

Community Engagement and Governance (The CEG Course)

Formerly Local Policy

"This course is challenging and rewarding at the same time. It helps build confidence to deal with the complex issues involved in being a clerk."

David Martin: Clerk Corsham Town Council and current student

The CEG course builds on CiLCA. It develops your skills, knowledge and confidence for work with a local council and it helps your council to operate effectively. You can tailor your activities on the course to meet your specific needs and those of your council.

Are you interested in these topics?

- Law, procedures and finance
- Planning and sustainability
- Community engagement
- Management, projects and services
- Partnership working and community leadership
- Political systems

If so, then CEG is for you.

"Taking the course has opened my eyes to a lot of things. Studying, comparing ideas with fellow clerks, is an excellent way of improving your knowledge of how to manage a local council. It gives you confidence and, above all, it improves your performance which in turn improves the quality of service you can offer. I highly recommend it."

Elisabeth Uggerlose: Clerk Bidford-on-Avon and current student

From single module to BA Honours degree

Most students join the Foundation Degree, equivalent to Levels One and Two of a normal degree programme. You can stop after Level One with the award of a Certificate of Higher Education or you can continue from Level Two to the full BA Hons. You can also take a single module as a CPD opportunity. Each level normally involves two years of part-time distance learning study.

Residential schools and tutorial support

There are two residential schools in Cheltenham; the first is October 1st - 3rd 2010 and the second is February 4th - 6th 2011. We offer five tutorial days in Cheltenham each year with some tutorials elsewhere on request. We use an online teaching environment called Moodle to provide course materials, extensive support and opportunities for discussion.

The cost

The fee for each level of the course is £3290 (approximate 2010/11 prices). One level takes two years and payment can be spread over eighteen months. If you choose to take just one module - double modules cost £850 and single modules £425. You also need to budget for accommodation for residential schools and travel to Cheltenham.

CPD points

Most modules at Level One are double modules carrying 30 CPD points. There are two optional single modules each carrying 15 CPD points.

Time

The course is certainly a challenge and you do need to commit to study – otherwise this advanced professional qualification would not be worth having. However, the course is very strongly work-based; everything you do on the course is relevant to your work. In addition you will need approximately five hours a week to prepare for and complete your assignments. There are three or four assignments for each double module. Part-time students normally take two double modules in a year.

Applications to start the course in September 2010

We welcome applications to join the course in September. This year all students taking the whole level one course will study CEG101 Community Governance. Community governance is the way in which organisations work independently and in partnership to deliver effective services in local communities. This module examines the structures and functions of community governance, the practices of stakeholders, and policies influencing local communities.

To find out more about the course, do take a look at the course map and formal module outlines available from this web page:

<http://www.glos.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/ceg> . If you wish to discuss your options, please contact the Course Leader: Elisabeth Skinner eskinner@glos.ac.uk 01242 714558.

For an application form, contact Alison Pope apope@glos.ac.uk 01242 714573. Applications for a September start will be welcome before the end of August.

More comments from current students

"Undertaking the course has given me more credibility among my colleagues and more confidence to do the job well."

Jill Jones: Clerk Buntingford Parish Council

"CEG has helped me grow and develop not only as a clerk but as an individual. The chance to study closely with colleagues from other agencies will enable me to better understand how we can work together."

Ruth Redgate: Clerk Anglesey, Elford and Branston Parish Councils, and board member of the Institute of Local Council Management