



AFB Training: SARs Compliance Certificate

A new on-demand programme for AFB members

The AFB SARs (Suspicious Activity Reports) Compliance Certificate is a new online programme for AFB members. The course is an on-demand (pre-recorded) instructor-led learning programme designed for risk professionals who are required to create SARs, investigate and manage reports, and report to the NCA (National Crime Agency).

The Certificate focuses on the practical applications of the content which members can use in their day-to-day roles. It will be delivered in partnership with Great Chatwell Academy of Learning (GCAL), who have delivered the successful AFB Financial Crime Compliance Diploma course.

Course participants can expect to benefit from:

- Five learning modules (each module lasts one hour) with up-to-date content;
- Delivery via online and on-demand instructor-led learning, which can be completed at the learner's convenience;
- Modules that include structured learning and case-study analysis;
- End of module MCQ (multiple choice questions) assessment that will confirm understanding;
- CPD credits for all sessions attended, awarded by the CPD Certification Service.

On successful completion of all assessments, participants will receive the AFB SARs Compliance Certificate awarded in association with the University of Gloucestershire.

Course modules

1. Introductions and defining the risk
2. Crime typologies, 'Think like a criminal'
3. UK and International legal and regulatory responsibilities for corporates and regulated individuals
4. Managing the risks – what it looks like
5. Reporting and escalating the risks

Course structure

- Advanced pre-recorded instructor led training lasting between 5-7 hours
- 5 hours of learning
- 30-minute case study analysis
- Sample self-assessment MCQ
- 45-minute MCQ assessment
- CPD credits for any session attended
- SARs Compliance Certificate awarded in association with the University of Gloucester

Who should attend

- All regulated financial and non-financial employees
- SAR investigators
- Nominated officers and their deputies
- MLRO's and their deputies
- Internal auditors

Course fees

Course Fees: £499 +VAT

PLEASE NOTE PAYMENT IN FULL IS REQUIRED BEFORE COURSE COMMENCEMENT

Further information

For further information and to book your place, please contact secretariat@foreignbanks.org.uk

Learning outcomes

By the end of this programme, you will be able to:

- Explain why SARs are important.
- Define the personal and corporate responsibility to report suspicion or knowledge.
- Explain key terms including unusual activity, objective and subjective suspicion and knowledge, and 'consent'.
- Know when to report, and how to report confidently including meaningful intelligence, according to proscribed requirements.
- Manage post-reporting risks including the risks of tipping off, prejudicing an investigation, constructive trusteeship and the relationship with customers during periods of 'consent'

Course topics

- What is a SAR and why are they important?
- UK NCA Annual Sar Report – trends, numbers and findings
- FATF 40 Recommendations – a global standard
- Proceeds of Crime Act 2002, Terrorism Act 2000, Money Laundering Regulations 2017
- Economic Crime (Transparency and Enforcement) Act 2023 amendments to POCA
- Case Law – HSBC v Shah, R v Squirrel, R v Da Silva & K v Nat West Bank
- The role of the nominated officer explained
- NCA insights – how the SARs are used by law enforcement and actual results (SARS in Action)
- Managing SARs - a framework of systems and controls
- When to make a report, case study analysis – What are the risks in the following scenarios? Make a report or other?
- How to make a report including information that is required to be included when writing a report (SAR Reporting Handbook)
- Managing post SAR reporting risks of 'tipping off', 'prejudicing an investigation' and 'constructive trusteeship'
- Monitoring results and trends - Adequacy and effectiveness
- Using the data - informing the firm risk assessment
- Case enforcement action – FCA V Nat West Bank analysis of findings

Course instructor – Lee Byrne & invited guests



Lee Byrne is a highly respected financial crime prevention professional, with more than 30 years international operational and management experience. Lee specializes in the design, development and delivery of systems and controls to manage and mitigate financial crime risks; including money laundering, tax evasion, sanctions, bribery, corruption and terrorist financing risks. Lee has held the position of Head of Compliance & Financial Crime at a UK authorised bank and was approved as the CF11 Money Laundering Reporting Officer (MLRO) Approved Person and Nominated Officer. Lee has worked in many of the major financial markets, giving him extensive knowledge of international financial crime compliance best practices.