

Modern Councillor e-learning catalogue

Modern Councillor is the online networking, support and learning service for local democracy provided by Learning Pool.

Our free to join online community brings together councillors, prospective councillors, co-opted members, local government officers, activists and residents to connect, share and learn together.

We also offer the most popular e-learning suite for elected members in the UK, as outlined here.

Train up to 100 Councillors per council for a flat rate of £1,000 (ex VAT). Visit www.moderncouncillor.com or email hello@learningpool.com or call 0207 101 9383.

Induction

Introduction to Local Government	Designed to give an insight into the purpose of local government, how it operates, who it involves and how it came about. Whether you're new to local government or already working in the sector, this module gives you interesting facts and information, plus links to other resources.
Your Role as a Councillor	Introduces newly elected councillors to your role and explores your motivations for becoming a councillor and looks at the personal attributes needed for you to be successful for your community. The key aspects of your role as community leaders and representatives of the citizens in your wards are examined, along with how decisions are made within different councils.
Code of Conduct	An introduction to the requirements of the Code of Conduct for elected members. The existing and 2007 Codes are covered in outline together with what you need to do to comply. It also identifies the consequences for councillors and their authorities in breaching the Code.

Media

Technology and Change	Information technology is at the heart of delivering better and more citizen-centred services. This module explains the Transformational Government vision and how that is expected to shape the services that local authorities provide for the future. It also explores the many benefits that fully engaging with technology can bring to your work as an elected member.
Getting Started with Social Media	Understand what social media is and how it can benefit your council. Learners will know what is meant by social media and what the most popular tools are as well as how to develop a strategy for best use of social media to support their work. The module also covers how to create profiles, pages, sites or content using the tools to promote what you are doing.
Writing for the Web	Explore Writing for Web 2.0. You'll learn about the different types of online readers and how they're motivated. Discover the differences between print and web content and learn how to write simple, easy-to-understand web content that is clearly formatted and laid out.
Working with the Media	Essential learning for new and experienced councillors alike. Exploring best practice around media interviews, this module guides you through preparation and the interview itself, and helps you to understand the interviewer's motivation. It examines the process for dealing with crisis situations and equips you to approach interviews with broadcast or published media confidently.

Legislation

Equality and Diversity	<p>Summarising the six strands of equalities legislation, and reminds councillors of the importance of respecting differences and providing services to everyone without discrimination.</p> <p>Various scenarios in the module help councillors to explore their obligations under the legislation.</p>
Risk Management	<p>How to identify and assess risk in your organisation. Introducing the risk cycle and providing guidance on how you can develop strategies to reduce, avoid and manage risk. Also identifying Member roles in the process of managing risk.</p>
Best Practice Procurement	<p>What procurement means for councillors and local government, this module helps you recognise the types of procurement and covers why good practice is essential for successful procurement.</p>
Licensing and Regulation	<p>Introducing the Licensing Act as it applies to licensing decisions with scenarios that explore the four main areas of licensing and regulation: licensing, gambling, hackney carriages and sex shops.</p> <p>The course focuses on the way in which councillors should participate in meetings and arrive at decisions, as well as on the legislation itself.</p>
Data Protection	<p>Summarising the key data protection principles and exploring scenarios in which the security of data can be compromised.</p> <p>The module provides guidance to councillors on working securely with the data that they encounter.</p>
Transformational eDemocracy	<p>This module provides an overview of eDemocracy and how it can be delivered. It also outlines the challenges and benefits to implementing an eDemocracy strategy and how to make a case for using eDemocracy.</p>
Localism Bill	<p>Following the 2010 General Election, the Coalition Agreement stated: "The time has come to disperse power more widely in Britain today."</p> <p>The Minister of State for Decentralisation, Greg Clark MP, undertook to change the law to shift power away from central government and towards local people, resulting in the publication of the Localism Bill in December 2010. This learning module looks at each of the Localism Bill's proposals in turn.</p>

Community

Community Leadership	<p>Focusing on Understanding Community Leadership, Achieving Effective Leadership and Community cohesion, this module covers what it means to lead a community and explains where the new focus on leading communities has arisen from.</p> <p>The module touches on how Local Strategic Partnerships and Local Area Agreements contribute to community leadership and considers how Councillors can help make their communities more cohesive.</p>
Public Speaking	<p>Public speaking skills don't come naturally to everybody; many people would rather not stand up and speak in public. As a councillor it's a key part of your role. This module shows you how to give yourself the best chance of success.</p>
Chairing Meetings	<p>Examining the key skills involved in chairing meetings effectively, including pre-meeting preparation, how to ensure that everyone is heard and ensuring that the meeting's objectives are achieved. Also addressing the importance of political neutrality for the role of the chair.</p>

The Modern Councillor e-learning catalogue contains online training for newly elected members' inductions as well as updated resources for more experienced councillors wishing to brush up on their existing skills.