

Room151's

# 6th FDs' Summit

Our annual gathering of section 151 officers and their deputies from across UK local authorities

29th November 2021  
The London Stock Exchange

**Finance Officers**  
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your free place



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GOOD INVESTMENT

# The Summit

Room151 consults with our advisory board to curate a high-level, topical agenda, providing strategic and insightful analysis of the issues facing finance directors and their teams today.

This year's agenda, built in consultation with finance directors from a wide range of authorities, covers commercial themes, ranging from capital finance and housing and regeneration to funding solutions, commercialisation, carbon net zero and the general state of the sector's finances.

Our expert speakers and leading practitioners in local government will challenge and inspire you with new ideas and potential solutions to help you deal with everything from business rates, to debt management and climate change.

Designed by local authority finance directors the event attracts a commercially minded and senior group of over 80 council finance directors each year.

Lead sponsor



*The event has been sponsored for three years running by PFM, the managed service provider of the UK Municipal Bonds Agency who continue to support the conference as lead sponsor in 2021.*

## Who Should Attend?

- Section 151 Officers
- Deputy Section 151 Officers
- Finance Directors
- Heads of Resources
- Treasury Officers
- Chief Accountants
- Commercial Directors

## Last FDs' Summit attendees

- Arun District Council
- Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council
- Bracknell Forest Council
- Cambridge City Council
- Canterbury City Council
- Cheltenham Borough Council
- Chichester District Council
- City of London Police
- Cotswold District Council
- Dacorum Borough Council
- Dartford Borough Council
- Durham County Council
- East Northamptonshire Council
- East Staffordshire Borough Council
- East Sussex County Council
- Elmbridge Borough Council
- Epsom & Ewell Borough Council
- Folkestone & Hythe District Council
- Greater London Authority
- Gloucester City Council
- Gravesham Borough Council
- Guildford Borough Council
- Hampshire County Council
- Haringey Council
- Hart District Council
- Hastings Borough Council
- Horsham District Council
- Huntingdonshire District Council
- Leeds City Council
- Lichfield District Council
- Liverpool City Council
- London Borough of Barking & Dagenham
- London Borough of Bromley
- London Borough of Croydon
- London Borough of Hackney
- London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
- London Borough of Harrow
- London Borough of Lambeth
- London Borough of Merton
- London Borough of Newham
- London Borough of Redbridge
- London Borough of Southwark
- London Borough of Sutton
- London Boroughs of Richmond & Wandsworth
- Maidstone Borough Council
- Maldon District Council
- Manchester City Council
- Mendip District Council
- Newark and Sherwood District Council
- Newcastle City Council
- Norfolk County Council
- North East Lincolnshire Council
- Norwich City Council
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council
- Oldham Council
- Plymouth City Council
- Rother District Council
- Runnymede Borough Council
- Rushcliffe Borough Council
- South Gloucestershire Council
- South Oxfordshire DC and Vale of White Horse DC
- Spelthorne District Council
- Stroud District Council
- Surrey County Council
- Surrey Heath Borough Council
- Tamworth Borough Council
- Teignbridge District Council
- Test Valley Borough Council
- Thurrock Borough Council
- Torbay District Council
- Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
- Warrington Borough Council
- West Berkshire Council
- West Suffolk Council
- Woking Borough Council
- Wokingham Borough Council
- Wolverhampton City Council
- Wycombe District Council

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# The Agenda

A wide range of topical issues will be covered by our excellent line up of speakers

## 09:15-10:00 Registration & refreshments

### 10:00 Welcome & Introduction

June Matte, *director, PFM*

### 10:05 Multi-year settlements and the need to refocus on financial planning

- The impact of the recent Spending Review
- What does a three-year settlement mean in practice?
- How can you make the most of the settlement in your financial plans?

Christian Wall, *director, PFM*

### 10:20 What can we realistically achieve with the new funding picture?

Our panel of section 151 officers outline the major funding challenges they face in the wake of Covid and beyond, and what they can realistically plan for under the circumstances.

