

How Government Works

- 09:30** **Welcome and registration**
- 09:45** **Aspirations for the day**
An opportunity to share experience and expectations for the day
- 10:00** **The structure and functions of the UK Government**
An interactive discussion on the shape of government – covering ministerial and non-ministerial departments, executive agencies and public bodies, as well as the devolved administrations – and looking at issues such as where the power lies.
- 11:00** **Refreshment break**
- 11:15** **Understanding how ministers think and work**
A discussion about the role and purpose of ministers. Using practical exercises, participants will identify what drives, influences - and in some cases distracts – the work of ministers, and from there develop strategies for more effective working with Private Offices.
- 12:00** **The role of the Civil Service**
In a tutor-led discussion, participants will explore the structure of the Civil Service, the Code under which they operate and the role of Special Advisers.
- 13:00** **Lunch**
- 13:45** **Government-Parliament Relations**
A discussion of how Parliament holds the Government to account. Participants will look at the structure of Westminster and explore how MPs uncover information, including the use of select committees, adjournment debates and parliamentary questions.
- 14:45** **Acts of Parliament and law-making**

A look at how Parliament makes law. The group will discuss consultation, drafting and pre-legislative scrutiny, as well as looking at how a Bill become an Act and the importance of delegated legislation.
- 15:30** **Refreshment break**
- 15:45** **The role of the House of Lords**
A look at the scrutiny work of the upper chamber and how the Lords differs from the House of Commons.
- 16:30** **Final Question and Answer**

