

A variety of assessment methods will be used including analytical studies, business reports, case studies and transfer of learning from presentations and group work.

Admission Requirements

No formal qualifications are required, but potential students must be capable of undertaking academic work at Advanced Diploma level which equates to the first year of a primary degree.

Fees

Fees are reviewed annually. For 2010/11, the Advanced Diploma fee will be £2,250.

Tutors

The main tutors on the programme will be Dorothy McKee of the Ulster Business School and Deborah Peel of the School of the Built Environment.

How to Enrol

Elected Members and officers in district councils should contact their Member Services Officer and Training Liaison Officer respectively. Prospective candidates outside local government can contact the Course Director Dorothy McKee for an application form, contact details are provided below.

Additional information on the programme can be obtained from:

Dorothy McKee
Programme Director
Associate Senior Lecturer
Ulster Business School
Jordanstown

Tel: 07703 460618
Email: dm.mckee@ulster.ac.uk

Website: www.business.ulster.ac.uk
Tel: 028 90368077 (School Office)



Ulster Business School



Advanced Diploma in Civic Leadership and Community Planning

The Advanced Diploma in Civic Leadership and Community Planning is an innovative leadership development programme.

The first of its type in Northern Ireland, this programme has been developed to meet the need for a practical, accredited programme for key players involved in developing and implementing community planning.

The programme will provide participants with knowledge and understanding of the principles and practices of community planning and effective leadership to enable them to make a strategic contribution to attaining organisational objectives and improved performance.

This new programme will be available with a start date of March in the Jordanstown campus and from September in the Jordanstown and Magee campuses.

Who is it for?

The programme has been developed for elected members and officers in district councils; officers in statutory agencies; and representatives from the community and voluntary sector.

Programme Design

Through practical workshops and dissemination of good practice, participants will gain the knowledge, skills and competence required to undertake a civic leadership role.

The programme will be delivered over eighteen months, with participants completing six modules and attending six action learning sets.

Each module will require attendance at two one-day workshops, a total of 12 days. Successful completion of the Advanced Diploma programme will also require private study.

The diploma requires the successful completion of six modules:

Civic Leadership - People and Place

This module explains the different models of community planning and civic leadership in different contexts. It draws on established models of community development and regeneration in Northern Ireland and emerging models of community planning. Consideration is also given to how community planning will be implemented in practice in Northern Ireland including new roles, commitment, inter-organisational working, neighbourhood arrangements and community capacity.

Personal Leadership Competence

This module explores personal leadership and development within the context of community planning, including the competence needed for effective civic leadership. It examines new thinking and theories of responsible leadership developed to tackle the complex issues in society today that engage and empower the key players.

Effective Personal and Communication Skills

This module develops participants' self-awareness, confidence and communication skills. Participants will enhance their self-awareness of how they are perceived by others and how they can build more effective relationships to influence and advocate on behalf of others. The module will also provide participants with the understanding of how to handle the media and examine innovative approaches to communicating effectively with a wide range of stakeholders and audiences.

Consensus Building and Partnerships

This module will enable participants to understand how consensus building and partnership working underpin community planning. It will explore strategy development through partnerships between a range of stakeholders and agencies. Models such as future search, participatory planning and other large scale interventions, will be explored. Consideration will also be given to the qualities involved in new models of partnership working between government agencies, statutory organisations and the private voluntary and community sectors.

Community Engagement

This module will examine the evolving nature and role of community engagement in policy development, local decision making and in the scrutiny and development of public services. It will analyse and question how models of community engagement can be applied in a community planning context. Participants will be guided in their learning through the use of case-studies, presentations from practitioners and study visits.

Change Management

This module will explore the drivers for modernisation and service excellence across the public sector in Northern Ireland. It will enable participants to explore models of change and the tools and techniques that can be used to plan, implement and evaluate change. Particular attention will be paid to the people dimension of change. Input will be provided by practitioners who have been instrumental in leading major programmes of change on a multi-agency basis.

Assessment

Participants will complete a number of assignments after undertaking the necessary workshops, action learning sets, background research and study.