

REPORT FOR INFORMATION



Agenda **7**
Item

MEETING: PLANNING CONTROL COMMITTEE

DATE: 19th APRIL 2016

SUBJECT: PLANNING COMMITTEE TRAINING PROGRAMME

REPORT FROM: DEVELOPMENT MANAGER (RESOURCE AND REGULATION)

CONTACT OFFICER: DAVID MARNO – HEAD OF DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

TYPE OF DECISION: N/A

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 2016/2017 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 2016/2017 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. Officers will let Committee know in advance.

2.0 The Programme

24 May 2016	Planning Protocols and Office Visit
28 June 2016	Highways, Engineering and Public Rights of Way
26 July 2016	Secured by Design
5 August 2016	Outcomes Tour
27 September 2016	Prior Approvals and the General Permitted Development Order
25 October 2016	How to search for planning Information
22 November 2016	Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and Housing
20 December 2016	Update on Planning Legislative changes
24 January 2017	Flood Risk and Planning
28 February 2017	Climate Change and Implementing Low Emission Strategy
28 March 2017	Regeneration
25 April 2017	Free session for end of year summary

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 at 3 Knowsley Place. Actual times will 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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