

Welcome to our April newsletter!

In this month's newsletter, we shine a spotlight on several key updates and activities, including our new facilities management compliance audit and our recent SBM Bitesize session, plus we look ahead to our upcoming training events. Read on to find out more!



We've recently added a new audit scope to our internal scrutiny menu: **Facilities Management Compliance**.

Our facilities management review focuses on providing assurance that the trust/school is operating in compliance with relevant legislation such as the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and the DfE's Good Estate Management for Schools guide.

Areas covered within the audit can include:

- Strategic estates management
- Planning and organising estate resources
- Managing land and buildings
- Estate maintenance
- Health & Safety
- Estates Performance Management & Sustainability
- Managing estate projects

Contact us via info@sbmservices.co.uk or through our website, linked below, for more information.

[Our website](#)

Facilities Management Compliance Audit

2023/24



The SBM Toolkit:

The SBM Toolkit: **An invaluable companion for School Business Managers**

This month we have updated the following resources within the SBM Toolkit:

- A **Financial Skills Self-Evaluation for Maintained School Governors** has been introduced, providing a simple way for governors to self-evaluate their current financial management skills.
- The **Accounting Officer Skills Analysis** is in a new format to allow easier completion.
- The **Trustee and Governor Allowances policies, Purchase Card policy and Internal Hospitality policy** have all been reviewed and there are now trust and maintained school specific versions (previously they were in a combined template).
- The **Policy Tracker tool** has been updated to reflect the latest DfE guidance.

[Visit the SBM Toolkit now!](#)

Upcoming Training:

Here is a summary of the upcoming training sessions we have scheduled:

5th June: An Introduction to Fixed Asset Accounting

2nd July: Summer Term Education Business Update Briefing for Academies

3rd July: Summer Term Education Business Update Briefing for Maintained Schools

9th July: Academies: How to prepare for your 2023-24 financial year end and audit

Starts in September: Academy Finance Training for CEOs and Headteachers

2nd October: An Introduction to Basic Accounting

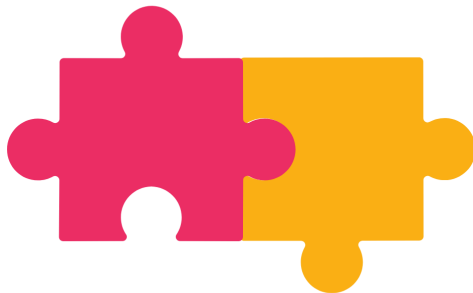
Coming soon...! Following requests during our recent SBM Bitesize Risk Management session, our next SBM Bitesize will be on Business Continuity Planning. Date to follow shortly.

For more information and to book your place, please visit www.sbmtraining.co.uk

See more here

SBM Toolkit subscriptions

SBM Bitesize



SBM Bitesize!

We held our first SBM Bitesize session this month, exclusively for our SBM Toolkit Gold and Platinum subscribers – **A Practical Guide to Risk Management**.

During the session, we emphasised the significance of risk management in a school context, offered practical steps that can be taken, and then connected these insights to resources within the toolkit for seamless application.

SBM Bitesize allows us to swiftly share important or short training updates with our clients through concise, ad-hoc online sessions — think of it as **bite-sized knowledge boosts!**

For those gold and platinum subscribers who couldn't attend, a video recording has been circulated allowing subscribers to start building up a valuable CPD library.

Subscribe to the SBM Toolkit today, with prices starting at just £195. **With such a wide variety of content, can you afford not to subscribe?**



Team Updates:



Congratulations Helen

Team member Helen Wilson crushed the 3 Peaks Challenge this weekend! 24 miles, 3 mountains (Ben Nevis, Scafell Pike, Snowdon) & over 3,000m ascent - all in 27 hours!

Supporting [The Lennox Children's Cancer Fund](#) with Hiscox Colchester.

[Donate here](#)



Walk The Walk

Some of the SBM Services team will be taking part in the Walk the Walk Half Moon challenge on 18th May 2024, a 15-mile overnight walk across the streets of London.

The SBM Starlight Strollers have started training and had their first group training walk recently around the picturesque, but muddy, Wivenhoe!

If you'd like to read more about the challenge or support their fundraising efforts, please click the link below!

Donate here

Check out our social media platforms:

We recently started an Instagram account, so follow us there for regular news and updates!



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