

INVEST IN YOURSELF

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR COUNCILLORS

LGNSW offers a diverse range of high quality, cost-effective training programs, workshops, seminars, forums, coaching options and executive programs for councillors in NSW.

Mayoral Induction Program

LGNSW Learning Solutions is offering this mayoral induction program. Mayors are the face of local government and it is an important and demanding role. People expect mayors to provide the leadership required for councils to work effectively and address community priorities.

The strong practical focus one day program can be an great induction for new mayors with time for exchanges of views and discussion.

Topics include:

- Role of the mayor and governing body
- Mayor as the leader of the governing body
- How to create working relationships
- Decision making and more.

Councillor Induction Program

LGNSW Learning Solutions is offering this mayoral induction program. Mayors are the face of local government and it is an important and demanding role. People expect mayors to provide the leadership required for councils to work effectively and address community priorities.

Mayors' Forum

LGNSW Learning is offering this forum for NSW mayors, deputy mayors and aspiring mayors to help address complex leadership challenges. Mayors are the face of local government and it is an important and demanding role. People expect mayors to provide the leadership required for councils to work effectively and address community priorities.

The program has a strong practical focus with workshop sessions and ample time for exchanges of views and networking.

Topics include:

- Current issues and challenges facing Mayors and their councils
- The changing role of Mayors and important 'tools of the trade'
- The Mayor as a community leader - locally and at a regional level
- The Mayor as a council leader - working with other councillors, chairing meetings
- The Mayor and General Manager
- State-local relations

Councillor Forum

This 3-hour online forum will provide councillors with a learning environment that will enable industry updates, open discussion and debrief with the facilitator, Q&A and networking opportunities.



Executive Certificate for Elected Members

LGNSW in partnership with the UTS, is offering this high-quality accredited program for NSW elected members. Conducted over two stages, the four day program includes:

- A focus on good governance, local democracy, credibility and effectiveness for NSW elected members
- Access to high-level and well-respected Local Government practitioners & researchers sharing their insights & experiences
- High-level theory and analysis regarding leadership, governance and the role of the councillor
- Information regarding common practice and good practice on a diverse range of topics
- Opportunities to share aspirations and challenges with a cohort of peers
- Deep conversations about the role of the councillor and Local Government in NSW
- Perspectives and opinions about key Local Government issues
- Designing and sharing of practical and complex solutions to common issues
- Opportunities for both new and experienced councillors to access current information about Local Government practice and research.

On successful completion of the program, participants will receive a Statement of Attainment from LGNSW, as well as a UTS Executive Certificate for Elected Members.



COUNCILLOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

(ONLINE, IN-HOUSE OR OPEN LEARNING)



Model Code of Conduct

Council officials play a vital role in serving local communities. To do this effectively, they need to uphold the highest standards of behaviour to ensure communities have trust and confidence in local government. This workshop will give participants a better understanding of the principles and processes in the Model Code.



Governance

The fundamental role of councillors is to serve and represent the interests of their community (the local government area) as a whole rather than those of any section or interest group. This workshop looks at the responsibilities of councillors in representing the overall public interest when making decisions to benefit their communities.



Chairing and Effective Meeting Procedures

Meetings play an important role in the management of all organisations and are an essential part of good corporate governance. This workshop is designed to assist Councillors in gaining the skills and confidence required to effectively chair, participate in and contribute to council meetings.



Community and Stakeholder Engagement

With a specific local government focus, the program addresses key aspects of the engagement process, drawing on participant and presenter experience to provide context in areas such as planning and strategy, community development, service delivery and land use planning.



Understanding Local Government Financials

Whether it be reading council's budget, or contributing or questioning the Operational Plan, Councillors are having to make many decisions about financial issues in Local Government. This course will assist Councillors to make better informed decisions about financial issues and matters.



Planning for Councillors

This workshop will focus on the current role of councillors in planning decisions – both plan-making and development assessment. It will cover the wider strategic plan making issues, together with current practice such as community engagement, density, development and the consent process.



Integrated Planning & Reporting

This workshop will cover everything councillors need to know to about engaging with their community, setting the long-term direction of council so that money and other resources are used effectively. Participants will gain an understanding of their obligations under Integrated Planning and Reporting, and its effectiveness as a planning tool.



Social Media for Councillors

This workshop will give councillors and management an overview of the most influential social media networks, their value and demonstrate ways to use different social media platforms so their digital presence positively impacts upon their council within the organisation's social media policy. Participants will be provided with strategies and tactics to support their council's overarching business and communication priorities.



Domestic Violence – Councils are part of the solution

This workshop series, is split over 3 x two-hours sessions, will provide councillors with an understanding of what drives sexual, domestic and family violence and build their understanding of how they can prevent this violence through their decision and work within their local council



Verbal Judo for Councillors

The engaging workshop focuses on specific, professional behaviours and strategies that councillors can employ to successfully and safely Deescalate hostility or Redirect destructive behaviour of others and generate voluntary compliance, cooperation or collaboration. Aimed at councillors who could be the target of verbal abuse.



Managing Media Skills

This practical workshop has been designed to provide councillors and relevant professional staff with practical techniques to enable them to be more comfortable, confident and effective in dealing with the media. Each participant will be provided with templates & strategies as a reminder of areas of focus.

Working with Respect

This practical workshop (2-part series) will help participants to develop skills to both prevent and handle these situations when they occur. Participants will learn how to better understand thinking patterns and how they can shape decision making, understanding the Code of Conduct and its application when communicating, as well as the developing of skills for communicating in a range of contexts.

Speed Reading for Councillors

This workshop will enable councillors to learn how to increase your reading speed and improve their comprehension. Dependant on motivation, read at thousands of words per minutes. Learn the basic principles of speed reading, improve your memory and use mind maps to store information. Skills to help councillors manage the volume of reading required in their elected role.

Professional ethics: navigating the grey zone as a councillor

The practical two x 90 minute webinar workshop is to walk councillors through an ethical decision making process applicable to real situations. Most people want to act ethically – rehearsing what you would say and do increases the likelihood of making ethical decisions.

Present yourself & your ideas positively

The pragmatic half day workshop equips councillors with the skills to be clear, concise and confident whenever they speak in public. Councillors will learn how to structure easy to understand and easy to remember messages, use non-verbal skills to build rapport and reinforce their messages, anticipate audience questions and think on your feet.

Working Together

The half day workshop will provide councillors with a pre session questionnaire and the opportunity in the session to think about what they want to achieve in their term and long term visions for their LGA, and how they would work together as an elected group and together with the ELT.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Public Workshops

LGNSW Learning Solutions offers a rolling calendar of open workshops. Open workshops enable you to network and learn together with colleagues from other councils.

In-House Service

The fundamental role of councillors is to serve and represent the interests of their community (the local government area) as a whole rather than those of any section or interest group. This workshop looks at the responsibilities of councillors in representing the overall public interest when making decisions to benefit their communities.

About our Facilitators

Our team of experienced facilitators have been selected for their expertise in specialist areas as well as their experience and understanding of the Local Government environment.

Mentoring

LGNSW offers a free and confidential mentoring service for new and returning councillors and mayors. The mentoring service provides elected members access to guidance and support from highly experienced and well regarded colleagues. delivery and land use planning.

CONTACT US

Visit our website and monitor the LGNSW weekly to gain information about new and existing offerings.

If you have any questions, please contact the LGNSW Learning team at learning@lgnsw.org.au.