
PROPOSED PROGRAMME OF PLANNING TRAINING FOR MEMBERS

1. INTRODUCTION

Over the past 12 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 Licensing Committee (PPSLC), although in the past workshops and site visits have also been organised.

This report seeks endorsement of a provisional training programme from April 2025 to March 2026. 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 additional training requirements identified through the course of the year.

It is intended to continue to deliver the majority of the training by way of virtual sessions associated with the PPSL calendar of meetings unless workshops are proposed which would need to be on a separate date.

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

2. INDICATIVE PROGRAMME FOR 2025/26

	Training Proposed
1	Competent Motions – (may require 1.5 hours)- Committee Day Training Officer led
2	Local Place Plans Committee Day Training - Officer led
3	Local Living - Committee Day Training - Officer led
4	Site visit - Dunbeg Phase 3 Officer led
4	SEPA – Flooding tbc – Committee Day Training
5	Ancient Woodland Training - Committee Day Training Woodland Trust (date to be confirmed)
6	Biodiversity Update, Committee Day Training - Officer led

7	Environmental Impact Assessment - Committee Day Training - Officer led
8	Enforcement – Committee Day Training - Officer led
9	Use of planning conditions and obligations - Officer led
10	To be advised by Members

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 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.

3. IMPLICATIONS

3.1 Policy: none

3.2 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.

3.3 Legal: none

3.4 HR: none

3.5 Fairer Scotland Duty: none

3.5.1 Equalities - protected characteristics: none

3.5.2 Socio-economic Duty: none

3.5.3 Islands: none

3.6 Climate Change: none

3.7 Risk: none

3.8 Customer Service: none

3.9 The Rights of the Child (UNCRC): none

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