

Learning Programme

From Paper to Practice

About

Public participation is a dynamic discipline, with new techniques continually being developed and challenges emerging. Consequently Involve's learning programme aims to capture new developments and translate them into practical options for people doing participation on the ground. The events build directly on our publication 'People & Participation', bringing the methods alive and exploring the tensions that you have to manage.

Level and Audience

The events are aimed at commissioners and managers of public engagement, whether from local or central government or the community. To get the most from the events you will already have significant experience of public engagement.

Aim

To enable participants to take the learning in our book from paper to practice, both on the individual level as well as enabling the process of institutional development. Each event is a strategic exploration of the over-arching challenges and tensions of engagement: not skills training in the traditional sense.

Objectives

Specifically, by the end of the event you will be able to:

- Outline and apply key messages emerging in current thinking
- List different participation methods, and issues to consider when choosing
- Explain how process design is best applied in effective community engagement
- List risks and opportunities in the reality of engagement practice
- Apply an emerging framework to aid institutional development
- Identify future routes for learning and development for you

Indicative Content

- Key messages in current thinking in the engagement sector
- Process design as the recipe of success: exploration via case study
- Benefits of engagement and essential principles
- Dilemmas of representation, accountability and transparency
- Challenges of hard to reach groups, and depth vs. breadth?
- Achieving and maintaining independence
- Events and methods: choosing the right ones at the right time
- Institutional development framework: discussion and feedback
- Where next?

Style

The events will be a stimulating mix of high-level plenary discussions and interactive group sessions. The case study will run through the day and give you a live opportunity to experience dilemmas, respond to challenges and build learning. You will learn from the broad experience of other participants as well as the facilitators.

Facilitators

Our programme has been developed by some of the UK's leading thinkers and practitioners. It represents a real step forward in actually operationalising community engagement – going beyond discussions on 'best practice' to thinking through decision-making systems and challenges.

When are the sessions?

Manchester – Thursday, 23 March 06

Edinburgh – Tuesday, 28 March 06

London – Thursday, 30 March 06

Cardiff – Friday, 28 April 06

What will it cost?

£295+VAT. Discounts are available for a limited number of voluntary organisations.

If you want to find out more or book contact Involve Learning on:
t: 020 7632 0120 or e: learning@involving.org

Booking Form—Please print out, complete and return with your payment.

I would like to book a place on the following Learning Programme event:

- | | | | |
|------------|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Manchester | 23 March 2006 | <input type="checkbox"/> | (please tick accordingly) |
| Edinburgh | 28 March 2006 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| London | 30 March 2006 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| Cardiff | 28 April 2006 | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

Please list the names and contact details of those attending:

Name	Address	Phone	Email
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Any dietary requirements or special needs? (please describe)

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Payment

The cost is £295+VAT (total £346.62).

Please make cheques payable to "The Environment Council" and post to Involve, 212 High Holborn, London WC1V 7BF together with this booking form.

Discounts are available for a limited number of voluntary organisations: please contact us to confirm that discounted places are still available before booking. Any booking of over 5 places attracts a 10% discount.

Cancellation Policy

Please note that once a place is booked and paid for, a refund cannot be made unless the place is resold. Any refunds will only be made after the Learning Programme is complete. We encourage potential participants to consider this before booking.

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