

To discuss populating the Member Development Programme for 2020/21.

An email was sent to members and has been included for a number of weeks in Members News to ask what training they would like to receive. The following responses were received:

- IT training, I often observe members and indeed I struggle myself to fully use all the Lenovo functions and especially the DBC intranet.
- I also think there is some scope for briefs/guides perhaps on line, or paper guidance of topics such as 'planning' 'Call –in' etc.
- The role of national, county and borough, on topics such as climate change, house building, highways.
- Some structured training on how to dig into, or ask better questions about, the DBC information systems and document library please. What is the range of databases and documents?
- I'd be interested in more detailed planning training for DMC committee members. In particular the legal constraints that are placed upon planning departments (e.g. maximum time to approval/rejection, case law on rejection of consultee conclusions and how these hold up on appeal).
- The use and application of IT systems. Whilst many of us do use laptops and standard Windows Office almost everyday, it would be helpful if a short course could be introduced on other software.
- Further insight into how the Council processes work in terms of decision-making – The steps required and the influences of Officers, members and consultants.
- Further introductions into each department and committee concerning their responsibilities.

Surrounding local authorities were asked what training they provide to members and the following topics were returned:

- Effective Board Governance – framework for LA companies
- Protecting the Council against fraud, bribery and corruption
- Planning – normally 2 basic (1 internal training by a Council officer and the other an external trainer TRA – Trevor Roberts Associates) then 4 x Advanced training (subjects have included Green Belt, Conservation etc)
- Standards
- Licensing and Enforcement
- Community Wellbeing
- Housing and Homelessness
- A presentation on local demographics and mechanisms for residents contacting the Council (customer complaints)
- Local Government Structures and Partnerships across tiers of governances
- Dementia Awareness
- Emergency Planning and Economic Development
- Communications and dealing with the Media
- Policing Priorities
- Planning and Sustainable Transport
- The Planning Process