

# BAM 2021 CONFERENCE IN THE CLOUD



## Public Management and Governance Track

### Track Chairs:

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### Track description:

#### **Improving Governance and Redefining Public Management'**

Public sector bodies have been triply hit during the COVID-19 outbreak. Firstly, as front line services, they have had to absorb the pressures of demands for treatment and care, exacerbated by private sector collapses (e.g. healthcare, social care, social housing). Secondly, public sector staff have been victims themselves of the disease, including verbal and physical abuse as a result of civic unrest, as well as their own health and related caring responsibilities (e.g. emergency services personnel, education professionals, public transport staff, local government personnel). Finally, the pandemic has taken place in a sector hard-hit by a decade of financial austerity, meaning the capacity to respond and cope has been significantly reduced. But hope springs eternal, and the public sector has often had to demonstrate its resilience in the face of such challenges. The track is looking for examples of empirical and conceptual responses to these challenges in all areas of the sector, and from different country contexts, as full or developmental papers. Have you witnessed any changes in governance or a redefining of the role of public management? We also particularly welcome developmental papers in our track and will seek to offer as much opportunity for feedback as the online formats will allow.