

cfps associate programme
Tim Young – CV

Key information

Key skills or areas of expertise

Sixteen years in local government, working in the corporate centre and as a Head of Scrutiny (at Camden Council), has given me considerable experience in the fields of research and policy development; corporate and service planning; governance and political management; resident and service user consultation; performance management; service reviews; benchmarking and evaluation; equalities and diversity; and writing and producing publications. I have also worked in the voluntary sector and been an elected management committee member of a national voluntary organisation for ten years.

As a consultant for the last three years, working both as an Associate of the Centre for Public Scrutiny and independently, I have drawn on this body of knowledge and my networks and contacts to provide a wide range of development services for Members and authorities in the field of overview and scrutiny.

As illustrated below, I have worked extensively with Members across the political spectrum and with officers from different types of authority, across the country. Drawing on this wide experience, I can flexibly tailor training and development to meet the particular needs of an authority and its Members.

Facilitation

I have extensive experience of commissions that have involved working with Members, officers and partners to facilitate strategic discussions, enabling participants to think about approaches to new issues and plan appropriately. I also run action learning sets.

Training

Training sessions include:

- induction for new scrutiny members
- chairing and questioning skills

- developing effective work programmes
- building relationships with the Executive and partners
- influencing skills
- building consensus and taking a non-partisan approach to scrutiny
- project, information & performance management
- budget scrutiny

I make sessions as interactive as possible, sharing information and examples of best practice, to help Members practise and enhance skills and gain the confidence to carry out effective scrutiny.

Evaluations

I have undertaken a number of scrutiny evaluations, using questionnaires, focus groups/workshops and interviews with Members, officers and external partners, before analysing and writing up the results in an accessible report.

Specialist support

I also have worked in a range of councils where I have been commissioned to provide specialist scrutiny support, which places a premium on quickly winning confidence and trust in order to deliver effective outcomes. I have wide experience of different formats of scrutiny and assembling information and witnesses to ensure a robust evidence base for scrutiny, producing effective recommendations that are soundly based.

Writing publications

I am experienced in researching and writing publications, ranging from annual scrutiny reports and scrutiny protocols for individual councils to research reports and guides for organisations such as the IDeA, the London Scrutiny Network and the National Consumer Council.

Experience and background

Relevant professional / academic qualifications

BA Hons Government 2.1 – University of Exeter
MA Comparative politics (by dissertation) – University of Sussex
M Phil (by thesis – ‘The politics of public participation in local government’) – University of Sussex

City Lit NEBS Management Introductory Award, Certificate Level

Employment / professional history (most recent first)

London Borough of Camden – Head of Scrutiny (2000-2006); corporate policy manager (1997-2000)
LB Hammersmith & Fulham – principal policy officer(1995-997)
LB Islington – corporate policy officer (1990 -1995)
London Advice Services Alliance (LASA) – policy and research officer (1988-1990)
NSC – campaigns organiser (1986-1988)
Campaign for Homes in Central London – research and policy officer (1984-86)
London Voluntary Service Council – research and information officer (1978-84)

Recent work undertaken

Name of organisation: London Scrutiny Network/Capital Ambition
Brief description of work undertaken: Facilitation of a Members’ Learning Set and an Officers’ Learning Set; and co-editing a publication, “Capital Ambition: Stories from the London Scrutiny Network” (LSN, 2009)

Name of organisation: Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA)
Brief description of work undertaken: Researching and writing a guide for OSCs to the Comprehensive Area Assessment and opportunities for scrutiny

Name of organisation: LB of Tower Hamlets
Brief description of work undertaken: Facilitation of OSC Members’ session evaluating how well scrutiny had performed in the previous year and where improvements could be made – summarised in a written report.

Name of organisation: Coventry City Council
Brief description of work undertaken: Improving scrutiny – skills and development session with OSC chairs

Name of organisation: North Somerset Council
Brief description of work undertaken: Questioning skills session for O & S members