

CORPORATE PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

UTS CENTRE FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT
IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGERS AUSTRALIA (NSW DIVISION)

A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOCUSED ON
ACHIEVING BETTER OUTCOMES THROUGH ENHANCED PLANNING PROCESSES

UTS: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

WHY UNDERTAKE THIS PROGRAM ?

This course is focused on achieving better outcomes through more effective corporate and strategic planning in local government. It focuses on the New South Wales system of Management Plans and how they can be improved and linked to more broadly based strategic plans for the whole of the local community and environment. This requires consideration of some of the 'big picture' issues facing councils and local government in general. The course also looks at current and proposed changes to State legislation and policy that will affect corporate and strategic planning.

The program highlights models and opportunities to integrate planning processes, strengthen links to budget and financial systems, enhance decision-making for implementation, and improve performance management. It is geared to the needs of professionals in the field; others in local government who contribute to planning processes; people from government agencies, the non-government sector or consultancy firms who work with councils; and concerned citizens.

After completing the program, participants should have a clear understanding of:

- Relevant perspectives on the developing role of local government
- Associated legislative, planning and policy frameworks (including proposed changes)
- Key issues and opportunities
- Concepts and models for corporate and strategic planning
- A range of planning, implementation and evaluation techniques
- Decision-making processes and how these influence outcomes
- Selected interstate and international comparisons
- Needs for capacity building and skills development

PROGRAM CONTENT

The program blends theory and principles with case studies, discussion forums and workshop sessions.

DAY ONE: AGENDA AND FRAMEWORK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local government in the Australian system: roles, responsibilities and intergovernment relations • Key issues and trends: community attitudes, financial constraints, local government reform • Identifying local needs and forces for change: consulting the community and stakeholders
DAY TWO: APPROACHES TO PLANNING	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas for corporate and strategic planning: theory and concepts, focusing on outcomes, 'Integrating Local Area Planning', 'Place Management' etc • Legislative, planning and policy frameworks (including Management Plans and links to environmental planning)
DAY THREE: KEY ELEMENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial management • Asset management • Workshop: Innovation and creativity
DAY FOUR: MAKING IT HAPPEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Part Two • Linking plans, budgets and service delivery: an outcomes-based approach • Performance management
DAY FIVE: BUILDING CAPACITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing organisation structure and culture • Implementation issues: enhancing organisational capacity • Workshop: Defining 'best practice' criteria • Course review

PRESENTERS

The program will be presented by expert practitioners with extensive local government experience:

- **GRAHAM SANSOM** is Director of the UTS Centre for Local Government, and was formerly CEO of the Australian Local Government Association. He has extensive experience in planning and management, including senior positions in local and State government and as a consultant. Graham is course coordinator.
- **SHERIDAN DUDLEY** is Chief Executive Officer of *Job Futures*. She was previously General Manager of Camden Council, Director of Strategy at Warringah Council and Director of the Office of Public Management in the NSW Premier's Department.
- **KEVIN HOUGH** is an engineer and management consultant. He has undertaken management reviews of several councils and also advises local government on contract management, improving competitiveness and alternative approaches to service delivery.
- **BRUCE McDONALD** recently retired as Deputy General Manager and Director of Strategy at Penrith City Council. He has many years experience in all facets of local government planning, and advised the State government on recent changes to the planning system.
- **ROBERT MELLOR** is the Centre's Program Manager, and has worked with and for local government for nearly 20 years. He specialises in organisation change, innovation, creativity and communication skills.

Other guest presenters will provide additional case studies and give their perspectives on current and emerging issues.

ASSESSMENT AND CERTIFICATION

The program includes an optional Action Research Project. Using the knowledge and skills gained each participant will review key issues for their Council and design an enhanced framework for corporate and strategic planning. A Certificate of Successful Completion will be issued if the project is satisfactory. Alternatively, participants can receive a Certificate of Attendance.

ABOUT THE CENTRE

The Centre for Local Government was established in 1991 as a cross-faculty centre of excellence within the University of Technology, Sydney. Its mission is to support the advancement and improvement of Australian local government through leadership in education and research, and by providing specialist consultancy services. The Centre works collaboratively with local government organisations, State and Commonwealth agencies, and international partners.

POSTGRADUATE DEGREE OPPORTUNITIES

Successful completion of this short course can count towards a postgraduate qualification in Management or Business.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT THE CENTRE ON (02) 9514 1659.