

An Introduction to Planning Law

A One Day Course for Members and Officers of Local Authorities

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The aims and objectives of this one day course are to present an introduction to the law relating to Town and Country planning. This will include:

- Covering the basics of development control and forward planning
- Explanation of the importance of central and local policy and guidance in the determination of planning applications.
- The Appeals process
- Enforcement of planning control
- An opportunity to look at scenarios if required.
- An examination of the conduct of planning committees, including the role of officers and members.

Course Outline

Session 1 – Introduction to Town Planning

- Legislative background
- Land use regulatory system
- Development control
- Forward Planning
- What constitutes development?
- Planning Law and Policy



Session 2 – Development Plans & Planning Gain

- The importance of the development plan
- Departure from policy
- Material Planning considerations
- Planning Obligations and the concept of planning gain

Session 3 – Appeals & Enforcement

- Appeals
- Enforcement

Session 4 – Planning Committees

- Conduct of planning committees
- Quasi judicial public law function
- The role of the officer and the officer recommendation
- Code of conduct and declarations of interest (England or Wales version)
- Predetermination
- Good practice for members
- Potential liability of Local Authorities for nuisance or negligence as a result of the planning function