



Planning Committees (Training for Elected Members)

Date:

Course Duration:

2 x ½ day sessions

Venue:

Dennett House, 11 Middle Street, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 1SH - this course can also be delivered on an in-house basis

Description:

Sound Planning decisions are essential for the proper working of any Local Planning Authority, both to protect the reputation of the Authority and to reduce the risk of legal challenge. Developing good working relationships between Planning Committee Councillors and Planning Officers will also help ensure clarity of roles and robust decision making in dealing effectively with planning applications. Providing, maintaining and improving Planning Committee Member Training is therefore an important requirement for all authorities.

The course is delivered as two 3-hour sessions and will include presentations, workshops, reflective discussion and the development of an action plan. A practical activity will be set for completion between the two sessions.

The course is designed for:

- Councillors elected to serve on Planning Committees, especially those newly elected
- Senior planning officers providing advice at Planning Committee and/or who need to deliver training for Planning Committee Members, especially those who are taking on this role for the first time

Aim:

The course aims to highlight some of the techniques that are appropriate for different circumstances in addressing training for members on Planning Committees and for developing good Officer/Member relations linked to Planning and to help to develop appropriate solutions and approaches

Content:

Session 1

- The Need for Training for Members
- The Role of Planning
- The Planning System - plan-led
- National Planning Policy Framework
- Planning Application Process
- Different Types of Application
- Pre Application Discussions
- Scheme of Delegation
- Development Control v Management
- Material Considerations
- Major & Minor Applications
- Environmental Assessments
- Public Engagement & Consultation Site Visit Procedures
- Reflection on Session 1
- Preparation for Session 2 and Action Planning

Session 2

- Review of Session 1
- Predisposition & Predetermination
- Procedures at Planning Committee

TRAINING DETAILS

Related Courses:

- Essential Skills - 21st Century Councillor
- [Community Leadership Awards](#)
- [Chairing Meetings](#)
- [Planning Committee for Elected Members](#)
- [Understanding Community Leadership](#)
- [Role of the Frontline Councillor](#)
- [Speed Reading](#)
- [Appeals Panels – for Elected Members](#)
- [Bringing Social Enterprise into Your Ward](#)
- [Bringing Money into Your Ward](#)
- [Community Budgeting for Councillors](#)
- [Welfare Reform](#)

"Excellent use of time, very good pace, delighted no time wasted"

Member Organisations: £80 for Councillors (places subsidised) and £160 for Officers
Non-Member Organisations: £200

(All prices subject to VAT. Discounts for multiple bookings may apply)

- Roles of Officers & Members
- Public Speaking
- Reports & Recommendations
- Conditions & Reasons for Refusal - the 'tests'
- Planning Obligations, Legal Agreements & Community Infrastructure Levy
- Sustainable Development
- Principles of Public Life
- Probity and Related Issues
- Declaring an Interest
- What Can Go Wrong
- Appeals & Public Inquiries
- Press & Publicity
- External Monitoring of Decisions
- Reflection on Session 2
- Next Steps and Development of Action Plan

