

ALBs: Reviewing, Reforming and Navigating Change

Thursday 29th November 2018 – London

Functional and tailored reviews 'of Arm's-length bodies are now commonplace and each ALB will have at least one review in the life-time of a Parliament.

The aim of this one-day workshop is to get to build a deeper understanding of why arm's length bodies attract political interest, to provide a grounding in wider themes of public administration and to provide an overview of guidance and practical support on major changes to arm's length bodies.

Who should attend this course: people working in arm's length who work with government departments, and those working in departmental sponsor teams, finance and communications teams who work with arm's length bodies. This course will also be of interest to new members of the boards of arm's length bodies, policy officials involved in setting up, reviewing, or restructuring arm's length bodies and researchers and MBA students working on public administration.

This workshop can be taken as a stand -alone workshop or as a continuation of the ALBs: *Driving better results through better relationships and understanding* workshop.

Start 9.30am

Welcome and introductions - this will include an opportunity to raise specific issues where support is needed

Understanding the life cycle of an arm's length body

(group exercise)

Break

Why are quangos controversial? Exploring issues of trust, accountability, and risk

(tutor led discussion)

What sort of Arm's Length Body fits a particular role?

(case study based exercise in small groups)

Break for lunch

Merging or closing an Arm's Length body

(tutor led discussion)

Overview of guidance and good practice on reviews

(tutor led discussion and group exercise)

Break

Setting up a new arm's length body: working in an uncertain policy environment

(Group exercise)

Close at 16:00