



Comhshaol, Pobal agus Rialtas Áitiúil  
Environment, Community and Local Government



LG 21/2014

20 August 2014

### **Training for Elected Members**

Dear Cathaoirleach

I am directed by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government to refer to the training needs of elected members.

The Association of Irish Local Government (AILG) is arranging a series of training events for elected members over the course of the rest of this year. This is being developed by the Association in conjunction with an advisory committee of the Association, on which the Department is represented.

Enhanced training of elected members is important in the light of their increased responsibilities, and the attendance of all elected members at such training should be facilitated by the Council.

It may be convenient for the council to authorise attendance in accordance with section 141(5A) of the Local Government Act 2001 (as inserted by section 53 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014) for all these training events on a programme basis rather than an individual event basis.

In view of the significant changes to the finance and budgeting procedures in local authorities introduced by the 2014 Act, and the decisions that the elected members will need to take from September onwards in this regard, it is particularly important that members' attendance at the Finance and Budgeting Module is facilitated. However, it is recognised that for some local authorities, this training event may be scheduled for a date prior to the next meeting of the council, and in such cases, it is noted that the authorisation of the council for attendance would have to be given retrospectively on a once-off basis. It is expected that future training events will be advised by the AILG in sufficient time to facilitate consideration of attendance on council agendas in advance.

The scheduled training events, together with the locations for attendance by members from each council, are set out in the Appendix.

Where an elected member chooses to attend a training seminar at a location other than that assigned for members of his/her authority, any travel and subsistence that may be payable shall not exceed the amount that –

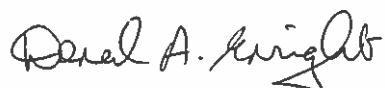
- would have been payable if attending at the assigned location, or
- payable in respect of the location where training was undertaken,

whichever is the lower.

In order to facilitate smooth operation of the training events, local authorities should provide details of all attendees to Tom Ryan of the AILG by email to [director@amai.ie](mailto:director@amai.ie) as soon as possible.

Any queries may be directed to Jeanette Young at 01-8882728 or [jeanette.young@environ.ie](mailto:jeanette.young@environ.ie)

Yours sincerely



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Donal Enright  
Principal  
Local Government Policy/Motor Tax section  
01-8883960

To: Each Cathaoirleach

Copy to: Each Chief Executive  
AILG

## Appendix

Module	Date	Location	Council
Finance and Budgeting	9 September 2014	Monaghan (Nuremore Hotel)	Cavan Donegal Galway City Galway County Leitrim Mayo Roscommon Sligo
	11 September 2014	Dundalk (Fairways Hotel)	Kildare Laois Longford Louth Meath Monaghan Offaly Westmeath Wicklow
	16 September 2014	Carlow (Seven Oaks Hotel)	Carlow Clare Cork City Cork County Kerry Kilkenny Tipperary Waterford Wexford
	18 September 2014	Malahide (Grand Hotel)	Dublin City Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Fingal South Dublin

<b>Module</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Council</b>
Housing	16 October 2014	Nenagh (Abbey Court Hotel)	Carlow Clare Cork City Cork County Kerry Kilkenny Tipperary Waterford
	21 October 2014	Cavan (Kilmore Hotel)	Cavan Donegal Galway City Galway County Leitrim Mayo Roscommon Sligo
	23 October 2014	Athlone (Hodson Bay Hotel)	Dublin City Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Fingal Kildare Laois Longford Louth Meath Monaghan Offaly South Dublin Westmeath Wicklow

<b>Module</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Council</b>
Planning	6 November 2014	Wexford (Ferrycarrig Hotel)	Carlow Clare Cork City Cork County Kerry Kilkenny Tipperary Waterford Wexford
	11 November 2014	Bundoran (Great Northern Hotel)	Cavan Donegal Galway City Galway County Leitrim Mayo Roscommon Sligo
	18 November 2014	Trim (Knightsbrook Hotel)	Dublin City Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown Fingal Kildare Laois Longford Louth Meath Monaghan Offaly South Dublin Westmeath Wicklow