

LDFs - Building on the Learning of the Pioneers

A one day or half day training course offered at a local level to groups of POS member organisations for a maximum of 20 participants.

Trainers will explain the key lessons learnt to date from the POS LDF project and explore with delegates how these lessons can strengthen the prospects for success in LDF preparation. The training style will be informal and interactive and aims to respond to the individual issues and concerns of participants in their local area. The half-day course will be focused on key areas of interest to the group.

The audience

- Members of development plan teams
- Forward planning managers
- Development control managers
- Heads of service

The trainers

Each course will be led by LDF project team members:

Andrew Wright

Andrew is the proprietor of Andrew Wright Planning. He is currently engaged by POS Enterprises as General Manager and is the LDF Project Director. He prepared the report *'The Conditions for Creative Planning'* for the National Planning Forum. Prior to his retirement Andrew was Director of Community Services with North Warwickshire Borough Council. He chaired the development planning and policy topic group of the POS from its inception until standing down in February 2004, always with the objective of helping other practitioners to take on board new legislation or planning policy, and improve the quality of their plan-making.

Stephen Olivant

Stephen is a Chartered Surveyor and a Chartered Town Planner who has worked in London, Nottingham, Kendal and Petersfield. He was Head of Development Services of East Hampshire District Council for ten years. Three years ago he retired to become a consultant to central and local government. Stephen was the author of *'Local Plan preparation – A Good Practice Note'* in 1994; *'Development Plans – Responding to Local Government Change'* in 1996; and is currently writing *'Policies for Spatial Plans'* for the POS, ODPM, LGA and Planning Advisory Service.

Benefits for groups of POS members

- Great value for money
- Local delivery of training by experienced professionals working in the field
- Minimal training venue costs shared between participating authorities
- Minimal travelling time and expenses for participants
- Concentrated learning within a small group who share similar local concerns
- Guaranteed maximum number of delegates ensuring participation by all

POS Enterprises is the operational arm of the Planning Officers Society, taking forward the Society's objective of improving planning practice through research, disseminating best practice, consultancy support and training

www.planningofficers.org.uk



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The programme content

Each course will cover the following areas:

The context for reform of development planning

The ambitions underlying the new system

- Ambitions for rejuvenated planning
- How the ambitions conditioned the changes

A radically different system, at every stage

- Not change but replacement
- Radical differences of intention, not just processes
- The opportunity

Key implications of the new system

- Understanding the changes
- Communicating the new system
- Importance of member understanding

Spatial planning

- Principles
- Getting the right mind-set

Front loading

- The decision-making process
- Implications for approach

Sustainability appraisal

- Unified SA frameworks
- Corporate approach – SEA of other strategies
- Handling options
- Key evidence
- Using consultants

Community engagement

- Escaping the conflict model of planning
- Maximising consensus
- Start with what you want to know
- Implications for the SCI

Relationship with the community strategy

- Differences of ownership and process
- Community strategies as the local framework for the LDF
- Working with the local strategic partnership
- Scope for integration

LDF preparation process

- Programme management
- The core strategy – approach and content
- Depth of evidence

Examination of the plan

- Soundness
- The nine tests and their implications
- Importance of evidence
- The Inspector's report

Issues for managers

- Own grasp of system
- Supporting the team
- Tackling corporate barriers

Costs and how to book

Each full day will cost £2400 plus speakers expenses +VAT and covers the cost of trainers and all course documentation.

Half-day courses will cost £1800 plus expenses +VAT.

Groups will be responsible locally for arranging a suitable venue, refreshments and all local administrative arrangements. Delegate numbers will be limited to 20 for all courses.

For further information please contact:

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