

# East Lothian Council

**FOI Ref: 2018/258(482725)**

***Please can you confirm:***

- 1. If you provide training to elected councillors who sit on your local authority Planning Committee?***

Yes

- 2. If yes, please can you confirm:***

- a. What is the duration of the training?***

2 hours

- b. Does this include the requirement to pass a test/exam?***

No

- i. If yes what options are available if this test is failed?***

N/A

- ii. What are the failure rates?***

N/A

- c. Is a refresher course provided throughout the 5 year council term?***

Informal discussions with individual members

- i. If yes, what is the frequency?***

N/A

- d. Who provides the training - i.e. is it set by you as the local authority or an external provider?***

Internally by Planning Service.

***If possible, can you provide a copy of the learning material, course schedule etc.***

N/A

Finally, it may help to explain that Freedom of Information legislation only applies to information which is held or recorded by a public authority. It does not apply to views, opinions, intentions or questions which simply require a yes/no answer. In view of this, some of the questions asked are not technically valid for the purposes of this legislation as they are not requests for specific recorded information that East Lothian Council may or may not hold.

In order to assist you, however, colleagues have addressed the questions posed to the best of their knowledge. For future reference, a link to the "Tips for Requesters" page of the Scottish Information Commissioner's website has been provided which you may find useful:

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Tipsforrequesters.aspx>