Financial Crime Masterclass Series 2026

Mitigating Trade Based Money Laundering (TBML) in Trade Finance Part 2

An exclusive financial crime masterclass series for AFB members

The AFB Financial Crime Masterclass series launched successfully in 2025 and have now been attended by over 200 Financial Crime professionals. Developed in conjunction with Great Chatwell Academy of Learning, and exclusive to AFB, the series returns in 2026 with five pertinent topics within the world of Financial Crime.

Held in-person and delivered by Lee Byrne from AFB's training partner Great Chatwell Academy of Learning (GCAL), each session is CPD accredited and designed specifically for international firms operating in the UK.

Each masterclass is outcomes-focussed and highly interactive. All courses are designed to provide answers to operational and technical issues that risk and compliance professionals must address in 2026 and beyond.

Masterclasses run from 09:30 – 12:30 with registration from 09:00 on the following dates:

25/03/2026 - Mitigating Trade Based Money Laundering (TBML) in Trade Finance – Part 1

14/05/2026 - Suspicious Activity Reporting in Practice: Detect, Decide, Disclose

15/07/2026 – Cybercrime: Managing Converging Threats in AML Compliance

08/09/2026 - Correspondent Banking (Mitigating the Risks in Respondent Relationships)

10/11/2026 - Managing Sanctions Risks (Identifying the Risks in Transactions and Trade)

18/11/2026 - Mitigating Trade Based Money Laundering (TBML) in Trade Finance - Part 2

About Great Chatwell Academy of Learning

Great Chatwell are trusted partners and providers of risk and compliance guidance, support, and training for more than 5,000 employees and more than 100 regulated and supervised businesses with UK and international risk management responsibilities. This includes representation from a wide range of financial sectors, including retail and commercial banks, trade-finance, correspondent banking, payment and e-money providers, consumer credit, supply chain finance, residential and commercial lending and crypto-currency.

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Course instructor – Lee Byrne & invited guests

Lee Byrne is a highly respected financial crime compliance leader who has spent his career contributing to the fight against crime, operationally as an MLRO and nominated officer, and most recently as the founder of Great Chatwell Academy of Learning through the design and delivery of role-specific training for firms and individuals.

As part of this programme of tailored support for the AFB, Lee will be joined by carefully selected senior practitioners to ensure that each Masterclass delivers the information that delegates need to meet the challenges of regulatory compliance and changing crime landscape.

Mitigating Trade Based Money Laundering (TBML) In Trade Finance - Part 2

This masterclass will build upon the foundational knowledge and awareness gained in the AFB masterclass - Mitigating Trade Based Money Laundering (TBML) in Trade Finance – Part 1 held in March 2026. This follow up masterclass will enable attendees to apply their learning in a series of practical exercises to improve skills development and enable learners to:

- Contribute to the business wide assessment of crime risks that are applicable to trade finance products
- Conduct due diligence checks to identify current and emerging crime risks in relationships, including respondent banking relations, and transactions
- Conduct ongoing risk monitoring to identify emerging crime risks in trade transactions, including performing shipping due diligence, identifying high risk activities attributed to key sanctioned states including Russia, Iran and Democratic People's Republic of Korea
- Contribute to the policies, procedures and controls that are essential to manage the risks in high-risk trade activities relating to CBRN materials and dual use goods that are subject to export and importing licensing
- Identify emerging crime typologies used by criminals
- Analyse case enforcement action to confirm critical operational controls to manage crime risks in trade operations

Case-study materials on TBML, TBTF, and other trade-related predicate crime including tax crimes, sanctions, and unlicensed dual-use goods will be used to support peer group analysis of what happened, why it happened, and how issues can be remediated. You will also look at how the UK and international regulators responded, including the dos and don’ts, how to spot red flags, close control gaps, and sharpen screening, escalation, reporting, and record-keeping.

Course content

During this masterclass, you can expect to learn more about:

- The very latest trade-related crime typologies and geo-political events that matter most: including fraud, trade-based money laundering, trade-based terrorist financing, and trade-related predicate offences including sanctions evasion, proliferation finance and dual-use goods, tax crimes, and modern slavery
- The latest developments in the legal and regulatory framework in the UK, EU and USA that impact the management of trade risks, with an emphasis on the risks of weapons of mass destruction, and the proliferation of arms and military and dual use goods

- A forensic analysis of relevant regulatory case enforcement to highlight key controls and lessons learned
- Conducting a risk-based approach to identify the risks in client relationships, trade transactions, documentation and payments, and attempting to answer the question, “how far do we have to go when performing due diligence checks on clients and the trade transaction?”
- Reporting concerns according to the strict requriements of the UK Proceeds of Crime Act, Terrorism Act and associated sanctions and trade license requirements

Course structure

- In-person, instructor-led
- 3 hours of learning
- CPD credits for confirmed attendance
- Key learning is supported using practical crime reports, peer-to-peer discussions and case enforcement analysis

Learning outcomes

By the end of this session, you will be able to:

- Describe the impact of geopolitical events and criminal developments on trade activity, including events in the Middle East and the impact of global tariffs on goods and services levied as part of foreign policy
- Contribute to the assessment of trade risks in your firm by identifying and assessing trade-relates crime risks including trade-based money laundering typologies, such as the misrepresentation of value, quantity, and quality of goods, the abuse of free trade zones, terrorist group financing activity, and how criminals evade sanctions and the import and export licensing requirements for CBRN and dual-use goods
- Outline the framework of systems and controls that are required to be operationalised to manage and mitigate crimes effectively and efficiently, having regard for the requirements of ICC rules and commercial success
- Identify unusual and criminal activity in client relationship, the trade transaction and payments

Who should attend?

- Anyone who attended the Mitigating TBML – Part 1 Masterclass and who wishes to build upon the foundational knowledge and awareness provided previously by participating in a highly interactive, case-study focussed and exercised-based development workshop
- Trade finance teams and staff who contribute to the management of trade customer relationships and activities
- Financial crime compliance professionals at all levels who wish to benefit from a more advanced analysis of trade-related crime risks
- AML professionals who conduct customer due diligence checks and verification on trade customers and transactions
- MLROs and their deputies
- Second line and Third Line risk professionals, including Internal auditors

Logistics & booking information

Venue: Banco do Brasil, 280 Bishopsgate, EC2M 4AG
Date: Wednesday 18 November 2026
Time: 09:30 – 12:30 (Registration and light breakfast from 09:00)
Price: £410 plus VAT

Book Now