- What would you most like to change about the funding regime?
- Covid funding: what next?
- Adults' & children's social services: broken or in need of innovation?
- What will a borrowing cap mean in practice?
- Business rates: where are we going?
- Building back better & net zero: ambition, expectation and reality

Carol Culley, *deputy CEO & city treasurer, Manchester City Council*

Adele Taylor, *director of resources, Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead*

Conrad Hall, *director of resources, London Borough of Newham*

Christian Wall, *director, PFM*

## 11:10 Networking break

### 11:40 Re-imagining local economies

- What is local government's role in reinvigorating towns and cities?
- Making sense of change: Covid, the much trailed 'death of the high street', homelessness, Brexit, levelling-up, climate change
- Making the right strategic decisions to be sustainable

*Speaker to be confirmed*

### 11:55 Panel Debate: What has become of total place?

The delivery and affordability of public services can best be met when local organisations work together and understand each other. At least, that was the theory underpinning the urge to collaborate through a so-called 'total place' initiative. The idea hasn't gone away, far from it, but what have we learnt? And does it need a shot-in-the-arm in this post-pandemic world where levelling-up and building-back-better are hoovering up scarce rhetorical bandwidth? Our panel from different backgrounds will speak to how they have seen collaboration work well across sectors and where they have seen it fail.

Becky Hellard, *director of council management, Birmingham City Council*

Rebecca Sycamore, *executive director strategy & development, St Mungo's*

Philip Woolas, *consultant, Gravis Advisory Ltd*

## 12:45 Lunch and networking

### 13:45 Welcome back

Tony Travers, *director, LSE*

### 13:45 Commercialism and the amended Prudential Code

Dan Bates, *finance specialist, LG Improve*

### 14:00 Panel Discussion: Can councils be entrepreneurial, or can they afford not to be?

- Can councils be entrepreneurial?
- What impacts will the Prudential Code have?

Dan Bates, *finance specialist, LG Improve*

Joseph Holmes, *executive director, West Berkshire Council*

Mike Suarez, *associate director, PwC UK*

## 14:45 Networking break

### 15:05 Climate change

*Speaker to be confirmed*

### 15:35 Net zero, regeneration and local government: the role of the s151

- How will COP26 impact local government's role in tackling the climate crisis as well as regenerating towns, counties, boroughs and cities?
- What will be the demands on finance and what will innovation look like?

Sarah Pickup, *deputy chief executive, LGA*

Chris Naylor, *chief executive, London Borough of Barking & Dagenham*

Mark Davies, *director for communities and the environment, Lancaster City Council*

Ian Williams, *group director of finance & corporate resources, London Borough of Hackney*

## 16:10 Closing remarks

### 16:20 Conference close with a drinks reception

*(Speakers and timings subject to change at the discretion of the organisers)*

# Registration

Please complete the [FD's Summit 2021 registration form](#)

## PUBLIC SECTOR DELEGATES REGISTRATION

### Please read carefully.

Limited free places are available only to qualifying finance officers at UK local authorities and other public sector bodies.

### Please only complete the registration form if you fully expect to attend the conference.

Delegates who register and then do not attend may be charged to attend future Room151 conferences.

### Registration for public sector delegates is only available online.

Please complete the [FDs' Summit 2021 registration form](#) here

Delegate places are subject to availability and the terms and conditions outlined in the registration form.

## PRIVATE SECTOR DELEGATES REGISTRATION

**There are a limited number of places available for private sector delegates.** The fee is £895 plus VAT and includes lunch and drinks reception.

Please contact [peter.braham@room151.co.uk](mailto:peter.braham@room151.co.uk) for more information.

*Room151 will be following Government guidelines with regard to Covid-19 and this may necessitate changes to the event, including location, timings, operations and agenda. Room151 will communicate any changes as soon as possible via email.*

## WHERE AND WHEN?

**Monday 29th November 2021**

**Registration:** 09:15 – 10:00

**London Stock Exchange**

10 Paternoster Square,  
London, EC4M 7LS

**Tel:** 44 (0)20 7797 1000

**Nearest Tube:** St. Paul's (Central Line)

Delegates are responsible for arranging and paying for their own accommodation and travel.

## TIMINGS

**09:15** Registration

**10:00** Opening Remarks

**12:45** Lunch

**13:45** Afternoon Session

**16:20** Drinks Reception

## Here's what a few of the delegates that attended the 2019 FD's Summit said about it:

*"A very well organized conference, with a diverse and very timely range of topics covered by some top notch speakers."*

*"The conference is very informative and there is always something to take away from the day and use back in the workplace."*

*"As always, a topical and thought-provoking conference. Highly recommended for all treasury practitioners."*

*"The conference was informative and practical to our everyday sector. Great networking opportunities and well organised."*

## Sponsorship & exhibition opportunities

This one-day event offers a standout and valuable opportunity for companies wishing to deepen relationships with s151s and their team; and better understand their challenges. It is regarded as one of the best events of its kind in the calendar. Please contact [peter.braham@room151.co.uk](mailto:peter.braham@room151.co.uk) for more information

**REGISTER FOR YOUR FREE PLACE AT [www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/summit151](http://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/summit151)**