**Steve Parkinson**

Steve Parkinson has been involved in financial training for 20 years with and has delivered VAT and finance courses for local councils since 2009. He served as Town Clerk for Alton in Hampshire from 2001 to 2015 and has 30 years of local government finance experience at county, district and town council level.  A member of the Association of Accounting Technicians for over 25 years, he become a Fellow in 1996.

Since 2013 Steve has been Chairman of the Joint Practitioners Advisory Group (JPAG), which produces guidance for smaller authorities and he is widely recognised for his knowledge of local council finance and VAT. He currently works part time for the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and has his own business, providing training and consultancy.

In 2009 the Hampshire ALC awarded Steve the status of Local Council Ambassador for his work as an advocate for the sector and SLCC awarded him their Outstanding Contribution award in 2010.