Please select the relevant rate from the list below

Full Rate -

Commercial Sector

£499.00 + VAT (£598.80) Register by 30 September

£549.00 + VAT (£658.80) Register by 15 October

£599.00 + VAT (£718.80) From 16 October

Reduced Rate -

Central Government Departments and Agencies, Non Departmental Public Bodies, Local Authorities, other Public Sector Organisations, Universities and Colleges

£289.00 + VAT (£346.80) Register by 30 September

£339.00 + VAT (£406.80) Register by 15 October

£389.00 + VAT (£466.80) From 16 October

Supported Rate -

Voluntary Organisations, Trade Unions

£140.00 + VAT (£168.00) Register by 30 September

£190.00 + VAT (£228.00) Register by 15 October

£240.00 + VAT (£288.00) From 16 October

The above fees include all day access to the event, available conference papers, buffet lunch and refreshments, for registered delegates only. Fees do not include travel costs or accommodation.

Shared places are not permitted.

Seminar Selection

You may attend one seminar in Session Four. Places are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. Please circle your choice below:

Session Four: 1 2

Live viewing and on-demand access

Book online at www.policyreview.tv or register below

Individual and Group Licences

1-2 viewers @ £99 + VAT (£118.80) per person

3-9 viewers @ £89 + VAT (£106.80) per person

10-19 viewers @ £79 + VAT (£94.80) per person

20-29 viewers @ £65 + VAT (£78.00) per person

I would like to register _____ online viewers

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TOTAL £ _____ + VAT = £ _____

Please complete the delegate information section of this form for each viewer when registering your licence(s). You can do this by photocopying this form or sending a full list to customer.services@policyreview.tv

Satellite conference

£195.00 + VAT (£234.00)

Bristol Leeds St Helens Wigan

Terms and Conditions

This booking form constitutes a legally binding agreement. Payment must be received in full before the event. We are not responsible for the non-arrival of confirmation documents: if, by 7 days prior to the conference, you have not heard from us, contact us using the phone number on the brochure. All available conference material including documents, podcasts and in some case films are made available to delegates after the event therefore we do not accept cancellations, whole or in part. Substitutions will be accepted if notified in writing prior to the event, non-arrivals will be liable for the full fee.

All our conferences are recorded and the content is made available on www.policyreview.tv. If you do not wish to be filmed, your voice recorded or your photograph taken please email customer.services@neilstewartassociates.co.uk giving your name and the conference you will be attending.

Data Protection

The personal information you provide will be held on a database by Neil Stewart Associates Ltd. By registering for a conference, Neil Stewart Associates and its subsidiary companies can provide you with information relating to your booking and other services via email, direct mail, telephone or fax. If you do not want to receive this information please write to the Database Manager at Neil Stewart Associates. Your details may also be made available to other carefully selected companies. Please tick here if you do not wish to receive information from third parties.

Overseas delegates

Delegates from outside the UK who book to attend an NSA conference must send their remittance in time to clear funds no later than 2 weeks before a one day conference. Bookings from overseas delegates will be subject to the cancellation policy specified on the booking form.