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AFB CEO ROUND UP

September 2026

Key Events | Policy & Regulation | Training Academy | Practice & Events

I hope you all managed to get a holiday over the summer. As we return for our third semester of the year, we have a very busy programme of events, training and advocacy for all our members.

Parliament has returned from summer recess and in the weeks ahead, we will get a better understanding of the priorities and approach of the new government and Prime Minister, Andy Burnham. It is clear he intends to prioritise economic growth, but hopes to deliver that via increased devolution and handing extra powers to metro mayors. In addition, there is speculation he wishes to remove responsibility for economic growth from HM Treasury and give it to other branches of government, including the new “No 10 North”. We shall see.

Ahead of the Budget on 28 October, I met with Treasury officials to brief them on our members' priorities and to restate the importance of tax competitiveness for international banks. That will be the message I take to the party political conferences this month. Between us, the AFB team will attend all the main conferences to represent the interests of our members and to learn more about their policy proposals.

My thanks to **nCino** for sponsoring this month’s roundup. **nCino** and **Dun & Bradstreet** have announced they are collaborating to speed client onboarding and enhance lifecycle management for financial institutions - you can learn more about the partnership **below**.

Earlier this week, invitations were sent to you all for this autumn’s **CEO Roundtables**, taking place on 15, 20 and 21 October. As ever, this is a valuable opportunity for me to hear your current priorities, to update you on our latest work and for CEOs and General Managers to meet their counterparts. You can book your place **here**.

Our flagship Financial Crime Compliance Conference is on Wednesday 14 October, kindly sponsored by **DCM** and **BeyondFS**, and hosted by **A&O Shearman**. Confirmed speakers include Beth Harris (Head of Financial Crime Market Intervention, **FCA**), Nigel Kirby (Director, **Lloyds Banking Group**), James Wright (Head of AML Unit, **HM Treasury**) and Tom Bell (Deputy Director, **Home Office**). There are still places available, so please encourage your teams to **register**.

Our autumn training programme will host a series of half-day Masterclass training sessions, provided in partnership with our training partner Great Chatwell Academy of Learning. This includes *Correspondent Banking (Mitigating the Risks in Respondent Relationships)* taking place next week. This will be followed by *Managing Sanctions Risks (Identifying the Risks in Transactions and Trade)* and part 2 of *Mitigating Trade Based Money Laundering in Trade Finance* in November. You can find out more and register on our website **here**.

Lastly, AFB has secure a 20% discount for members for the upcoming FT Live Global Banking Summit, taking place from 01 - 03 December in London later this year. Find out more and secure your discount **below**.

Best wishes,
Giles

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AFB Seminar: Trade Finance -
CR Construction (UK) Company Limited v Barclays Bank plc

Tuesday 15 September 2026
Included in membership

AFB, in partnership with **Eversheds Sutherland**, invites members active in trade finance transactions to a seminar examining the recent Technology and Construction Court (TCC) decision in CR Construction (UK) Company Limited v Barclays Bank plc [2026] EWHC 202.
This seminar will be relevant for Trade Finance, Legal, and Operations teams/practitioners involved in trade finance transactions.

Find out more **here**

Supported by:

nCino and Dun & Bradstreet Collaborate to Speed Client Onboarding and Enhance Lifecycle Management for Financial Institutions

nCino has entered a strategic relationship with Dun and Bradstreet to bring D&B's verified business and risk intelligence directly into the nCino Platform, powering its Client Lifecycle Management solution.

This collaboration gives financial institutions single, trusted context layer, captured once inside nCino and reused at every decision point, from onboarding through ongoing monitoring.

From first touch to ongoing relationship management, the D&B Commercial Graph for nCino powers every stage of banks' client lifecycles with verified, continuously refreshed business data to support:
KYC & KYB Client Onboarding: Pre-populate records with verified entity data, auto-resolved by the D-U-N-S Number directly in the nCino platform.
Periodic Review & Remediation: Surface material changes in ownership, standing

and risk without manual research.

Continuous Client Monitoring: Event-driven alerts on risk and ownership changes, right inside the platform.

Find out more about the partnership here

AFB Policy and Regulatory Affairs

Click here for a full list of policy and regulatory affairs projects

AFB SM&CR Phase 2 Reforms Priorities Paper

On 19 August 2026, AFB sent a Priorities Paper to the FCA and the PRA, setting members' priorities for Phase 2 of the regulators' SM&CR reforms (**here**). The paper was prepared following the publication on 22 April 2026 of HM Treasury's (**here**), the FCA's (**here**), and the PRA's (**here**) policy statements. The priorities summarised in the paper are based on feedback from members' responses to HMT's and the regulators' consultations. The FCA and the PRA are expected to publish consultations on their proposals for Phase 2 of the SM&CR reforms in the autumn of 2026. The paper was sent to the regulators in advance of the consultations as part of AFB's pre-engagement. The recommendations seek to reduce the regulatory burden in areas such as the Certification Regime, SMF Approvals Framework, Conduct Rules Framework, and the reduction of duplication in SM&CR processes and documentation. If you are interested in joining AFB's SM&CR Review Working Group, please contact **Ethan Moxam**.

