

COMMUNITY BOARD TRAINING OPTIONS

Course descriptions by LGNZ and the University of Auckland

Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts of interest are unavoidable. This workshop discusses different types of conflicts, legal and ethical obligations, and the options open to manage them.

Decision-making

As an elected member the decisions you make could impact on your community for many years to come. When you understand the process and the legislation involved you can question the information and make a thorough assessment of the options. We begin by demystifying the terminology and defining your role. Topics include: Limits or parameters of decision making; the difference between a decision and a policy; principles of consultation.

A Practical Guide to Public Consultation

Good consultation provides the foundation for good decisions. With the right consultation your council will make choices that are right for, and supported by, your community. This hands-on workshop uses case studies and exercises to help you understand different consultation strategies. Topics include: how to identify stakeholders; timelines and budgets; and best practice. You will take away a consultation toolkit which takes you through the different consultation techniques, discussing how they work and when they are appropriate.

Community Boards

Community Boards play an important role in local government, representing and acting as an advocate for the interests of the community. This workshop will help you to understand and value the role of the Board and discover how to build strong trust-based relationships. Topics include: a review of relevant legislation; balancing proactive and reactive approaches; creating value in our different roles.

Financial Governance 101

Your community expects you to make prudent financial decisions – especially in these difficult financial times. But in order to make wise choices you must understand the information presented to you. This workshop provides a detailed overview of council financials and explains relevant terminology. We use your council's LTP and case studies to make the session even more applicable to you. Topics include: planning and the LTP process; relevant legislation; the impact of policy decisions on a council's financial position.

The RMA – how it really works

The Resource Management Act 1991 provides direction to local authorities on developing regional and district plans for our communities. It also guides the implementation of those plans, such as resource consents. This workshop delivers the information and tools you will need to deal with RMA-related matters. Topics include: roles, functions, powers and timeframes; decision making in relation to RMA matters; the RMA in the broader planning framework.

RMA 'Making Good Decisions' Hearing Commissioner Training

The programme provides participants with the skills needed to run fair and effective resource consent hearings and to make informed decisions. It focuses on the legal, technical and practical skills needed and covers the statutory framework. There are pre- and post-workshop assignment required for the completion of the course.

How to Present the Right Image to the Media

In this highly interactive workshop focused on the local government environment, you'll learn how to deal with the media in a proactive way. You'll practice your technique by stepping into the limelight to record a radio and TV interview using current local and national issues. You'll also write a press release and social media posting that will get noticed for the right reasons. As a post-training follow-up we will email your video and audio clip with a review of the session and feedback tailored to your performances. Topics include: how to use the media and social media; interview techniques; legal and ethical considerations.

Asset Management

Around 70% of all New Zealand's assets are owned and managed by local and regional councils; and most councils spend a large proportion of their budget buying, building and maintaining them. From this workshop you will gain an appreciation of the value of asset management. Topics include: lifecycle management and strategies; growth and future demand forecasting; risk management.

Local Government New Zealand Conference – details TBA

Community Boards Conference – details TBA