

Building a resilient workforce

Incorporating APSE Wales' AGM



Tuesday 17 June

Swansea Guildhall, SA1 4PE

Programme

9:15 Registration and refreshments

10:00 Session One: Retention and Relationships

Chaired by Cllr Andrea Lewis, APSE Wales Chair

Embracing diversity: Attracting and retaining talent at Neath Port Talbot Council

- Inclusive recruitment
- Workplace culture
- Future-ready workforce

Sheenagh Rees, Head of People and Organisational Development, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Fostering productive, respectful partnerships with frontline staff and trade unions

- Collaborative engagement
- Stronger workplace relations
- Empowered frontline voices

Simon Dunn, Regional Manager, UNISON Wales

Our journey to becoming a neurodivergent friendly council

- Improving understanding and raising awareness
- Creating more welcoming and accessible environments
- Improving access to services

Cardiff City Council (invited)

Audience question and answer session

11:20 Comfort Break

11:35 Session Two: Recruitment and Relationships

Chaired by Cllr Andrea Lewis, APSE Wales Chair

The ADEPT Gen Z recruitment campaign for local government – What happened?

- Engaging the Next Generation
- What Worked (and What Didn't)
- Shaping Future Strategies:

Hannah Bartram, ADEPT Chief Executive

Pathways to Work: Supporting the long-term unemployed or economically inactive into work

- Tailored support programmes
- Collaborative community approach
- Real-life impact

Maria Hand, Lead - Employment Liaison Officer, Swansea Council

Resilient member-officer relations in a complex and changing environment

- Challenges for members and officers of leadership on the move.
- Enacting officer-member relations in practice - multiple interpretations of 'members decide, officers implement'.
- Re-imagining officer-member relations - a new skillset?

Professor Steve Griggs, Professor of Public Policy and Director of the Centre for Business, Innovation and the Regions, Staffordshire University

Audience question and answer session

12:55 APSE Wales AGM

This short session provides an invaluable opportunity for APSE Wales to review its activities over the last year. This meeting will also provide a critical role in ensuring that any identified future goals and objectives of the Association continue to be directly linked to the views of the membership moving forward.

13:15 Networking lunch

14:15 Seminar close

About

About the Seminar

A **FREE seminar** for APSE member councils, join us in Swansea as we focus on tackling one of the most pressing challenges facing local councils in Wales: Attracting, recruiting, and retaining a skilled, motivated workforce.

Our sessions will bring together local authority leaders, HR professionals, policy experts and frontline voices to explore innovative recruitment strategies, inclusive employment practices, and career development opportunities that benefit both councils and local communities. We'll spotlight real-life examples of what's working across Wales and beyond.

We'll also delve into the importance of strong industrial relations, with practical discussions on how to foster productive, respectful partnerships with frontline staff and trade unions.

Whether you're looking to refresh your workforce strategy, better engage your local talent pool, or strengthen staff relationships, this seminar will provide practical insight, inspiration, and space for collaboration.

Venue

Lord Mayor's Reception Room,
Swansea Guildhall 12 Guildhall Rd N,
Swansea SA1 4PE

[Get directions with Google
Maps](#)



Booking

Packages Exclusive of VAT

APSE member delegate fee: **FREE**

Non member delegate fee: **£175+VAT**

Click [here](#) to reserve your place on this event

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY: Reservation is a contract. Substitution of delegates is acceptable any time in writing by email to mkenny@apse.org.uk. Cancellations must be made in writing at least 10 working days before the event, and will incur a 20% administration fee. No refunds can be given for cancellations received less than 10 working days before the event or for nonattendance. In the unlikely event of cancellation by the organisers, liability will be restricted to the refund of fees paid. The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the programme, speakers or mode of delivery should this become necessary. If due to emergency action by UK Governments/Administrations or Public Agencies this event is postponed, for example for reasons of public health and safety, the organisers will transfer your booking to the replacement event or provide a credit voucher against a future event booking.



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