



# AFB Training Senior Managers Development Programme 2026

In partnership with

**BCLP.**

# A learning programme designed for AFB members

## Programme overview

Following sold out programmes since its inception, AFB has once again partnered with international law firm **BCLP** to deliver the Senior Managers Development Programme (SMDP) in 2026. This **bespoke development programme is** designed to highlight **the current key issues facing international banks** and provide **practical advice** on what members need to do to **ensure compliance** and **minimise their exposure**.

The SMDP focuses on areas subject to regulatory change in the UK and will cover the most recent developments in each topic area. It is primarily designed for **individuals new to, or preparing for, Senior Manager Function roles**. It is also suitable for those who **support Senior Managers** and require a practical understanding of the UK regulatory framework.

Existing Senior Manager Function role-holders may find the programme valuable to refresh or update their knowledge in light of recent or future regulatory developments. If you would like to discuss whether the programme is suitable for you, depending on your specific role and experience, please get in touch with [Amanda.keegan@foreignbanks.org.uk](mailto:Amanda.keegan@foreignbanks.org.uk).

The programme is intended to provide delegates with an understanding of the broad range of issues relevant to senior managers within and outside of their areas of expertise. For this reason, it is **recommended that the same individual attends all six sessions**.

## Programme structure

The course will take place over three days, with two sessions on each day and will be held **in-person** at BCLP's offices in May and June 2026. The course will commence with a **short pre-course questionnaire** to clarify attendee's expectations and key learning aspirations.

At the conclusion of the SMDP, attendees may choose to participate an optional **30-minute one to one call** with a BCLP partner. Each attendee may specify up to three topics (ranked in priority order) arising from the content of the SMDP that they would like to discuss further and will be matched with the most appropriate BCLP partner. The purpose of the call is to deepen knowledge and relationships following the SMDP. It is not intended to provide an alternative to obtaining formal legal advice.

## What each session covers

Each session will provide an overview of:

- Key legal and/or regulatory issues
- Recent developments and horizon scanning
- Regulatory expectations and requirements for authorised firms and their Senior Managers
- Practical tips to help member banks ensure compliance and minimise risks
- Relevant case studies which further explain the regulators' expectations

Sessions will be delivered through a combination of presentations, facilitated group discussions, and Q&A.

## Your presenters

BCLP has extensive experience in working with Senior Managers, in particular helping proposed Senior Manager Function holders prepare for regulatory approval interviews, including situations where an application is contested by the regulators. BCLP have an in-depth understanding of the regulatory landscape, the regulator's current priorities and Senior Managers' personal regulatory obligations under the Senior Managers and Certification Regime. This approach has resulted in almost a 100% track record of applicants receiving FCA approval. BCLP will draw on this experience and practical approach to deliver this development programme. Each session of the programme is delivered by highly experienced specialist lawyers.

## Course Overview and Schedule of Dates

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Date	Session Themes
<b>5 May 2026</b>	<b>Day 1: Regulatory Expectations, Senior Manager Accountability &amp; Operational Resilience</b>
10:00-12:00	<b>Morning session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The PRA's and FCA's general approach to, expectations of, and supervisory priorities for international banks operating in the UK</li></ul>
Lunch provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The importance of corporate governance, the key elements of the authorisations document, prudential supervision, individual accountability, and remuneration</li></ul>
12:00 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Key considerations for, and expectations of, Senior Manager Function holders</li></ul>
13:00 – 15:00	<b>Afternoon session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of the UK regulatory framework for operational resilience and outsourcing for third country banks/branches within group structures</li><li>• Impact of the UK's new regulatory requirements for critical third parties</li><li>• Interplay with data governance and broader data considerations, including consideration of the current state of play of AI regulation in the UK</li></ul>
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<b>9 June 2026</b>	<b>Day 2: Embedding Culture, Managing Conduct &amp; Strengthening Whistleblowing</b>
10:00-12:00	<b>Morning session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What are the current regulatory expectations concerning culture, conduct, and diversity and inclusion?</li></ul>
Lunch provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Latest guidance and rules around non-financial misconduct and what this means in practice</li></ul>
12:00 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ideas for getting ahead of the regulatory agenda</li></ul>
13:00 – 15:00	<b>Afternoon session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Understanding the legal and regulatory protections for whistleblowers in the UK</li><li>• The need for close collaboration between HR and Compliance functions in dealing with whistleblowing reports</li><li>• Direct-to-regulator whistleblowing</li><li>• What does a whistleblower framework need to contain, and what does 'best in class' look like?</li></ul>
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<b>25 June 2026</b>	<b>Day 3: Financial Crime, Sanctions &amp; Fraud Controls</b>
10:00-12:00	<b>Morning session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduction to, and recent developments in, UK sanctions law and practice</li><li>• UK sanctions enforcement update, including the overlap between the OFSI and FCA enforcement regimes</li></ul>
Lunch provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Compliance and risk prevention strategies</li></ul>
12:00 – 13:00	
13:00 – 15:00	<b>Afternoon session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of the UK financial crime legal framework</li><li>• The FCA's expectations for a financial crime risk framework</li><li>• Latest trends in relation to financial crime issues, AML systems and controls, anti-fraud measures and demonstrating compliance with the failure to prevent regime for corporate criminal liability</li></ul>

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## About BCLP

### BCLP's Financial Services Disputes and Investigations Practice:

BCLP is one of only a few law firms which house their contentious and non-contentious financial regulatory teams together alongside their financial services litigation, corporate crime and white-collar expertise. Clients trust us because we have a deep understanding of the financial services sector, invest in real partnerships, and go the extra mile to defend their interests.



Operating as one single team, the financial services disputes and investigations practice advises the full spectrum of financial institutions, including foreign banks operating in the UK. They support their financial institutions clients and provide pragmatic and commercially astute guidance to ensure they meet their vast global and local financial regulatory requirements. The team regularly assists clients in preparing for changes in regulations, ensuring that they are operating within the relevant legal framework, and that their staff are trained in and confident with the requirements and expectations imposed by regulators. At the other end of the spectrum, the team has extensive experience in dealing with high profile international regulatory enforcement investigations, complex financial services litigation and criminal prosecutions brought by regulators.

The team works closely and constructively with members of other complimentary practice areas, enabling it to 'issue spot' and provide multi-disciplinary advice to clients. The team combines this with an in-depth knowledge of the relevant regulators and how their authorisation, supervision and enforcement divisions operate in practice, together with technical excellence in the relevant law and regulations. Several of the team have gained direct experience from working at the regulators and law enforcement authorities (including the PRA and FCA) as well secondments to a range of financial institutions and investment exchanges.

#### Further information

#### Pricing

For further information and to book your place please see [here](#) or contact: [secretariat@foreignbanks.org.uk](mailto:secretariat@foreignbanks.org.uk)

£2,025 plus VAT per booking  
Course limited to 33 places

AFB have a long partnership with BCLP. BCLP have delivered the SMDP since its inception in 2020, and they also host and deliver numerous other AFB events every year.

BCLP deliver the SMDP and other events on a complimentary basis. The delegate fees received for the SMDP are invested in the ongoing running and administration of AFB.