

Financial training For non financial staff



The financial training specialists

That's the way we do things (Budgeting, Profit)

"That's the way we do things round here". How often have you heard that phrase at work?

It can be a reassuring phrase to hear: it means there are established procedures and processes in place to ensure quality and consistency.

But processes usually get added to over the years in response to problems arising, so they often aren't the most efficient way of doing something. And they can eliminate the need to think about what we're doing!

On Saturday I was meant to be joining some friends for a day's walking. The meeting point was 130 miles away, so I left the house in plenty of time. I drove down the A1, thinking of all kinds of things (as we do when we're driving), came off at Wetherby, and suddenly realised I'd been on autopilot, and was heading for Leeds, not Skipton. That was okay, I revised my route through Pool, Otley and Ilkley, but I was very late by then!

The problem was, it was a familiar route so I didn't need to think. And it turned out to be a very inefficient route.

Now there's nothing wrong with standard processes, so long as we keep reviewing them to ensure they're still relevant and efficient. And so long as we can be sure that a "tick box" approach doesn't replacethinking about what we're doing!

What are your work processes that are so long-established that they may have become unwieldy and inefficient? Are they costing you too much?