

Annual Conference 2026

24 September

London

AGENDA

09:00 Opening Remarks

Tim Harvey | [ACFE UK Chapter](#)

09:05 Learning the Lessons from Recent Regulatory Fines

The UK Financial Conduct Authority has repeatedly fined financial services firms over the last decade for failing to combat financial crime. Arguably, the underlying reasons for these fines can be attributed to fundamental failures in governance and culture which appear time and again in both regulated and unregulated investigations. This session will cover:

- Common themes emerging from recent penalties.
- Lessons to be learnt for both financial and non-financial services firms.
- Strengthening accountability by embracing good governance.

Daren Allen | [Shoosmiths](#)

09:40 Document Fraud in the Age of AI

AI has supercharged document forgery enabling near-perfect fakes to be created quickly, easily, and at scale. This session will examine how document fraud has evolved into a pervasive and increasing strategic threat in financial services, onboarding, and compliance workflows, and how artificial intelligence is changing the game for both attackers and defenders. It will cover:

- How fraudsters leverage generative AI and low-cost editable templates.
- Mechanisms of modern document fraud and where traditional approaches are failing.
- Essential mitigation strategies such as AI-driven detection, multi-signal analytics and human-AI collaboration.

Alberto Araujo | [Airwallex](#)

10:20 Refreshments and Networking

10:45 Scammers, Spies and Triads: Inside Cybercrime's \$15tn Global Empire

From industrial-scale fraud factories to influence operations and underground banking, Chinese organised crime groups are revolutionising law enforcement's understanding of transnational crime. This session will explore the globalisation of scamming syndicates and the proliferation of crime-as-a-service tools.

Ben Marino | [Financial Times](#)

11:35 To Tell You the Truth ...

This session will focus on truth and deception using real-world case studies to explore how and why people lie and the tools available to detect and analyze deception. It will cover:

- Why people lie and how deception can reveal itself through behaviour.
- Statement analysis and detection tools such as voice analysis and AI.
- Key lessons and practical takeaways for fraud examiners.

Lior Kostas | [Digilog](#)

12:15 Whistleblowing: Compliance to Culture

This session will explore how organisations can implement an effective whistleblowing framework that goes beyond compliance to genuinely support a 'speak out, speak up' culture, drawing on recent UK tribunal trends, regulatory expectations and legislative changes, including the Employment Rights Act and Failure to Prevent Fraud offence. It will cover:

- Why whistleblowing frameworks depend on trust and culture.
- What good looks like in practice and where organisations most commonly fall short.
- How strong speak-out cultures provide an effective early-stage identifier for fraud.

[Erin Sims | RSM UK](#)

12:55 Lunch and Networking

13:45 When Power, Trust and Risk Collide: Investigating Sexual Misconduct

Sexual misconduct investigations are among the most challenging and sensitive matters any organisation can face, especially when allegations involve senior leaders or C-suite personnel. This session will cover:

- Practical challenges and common pitfalls in investigating sexual misconduct.
- Managing investigations from intake and risk assessment through to outcomes and learnings.
- Why the way we investigate really matters for trust, culture, and organisational resilience.

[Yamini Patel | Independent Investigations and Integrity Specialist](#)

14:25 Crypto and Fraud: How to Chase Crypto Fraudsters in the Dark

With the blockchain and cryptocurrency widely considered here to stay, understanding how the crypto world works and is open to criminal exploitation is essential. This session will introduce the subject and outline the approach that should be taken in crypto-fraud investigations, irrespective of the investigators level of technical knowledge. It will cover:

- Common typologies and red flags of crypto fraud schemes.
- Addressing the crypto elements within a fraud investigation.
- The skills, tools and techniques involved in crypto-fraud investigations.

[Michael Lastovskiy | NEO Forensics](#)

15:05 Refreshments and Networking

15:35 The City of London Police's Contribution to the Government's Fraud Strategy: Disrupting Crime, Supporting Economic Resilience and Delivering Justice

This session will provide a timely update on the City of London Police's contribution to the Government's new Fraud Strategy 2026 – 2029.

[Commander Ollie Shaw | City of London Police](#)

16:15 Update on Companies House Progress in Implementing ECCTA 2023

This session will provide a timely update on the progress made by Companies House in implementing the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Act 2023. It will cover:

- The introduction of ID Verification (IDV) requirements.
- The use of Companies House's new powers in tackling economic crime.

[Martin Swain | Companies House](#)

17:00 Closing Remarks

[Tim Harvey | ACFE UK Chapter](#)

17:30 Networking Drinks Reception

18:30 Close