Free Online
YEAR AHEAD CONFERENCE 2026 5-6 February
THE FUTURE OF PUBLIC PROTECTION

12Hours CPD

ctsi Chartered Trading Standards Institute

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

Year Ahead Conference 2026: The Future of Public Protection

Programme Day One: Thursday 5 February

09.30: Welcome and introduction

Chair: Fran McClosky, CEO, Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

Transformation & Change

09.35: English devolution in practice: cutting costs, building sustainable services

- What does financial sustainability look like in practice – beyond short-term savings?
- How can leaders align cost reduction with long-term service resilience?

Speaker: Simon Allsop, Managing Consultant, Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy

10.15: Shifting and shaping local government: what does the future look like? (Panel discussion)

- Discussing the English Devolution and Communities Empowerment Bill and local government restructure strategies
- Understanding the powers and how the new framework will work for all

Chair: Joanna Seymour, Head of EH Workforce, Chartered Institute of Environmental Health

Speakers:
- Emma Foy, Local Government Lead, Technology One & Former Section 151 Officer, West Lindsey District Council
- Graeme McDonald, Chief Executive Officer, Solace
- Annie Albon, Head of Environmental Health and Regulatory Services Dartford Borough Council and Chair of the Association of Chief Environmental Health Officers

11.10: Comfort break & sponsorship videos

11.35: Plan for change: balancing regulation for successful economic growth

- What can we expect from regulators in 2026?
- What do regulators need from Heads of Service, local government, and Heads of Trading Standards to deliver in 2026?
- How do we get the balance between economic growth and public protection right?

Speakers:
- Katie Pettifer, Chief Executive Officer, Food Standards Agency (FSA)
- Jonathan Eatough, Deputy Director – Operations and Governance, The Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS)
- David Perry, Legal Director, Competition and Markets Authority (CMA)

12.30: Harnessing digital innovations to enhance public services and protection

- AI strategies across Government – what does 'responsible' adoption look like?
- Case study examples where securing technology has reduced cost of delivering digital services
- Uncomfortable truths: managing misinformation

Speakers:

- Dr Aaron Lawson, Course Director MSc Global Strategy in Environmental Health & Sustainability and Lecturer in Environmental Health, Ulster University
- Cenred Elworthy, CTSI Lead Officer for AI and Digital

13:00 Leading change from within: turning resistance into momentum
- Focusing on the practical role leaders play in shaping change through landscape, framing and behaviour
- Exploring how the words we use, the narratives we reinforce, and the structures we create can either entrench resistance or unlock engagement and trust

Speaker: Kendelle Bond, Clinical Director and Behavioural Psychologist & Member of MINT, The National Centre for Behaviour Change

13.40 Closing remarks

13.45 End of day one