

Non-Executive Director LATCos and Public Services

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Course Brochure

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Course details

Various Public Service models, including Local Authority Trading Companies (LATCos), have been used, over a number of years to enable councils to capitalise on wider market forces, generating income as commercial entities. Robust governance, which enables the authority to manage financial and other risks, while capitalising on flexibility and responsiveness is critical.

Non-executive Directors of wholly or partly owned local authority trading companies are expected to understand their role, comply with legislative and policy frameworks, behave in a manner which is commensurate with board level leadership. These roles are different from those of a senior council officer or elected member.

This course will equip those in non-executive director roles with the knowledge and skills needed to fulfil the NED role, with professionalism, due diligence and within the framework of the law. It will address diverse topics such as legal compliance, fiscal responsibility, board level behaviours and organisational culture.

Who should attend?

Anyone undertaking a non-executive director role within a public services wholly or partly owned trading company; including Senior Council Officers

Learning Outcomes

- Critique the role of the non-executive director (as individuals and a collective) in a public services subsidiary.
- Appreciate legal responsibilities from council, shareholder, NED and subsidiary perspectives.
- Scrutinise financial performance data, assessing risk and how it can be managed.
- Appraise the NED role in influencing organisational values, culture and strategic performance.
- Evaluate behaviours and competencies which lead to effective governance and sustainable organisational strength.



Part 1

09:15 – 09:30	REGISTRATION (and Tech Check)
09:30 – 11:00	UNIT 1: The Legal Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Local authority subsidiaries – form and function <input type="checkbox"/> The role of the board and its members <input type="checkbox"/> The balanced board
11:00 – 11:15	COMFORT BREAK
11:15 – 12:45	UNIT 2: Finance and Risk <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Financial reporting requirements <input type="checkbox"/> Critiquing financial reporting; reading management accounts <input type="checkbox"/> Risk appetite and risk management
12:45 – 13:00	PLENARY <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Questions and summary

Part 2

09:15 – 09:30	REGISTRATION (and Tech Check)
09:30 – 11:00	UNIT 3: Performance Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ethical Values and policy position <input type="checkbox"/> What is culture and why does it matter? <input type="checkbox"/> Performance culture <input type="checkbox"/> Influencing performance outcomes in a non-executive model
11:00 – 11:15	COMFORT BREAK
11:15 – 12:15	UNIT 4: Effective Governance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Transparency, openness and inclusive decision-making <input type="checkbox"/> Internal and External relationships: delegation and protocols <input type="checkbox"/> Challenging strategy: what is achievable?
12:15 – 13:00	PLENARY, FEEDBACK AND CLOSE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Final questions <input type="checkbox"/> Course feedback <input type="checkbox"/> Self-assessment

Please note, the second session will conclude at approximately 12:40.

You will be asked to complete your self-assessment by 13:00 via SurveyMonkey.

About APSE Training

APSE (Association for Public Service Excellence) is a not-for-profit local government think tank, working with over 300 councils throughout the UK, promoting excellence in public services.

APSE is the foremost specialist in local authority front line services, hosting a network for front line service providers in areas such as waste and refuse collection, parks and environmental services, leisure, school meals, cleaning, housing, and building maintenance.

APSE Training aims to provide inspiring and impactful lifelong learning and development opportunities, nurturing talent and enabling growth. A broad range of courses are available via the APSE website and as bespoke in-house courses.

APSE Training is compliant with APSE's Quality Assurance processes under ISO 9001, ISO 14001, ISO 27001 and GDPR. We are also a Platinum Carbon Literate Organisation, which demonstrates our commitment to raising awareness of the climate crisis.

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