apse seminars

APSE Policy Seminar - From Risk to Readiness: Building Local Resilience



Thursday 12 November 2026

Toughsheet Community Stadium (Bolton Wanders FC Stadium)
Burden Way, Horwich, BL6 6JW

Programme

10:00 Registration and Coffee

10:30 Session one: Protecting places and people

Martyn's Law – Why we prepare: Translating statutory duty into real world public protection

- Know what Martyn's Law means for you.
- Turn legal duties into practical action.
- Be ready. Protect people. Build confidence.

Nathan Emmerich, Co-Founder of Martyn's Law Forum and Founder of SW-One Communications

From town halls to the high street: Societal resilience and preparedness in the public realm

- Knowing your neighbourhood and its capabilities
- Making smarter, risk-led decisions and contingencies
- Balancing security and business as usual – what do alerts and warnings mean to our communities?

Jamie Riley, Environments and Emergency Resilience Unit, Liverpool City Council

Audience question and answer session

Plans Don't Respond. People Do: Building the confidence, communication and culture for local resilience

An interactive workshop exploring how local authorities can move beyond plans, procedures and compliance to build genuine organisational readiness. Using Martyn's Law alongside wider challenges such as flooding, wildfires and other major incidents, the session will consider the people and cultural factors that determine how effectively an organisation responds when it matters.

Amy Norton, Organisational Development Practitioner, and APSE Associate

12.00 Coffee and networking

12:30 Session two: Leading resilient communities

The cultural pillar of readiness: Leadership development as a local resilience strategy

- Lead with clarity. Build readiness.
- Create confident, decisive teams.
- Connect partners. Strengthen resilience.

Andrew Hopkinson, Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive, Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service, and Chair, Bedfordshire Local Resilience Forum

Disinformation, Digital Harm, and Community Reassurance

- Spot digital threats early.
- Build stronger digital resilience.
- Reassure communities. Defuse tensions.

Matteo Bergamini MBE, Founder and CEO of Shout Out UK

Audience question and answer session

13.30 Lunch, and networking

14.00 Seminar close

Seminar Objectives

About the Seminar

Local councils have statutory responsibilities and must navigate complex environmental and civil risks to protect their communities. This policy seminar brings together a range of experts to examine how local authorities can remain compliant, safeguard residents, and lead with confidence.

Why attend?

- Turn new duties and emerging risks into practical local action.
- Learn how to protect public places while balancing access and cost.
- Strengthen leadership, partnerships and community confidence.
- Take away ideas you can apply across your council.

Venue

Toughsheet Community Stadium (Bolton Wanders FC Stadium)
Burnden Way
Horwich
Bolton
BL6 6JW

Delegate Packages Exclusive of VAT

What's included?

The delegate fee covers attendance, delegates' documentation, lunches and light refreshments.

APSE member delegate fee:	FREE
Non member delegates fee:	£195 +VAT
Commercial delegates:	£420+VAT

Click here to reserve your place on this event

CANCELLATION & REFUND POLICY: Reservation is a contract. 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 non-attendance. 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, the organisers will transfer your booking to the replacement event or provide a credit voucher for a future event.