

# Planning Committee

2.00pm, Wednesday, 15 November 2023

## Training and Awareness Raising Programme

Executive/routine  
Wards

All

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 It is recommended that Committee agrees the themes for the training and awareness raising workshops for 2023/24.

**Paul Lawrence**

Executive Director of Place

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## Training and Awareness Raising Programme

### 2. Executive Summary

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- 2.1 This report sets out the proposed themes and dates for the training and awareness programme for Planning Committee members, and where relevant, members from other Council Committees for 2023/24.

### 3. Background

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- 3.1 A member training and awareness raising programme has been in place for the Planning Committee over the last six administrative terms of the Council. The programme continues to support a wider group of elected members who have an interest in, or requirement to be briefed on, relevant Planning issues.
- 3.2 The programme provides a helpful way to build awareness and understanding of planning issues for Edinburgh and the wider city region. Similarly, the programme has facilitated improved awareness and mutual understanding with partner organisations and key stakeholders, including government agencies, local partners, and the development sector.

### 4. Main report

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- 4.1 The programme will be based around two-hour workshops and a tour, with a lead speaker(s). Representatives from partner organisations and the development sector will be invited to contribute to the sessions. On [9 February 2023](#) the Council approved the Council Diary 2023/24. The five dates approved for training and awareness will be added to the Council diary for the identified afternoons as follows:
- Wednesday 29 November 2023;
  - Wednesday 20 March 2024;
  - Friday 26 April 2024;
  - Thursday 13 June 2024 Annual Committee Tour (half day); and
  - Friday 21 June 2024.

4.2 Proposed themes for the 2023/24 programme will include:

**4.2.1 Planning Legislation**

- Planning Act 2019 progress;
- Update on planning legislation and/or regulation changes; and
- Update on National Planning Framework 4 Delivery Programme.

**4.2.2 Development Planning and Policy**

- Update on Proposed City Plan 2030;
- Update on Proposed City Plan 2040;
- Overview of Local Place Plans; and
- Provision of focused training on addressing the nature emergency and biodiversity considerations for new development.

**4.2.3 Development Management**

- Internal and external consultee engagement in the application process;
- Planning Obligations workshop;
- Cycle and car parking; and,
- Briefings on any matters arising from Development-Management Sub Committee meetings.

**4.2.4 Service Improvements and Performance Monitoring**

- Outcomes of implemented service improvements.

**4.2.5 Other**

- Optional additional training on carbon literacy will be offered to Committee members.

4.3 The workshops will also provide the opportunity to deliver cross-Committee training on the above themes and members from the Housing, Homelessness and Fair Work and Transport and Environment Committees will be invited to participate.

## **5. Next Steps**

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5.1 The proposed training and awareness themes will be delivered over the course of the remaining year and into 2024.

## **6. Financial impact**

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6.1 There are no new financial implications arising from the recommendations of this report. Provision for elected member training is contained in the service revenue budget.

## **7. Equality and Poverty Impact**

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- 7.1 There are no impacts on equality, human rights or socio-economic disadvantage arising from this report.

## **8. Climate and Nature Emergency Implications**

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- 8.1 There are no impacts on climate change and the nature emergency arising from this report.

### **Environmental Impacts**

- 8.2 There is no direct impact on the environment resultant from the training and awareness programme.

## **9. Risk, policy, compliance, governance and community impact**

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- 9.1 There are expected to be no significant impacts relative to risk, policy, compliance and governance resultant from the training and awareness programme.
- 9.2 By providing training and raising awareness it is anticipated that the community will benefit due to supporting and enhancing the knowledge of elected members on planning matters.
- 9.3 The training and awareness raising programme provides elected members with a better understanding of planning issues in the city and supports the Planning Committee in their assessment of planning proposals and strategies as they come forward.

## **10. Background reading/external references**

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- 10.1 None.

## **11. Appendices**

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- 11.1 None.