

REPORT FOR DECISION



**Agenda
Item**

MEETING: **PLANNING CONTROL COMMITTEE**

DATE: **24th May 2011**

SUBJECT: **PLANNING COMMITTEE TRAINING PROGRAMME**

REPORT FROM: **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR (PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT & REGULATORY SERVICES)**

CONTACT OFFICER: **DAVID MARNO – DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**

TYPE OF DECISION: **COUNCIL**

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS: This paper is within the public domain

SUMMARY: The report sets out the proposed training programme for Planning Control Committee Members that will place over the 2011/2012 Municipal year.

OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION The Committee is recommended to note the report.

IMPLICATIONS:

Corporate Aims/Policy Framework: Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework? No

Financial Implications and Risk Considerations: N/A

Statement by Director of Finance and E-Government: N/A

Equality/Diversity implications: No
(see paragraph below)

Considered by Monitoring Officer: N/A

Are there any legal implications? N/A (see paragraph)

Staffing/ICT/Property: N/A

Wards Affected: ALL

Scrutiny Interest: N/A

TRACKING/PROCESS

DIRECTOR:

Chief Executive/ Management Board	Executive Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
Scrutiny Commission	Executive	Committee	Council

1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 This report presents the programme of training for Members of the Planning Control Committee for the period of the 2011/2012 Municipal year.

Planning Control Committee Member training is seen as an important element of the role of ensuring that the decision making process is robust and that Members are confident in understanding planning issues.

To ensure that Members are confident in the decision making process, Officers in the past have provided guidance notes, special briefings and externally run planning courses to ensure a high level of proficiency and professionalism is maintained in this role.

1.2 Planning is continually changing and is on the verge of incorporating major important central Government policy changes. Therefore training is of key importance of keeping abreast of this change in terms of regulation, policy and its implementation.

1.3 Some training sessions arise as a result of discussions that take place in Committee meetings that centre upon challenging planning issues. Given the difficult role of the Planning system, this is not surprising and part of the training programme will include refresher sessions or topic sessions where issues have caused difficulty, or policy or regulation is particularly challenging.

1.4 Some of the proposed sessions will need to be planned in advance with bookings made for transport and will therefore need to be fixed. Other sessions can be more fluid

2.0 The Programme

24 th May 2011	Member Training on Planning Protocols
June 2011	Planning Application Typologies and Telecommunications
July 2011	Outcomes Tour
August 2011	Planning Fees & Planning Enforcement
September 2011	Supplementary Planning Documents: Hot Food Take-aways and Recreation Provision
October 2011	Probity and Pre-judging planning applications
November 2011	The Core Strategy and the Local Development Framework
December 2011	Community Infrastructure Levy
January 2012	Localism
February 2012	Planning and Flood Risk
March 2012	Householder Planning Applications and the Determination Process
April 2012	Free to accommodate specific suggestions

3.0 Delivery

3.1 The outcomes tour is an all day requirement. However, it is anticipated that the other training sessions shall take place on the afternoon of forthcoming Planning Committee meetings. Actual times will need to be confirmed nearer the date to ensure that any Committee site visits are also accommodated into the programme. Papers will be circulated as appropriate.

4.0 Recommendation

4.1 It is recommended that the above report be noted and that the importance of Member training is formally committed to by the Committee. This will ensure that the decision making process is an informed and robust one, particularly in the changing world of planning.

List of Background Papers:- None

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