Sanctions Compliance Working Group Meeting on 15 September - FCA and OTSI attendance

On Tuesday 15 September, AFB will convene an AFB Sanctions Compliance Working Group Meeting attended by Stephen Robinson, Head of the Specialist Sanctions Supervisory Team at the FCA, and a representative from the Office of Trade Sanctions Implementation (OTSI). The session will consist of a Q&A with Stephen Robinson on the FCA's Sanctions Systems and Controls in Financial Services Firms Report published 28 May 2026 (**here**). There will also be a discussion with the OTSI representative about its recent work, including the extra-territorial impact of the UK rules on non-UK entities, OTSI's introduction of sanctions end-use controls, and the FCA and OTSI's signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The session will be hosted by ICBC (81 King William Street, London, EC4N 7BG), from 16:00 to 18:00 with arrivals from 15:30. If you are not a member and are interested in attending the working group meeting, please contact **Ethan Moxam**.

FCA PS26/15 - Improving the UK Transaction Reporting Regime

On 03 August 2026, the FCA published PS26/15, setting out its rules aimed at simplifying the UK transaction reporting regime (**here**). The policy statement introduces changes to the scope, content and operation of the transaction reporting regime following the FCA's consultation published in November 2025. AFB submitted its response to the consultation in February 2026, incorporating input from members (**here**). A summary of PS26/15, focusing on the aspects most relevant to AFB's response, was circulated to the AFB Policy and

Regulatory Network (PRN) on 06 August 2026 (**here**). The FCA's changes will come into force on 03 April 2028, following an 18-month implementation period, which commenced on 03 August 2026.

Practice, Training & Events

Click here to view our events and training calendar

AFB Seminar: Trade Finance - Performance Bonds, Injunctions and the Autonomy Principle – CR Construction (UK) Company Limited v Barclays Bank plc
15 Sept - Included in membership - **Eversheds Sutherland**

AFB Seminar: Navigating the OECD's Updated Common Reporting Standard 2.0 - Tackling New Reporting Demands and HMRC Audit Expectations **last few places remaining**
16 Sept - Included in membership - **Grant Thornton**

AFB Practice Roundtable: Changes to Transaction Reporting in the UK - Key Regulatory Expectations **waiting list only**
23 Sept - Included in membership - **Kroll**

AFB Seminar: Key Swift Updates
24 Sept - Included in membership - **Swift** & **SWIFT UK**

AFB Seminar: Navigating the Operation of Financial Crime Controls **waiting list only**
30 Sept - Included in membership - **Pinsent Masons**

AFB Practice Roundtable: Implementation of the New Information Sharing Provisions under ECCTA **waiting list only**
30 Sept - Included in membership - **Michelman Robinson**

AFB Seminar: Managing Conduct Issues for Visitors to the UK from Head Office and Affiliates
07 Oct - Included in membership - **Browne Jacobson**

AFB Practice Roundtable: Navigating Regulatory Change - Basel 3.1 Implementation from Rulebook to Reality
08 Oct - Included in membership - **BM&A Advisory & RegTech**

AFB Practice Workshop: Failure to Prevent Fraud - Testing Internal Controls **new date**
13 Oct - £275 + VAT - **HKA**

AFB Financial Crime Compliance Conference
14 Oct - Included in membership - sponsored by **DCM**, **BeyondFS**, and **A&O Shearman**

AFB Practice Workshop: How to deal with Partial Exemption Special Methods for VAT
10 Nov - £275+VAT - **BDO**

AFB Annual Banquet 2026 **waiting list only**
05 Nov - £249 + VAT per ticket - sponsored by **BDO** and **Crowell & Moring**

Financial Crime Training Programme

AFB Financial Crime Masterclass Series
Held in partnership with Great Chatwell Academy of Learning **(GCAL)**

Correspondent Banking (Mitigating the Risks in Respondent Relationships)
08 Sept - £410+VAT

Managing Sanctions Risks (Identifying the Risks in Transactions and Trade)
10 Nov - £410+VAT

AFB Financial Crime Masterclass: Mitigating Trade Based Money Laundering (TBML) in Trade Finance - Part 2 **available to book soon**
18 Nov - £410+VAT

Financial Crime Online & On-Demand Training Courses

SARs (Suspicious Activity Reports) Compliance Certificate
Fraud Risk Management Compliance Certificate
Financial Crime Risk Assessment Compliance Certificate
Customer Risk and CDD Compliance Certificate
Managing the Risks of Terrorist Financing Advanced Certificate
Self-guided - £720+VAT (includes 10% discount for AFB members) - **GCAL**

Senior Managers Training

AFB Masterclass: Impact of Recent Enforcement Cases and Supervisory Activity on Senior Managers Regime **waiting list only**
06 Oct - £410+VAT - **A&O Shearman**

Climate Financial Risk and Green Finance Training Programme

The Chartered Banker Institute Certificate in Green and Sustainable Finance
Self-guided - £670+VAT – Virtual

The Chartered Banker Institute Certificate in Climate Risk
Self-guided - £670+VAT – Virtual

The Financial Times and The Banker will convene global banking leaders to examine the forces reshaping global finance in 2027 and beyond, from macroeconomic volatility and geopolitical fragmentation to rapid technological change. Hear from CEOs including Barclays, Lloyds Banking Group, NatWest, Banco Sabadell and more. #FTBanking.

Join the conversation - **register here**.

Save 20% on your pass with code **AFB**.

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