

Thank you for your questions.

TDC offers various training events throughout the year. Some are committee-specific, while others cover topics like member conduct, neurodiversity, chairing skills, and decision-making related to planning and licensing.

Committee membership is dependent on the number of seats allocated to each political group and the appointment made by the group leader.

The Council and its committees can make decisions only when there is a quorum, which does not require all members to be present.

Training is mandatory for all councillors who serve on the planning committee, as well as for nominated substitutes. Therefore, all councillors, whether regular or substitute, receive the same training.

The council also offers various training and development opportunities for councillors that go beyond the minimum requirements, and additional training is available through the Local Government Association.

We adhere to best practices as appropriate. We have made and continue to implement various improvements to our decision-making processes by amending our Constitution and collaborating with CFGS. The training program for councillors is regularly reviewed, and we engage experts from organisations such as the Planning Advisory Service and the Centre for Governance and Scrutiny to conduct workshops for our councillors.

The final question suggests that the Council is falling short of its responsibilities, but that couldn't be further from the truth.

We are committed to continuous improvement and actively review our processes. Our decisions are transparent and adhere to well-defined procedures that are publicly accessible.

Accountability is a priority, as our decision-making is open to scrutiny.