



**Monitoring Officer Conference
13 September 2024 09.00 – 16.30**

Trowers & Hamlins, 3 Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8YZ

09.00 – 09.30 **Arrival and Refreshments**

09.30 – 09.40 **Welcome**

Helen Bradley
Director of Legal & Democratic Services, Durham County Council

09.40 – 10.15 **Learning and Looking Ahead for the Ombudsman**

Amerdeep Somal
Local Government & Social Care Ombudsman

10.15 – 10.30 **Building a Professional Body for Monitoring Officers**

Deborah Evans
Chief Executive, LLG

10.30 – 11.00 **Break**

11.00 – 11.45 **Skills and Competencies Needed to Thrive as a Successful Monitoring Officer**

Bethan Evans
GOVTC

11.45 – 12.45 **Enabling Strong and Effective Scrutiny**

Ed Hammond
Deputy Chief Executive, Centre for Governance and Scrutiny

Paul McDermott
Partner, Trowers & Hamlins

Louis Sebastian
Partner, Trowers & Hamlins

Doreen Forrester-Brown
Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Assurance), Southwark Council

12.45 – 13.45 **Lunch**

13.45 – 14.45 **Local Authority Joint Ventures: Effective Governance within Complex Structures-
an Overview of the Tees Valley Review**

Philip McCourt
Legal Director, Bevan Brittan

Emma Simson
Legal Manager, Tees Valley Combined Authority

Jill Travers
Director of Law & Corporate Services, Wirral Council

14.45 – 15.30 **Lessons Learnt from Financial Support Requests – Practical Tips for Monitoring Officers**

Joanne Pitt
Senior Policy Manager, CIPFA

15.30 – 15.50 **Break**

15.50 – 16.30 **The Monitoring Officer as Strategic Leader**

Doreen Forrester-Brown
Assistant Chief Executive (Governance and Assurance), Southwark Council

16.30 **Close**