



# Strategic Leadership in Modern Local Government

## Analysis of Cohort SLM42 Feedback 2025 Programme



### Comments from Delegates at the End of the Programme

#### Delegate Feedback on the programme

- *"Don't hesitate!! Sign up and do the programme, it has been invaluable to myself and has given me more focus on where I want to be and how I need to achieve this."*
- *"Excellent - nicely timed, spaced out, and the knowledge days are exceptional."*
- *"The structure of the course, combined with the guidance, has given me stronger strategic thinking skills, greater clarity in decision-making, and a toolkit I can confidently apply in my role. I'm leaving the programme feeling more capable, motivated, and prepared for future leadership challenges."*
- *"Andrew and Susie are not only extremely knowledgeable, experienced and professional, but also caring and honest teachers/coaches. Their feedback and support has been priceless. Likewise, I have learned so much from other colleagues on the course and it was invaluable to have that depth and range of advice. If you are fortunate enough to do this course, it will be one of the best things you do in your local government career."*
- *"I can highly recommend the course for anyone with leadership ambitions in local government."*

#### What Difference has the programme made to delegates?

- *"I have more confidence, I lead by example and I am now able to look at situations strategically and have a strategic view and approach to my work. This course has been invaluable to my career moving forward." [Senior Housing Advisor]*
- *"More confident, networking, seeing the bigger picture, and learning hard and soft leadership skills. more efficient team, seeing the bigger picture, becoming more involved in strategic matters" [Strategic Applications Manager]*
- *"The course has also enhanced my leadership confidence, which has made a difference in how I lead conversations, influence stakeholders, and drive change. Completing the ILM Strategic Leadership course has had a noticeable and positive impact on my organisation. The programme has strengthened my ability to think and act strategically, which has already translated into clearer priorities, more effective planning, and better alignment across my team." [Team Leader – Performance & Coordination]*
- *"This programme was totally transformative for me. It changed my mindset and gave me tools I'll use for life both in and out of work. I have become more confident, self assured and authentic as a leader, with more efficient decision making skills and a fantastic network of colleagues." [PMO Manager, Transformation]*
- *"The programme has really helped to develop my strategic thinking through excellent course content and learning from peers. It has equipped me with knowledge and tools that will help me to make a difference in my organisation." [Procurement Business Partner]*

**"As an alumnus of the programme myself, I know firsthand how powerful it is when the learning is applied in real time to the challenges and opportunities we face. It's a truly transformative experience that strengthens strategic thinking and leadership impact."**

**Daniel Ruaux - Executive Director of Children, Young People and Learning, West Sussex County Council**

A programme that KBA Solutions delivered in partnership with the LGA for 8 years.  
KBA Solutions winners of the prestigious **John Sainsbury Award** for people development

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Over **90 Chief Executives** have spoken on the programme.

### Our Latest SLM Programme Speakers...

- Graham Farrant, Chief Executive, Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Councils
- Martin Reeves, Chief Executive, Oxfordshire County Council
- Theresa Hodgkinson, Chief Executive, Ashfield District Council (Alumnus)
- Mari Roberts-Wood, Chief Executive, Reigate & Banstead (Alumnus)
- James McLaughlin, Assistant Chief Executive, Sandwell
- Vic Allison, Chief Executive, Wychavon District Council
- Shokat Lal, Chief Executive, Sandwell
- Cllr Barry Wood, Leader, Cherwell District Council
- Cllr Phil Chapman, Portfolio Holder, Cherwell District Council
- Adam Chalmers, Chief Executive, Elmbridge Borough Council

“I am delighted that so many managers from Reigate have undertaken the programme. The personal and collective development is clearly evidenced here at the Council.” **John Jory, Former Chief Exec. Reigate and Banstead**

### Feedback Ratings for all 42 Cohorts

Over 800 senior managers from over 200 local authorities across England and Wales have attended the programme. The average feedback scores out of 4.0 are detailed below.

Average Feedback Scores out of 4.0  
Over 8000 items of Feedback - All 42 Cohorts

