
PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF PLANNING TRAINING FOR MEMBERS

1. INTRODUCTION

Over the past 8 years a series of short training sessions or occasionally workshops/site visits have been delivered for all elected Members with an aim to improve knowledge of the planning system on a wide range of issues. The training has usually taken place in the hour before the Planning, Protective Services and Licencing Committee (PPSLC), although in the past workshops and site visits have also been organised. Due to the current circumstances caused by the coronavirus pandemic the 20/21 programme was disrupted and a limited number of virtual training events were undertaken.

This report seeks endorsement of the training programme from April 2021 to March 2022. Further suggestions on any additional topics from Members would also be most welcome. With this in mind a slot has been left vacant in order to accommodate any additional training requirements identified through the course of the year.

It is intended to continue to deliver training by way of virtual sessions associated with the PPSL calendar of meetings until such time as face to face gatherings are allowed.

As before, it would not be intended to restrict the availability of training to the PPSL Committee membership, so there would be an open invitation to all Council Members to attend any of the sessions.

2. SUGGESTED PROGRAMME FOR 2020/21

Date	Committee day training	Half day workshop	Visit
April 2021	COVID 19 and changes to DM practices Peter Bain		
May 2021	DPEA Planning Appeals Scott Ferrie, Interim Chief Reporter		

June 2021	Enforcement – Peter Bain		
August 2021	SEPA role as a statutory consultee Lorna Maclean, SEPA to present		
September 2021	Placemaking key considerations and then site visit location to be confirmed		
October 2021	Archaeology and Planning. Presented by WoSAS.		
November 2021	Material Considerations framing planning conditions Howard Young		
December 2021	To be advised by Members		
January 2022	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Mark Lodge		
February 2022	Energy Efficiency and Low Carbon technology in the Historic Built Environment Kim de Buitleir		
March 2022	Core paths / access issues Jolyon Gritten		

3. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Members:

- i) Agree to continuing an ongoing programme of planning related training for Members of the PPSL Committee, which should also be open to any other Members not currently involved in planning decision-making;

- ii) Endorse the initial subject areas for training and the provisional dates for delivery, on the understanding that the programme may be varied to take account of any additional training requirements Members may wish to identify, along with any other particular training needs identified by officers as a consequence of matters emerging during the course of the year.

4. IMPLICATIONS

4.1	Policy	Nil
4.2	Financial	It is considered that the level of training required can be delivered internally from existing resources without recourse to having to buy in training from external providers.
4.3	Personnel	Nil
4.4	Equalities Impact Assessment	Nil
4.5	Legal	Nil

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