

Councillor Training – The 4 Cs

Peter Finnis

This training session is designed for members and officers of Parish and Town Councils to broadly cover issues affecting what I term as ‘the 4 `Cs’, namely:

Councils – how they need to operate within the wider local government framework

Councillors – roles, responsibilities and representation

Codes – an overview of key policies, laws and guidance

Conduct – aspects of behaviour, attitude and best practice

I designed and evolved this presentation over time and it is very fluid. By this I mean that I will adapt the content and emphasis depending on the specific needs of each individual authority. But it will certainly cover issues such as how members and officers need to interact, mutual respect, and ways of maximizing efficiency within the constraint of the rules.

This is delivered in person as a PowerPoint presentation but also with encouraged interaction, discussion and questions. Key points are also backed up by anecdotal examples that I have had involvement in during a long local government career as a former chief officer and monitoring officer.

The overriding objectives of this session are to help Councils be as effective as possible in their service to the community, and to encourage members and officers to work as a cohesive team.

Depending on the level of input from attendees, these sessions will normally run between an hour and a half and two hours. My style is emphatically not about dwelling too much on legislation but to deliver objective logic and direction with, hopefully, a touch of humour.

The cost of this session would be £400 plus travel expenses at 45p per mile.

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