

Small Charity Financial Leadership Programme

In partnership with [Embrace Finance](#), and with support from the Shared Prosperity Fund, we are pleased to offer this new opportunity to grow your knowledge and understanding of strategic financial management.

Who is it for?

Led by small charity resilience specialists Liz Pepler and Rachel Cooper, this online course is aimed at those responsible for the management or finances of a small Charity with an annual turnover of under £500k, but can include those with turnovers of up to £1million. Much of the content is highly relevant to CICs but the terminology is charity focused.

Course outline

Session 1 - Introduction & Diagnostics Tuesday 19 November, 10am-1pm

Come and find your inner finance director! Starting with an overview of organisational resilience and the role of financial management in helping build it. We will review our three key jobs in finance, and explore the systems, processes and approach we need when navigating financial uncertainty.

Session 2 - Anticipating Wednesday 11 December, 10am-12:50pm

A deep dive into the role of forecasting to reveal the benefits of looking up and out when navigating financial uncertainties. We will model a simple finance forecast, explore the differences between forecasting cash and income and review what we need to consider when managing financial difficulties.

Session 3 - Preparing Wednesday 15 January, 10am-12:50pm

Reserves. We all need them. We all struggle to build them. In this session, we explore the role of reserves when building financial resilience and how to manage the risks of having too much and too little in reserve. We will calculate an actual and target reserve for a small organisation and review what a good reserves policy looks like.

Session 4 - Adapting Thursday 30 January, 10am-1pm

What can we do now to make our organisations more resilient in the future? In this session, we visit our business models and explore how we can marry money and mission to good budgeting and costing. We also look at full cost recovery and its limitations when building financial resilience.

Session 5 - Responding Tuesday 25 February, 10am-1pm

Financially resilient organisations are led by financially confident leaders. In this final session, we learn about - and model - a simple finance strategy to guide us through the mists of uncertainty ahead. We look at the role of financial indicators in building our own confidence and the confidence of others.

What can you expect from these sessions?

As well as receiving practical tools from our experts, you will also receive session slides for future reference. You will have the opportunity to share and learn with other course participants, engage in group discussions, and take part in breakout sessions. **All sessions will be delivered via Zoom.**

Costs and subsidies:

Organisation with an income of less than £500k - £70 per learner

Organisation with an income of more than £500k - £95 per learner

For further information about this course or to submit your expression of interest, please email support@sparksomerset.org.uk.

Training provided by:

With thanks to: