

BIODIVERSITY TRAINING FOR PLANNERS AND OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITY OFFICERS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A three-hour introduction to the legislation, guidance and best practice underpinning the integration of biodiversity into the planning process. Obviously this can really only cover the basic “must have” information and it represents something of a whistle-stop tour through the relevant legislation but we can also include examples of good and bad practice together with details of protected species and habitats found in Worcestershire (or the relevant Districts). Sessions generally close with a question and answer session to help promote discussion about the relevant issues.

Groups of up to 20 people are ideal as larger numbers tend to preclude inclusive discussions. Ordinarily we would expect to use one course leader but more can be made available if this is considered necessary.

COURSE CONTENT

1. Brief introduction to biodiversity.
2. Introduction to the relevant legislation including the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, CROW Act 2000, Conservation Regulations and Habitats Directive, Badgers Act 1992 NERC Act 2006 and Hedgerows Regulations 1997.
3. Introduction to the relevant guidance from Government. Principally PPS1 and PPS9 but potentially looking briefly at British Standards and wider commitments.
4. Brief introduction to the Biodiversity Action Plan and its role in biodiversity and the planning process.
5. Introduction to protected sites and species, licensing and survey requirements.
6. Examples of good and bad practice and some of the tools that Planners can use to benefit biodiversity through their work

COURSE COST

We charge for preparation and delivery of the sessions to help cover Officer time. A half-day session costs £500 plus VAT.