



PG. Cert. Local Economic & Community Planning

The Postgraduate Certificate in Local Economic and Community Planning is designed to provide students with the skills to develop and implement Local Economic and Community Plans. The course is offered on a part-time basis for one year. It will be delivered through a combination of online learning and two block release weekends per semester. This allows those working, or wishing to work, in this field an opportunity to achieve a deeper understanding of this specialist and newly reformed area, providing a sound basis for career and personal development with minimum disruption to professional and other commitments.

The programme has been developed in conjunction with the Community and Local Government Division of the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government and representatives of Local Community Development Committees.

The programme explores current national and international debates around local economic and community development, community planning, policy innovation and governance. It provides students with a multi-disciplinary research-based knowledge of key processes and issues at local and regional level to better facilitate their work to promote and support the local economic and community development of their area.

Graduates of the Postgraduate Certificate in Local Economic and Community Planning can continue on to the MSc in Local Development and Innovation. This programme is accredited by the Institute of Economic Development (www.ied.co.uk) and as a specialist masters degree by the Royal Town Planning Institute (<http://www.rtpi.org.uk>).

Entry Requirements

Honours degree in any relevant discipline at 2.2 grade or higher, or equivalent. Eligible candidates may be interviewed where work/career experience is being considered in lieu of academic qualifications.

The overall goal of the programme is to prepare graduates for the development, implement or oversee the implementation of the statutory Local Economic and Community Plans. This general goal is supported by several specific objectives:

- To equip students with a broad knowledge of theory and research in local economic and community development;
- To provide for advanced study of local economic and community development, its links to innovation and sustainability, and the theory and practice of promoting development;
- To provide a strong research component focused on local needs, global context and critical evaluation;
- To provide the opportunity for practising professionals to participate in postgraduate studies by making the programme as flexible as possible;
- To prepare students to professionally engage with the Local Economic and Community Planning process as provided for in the Local Government Reform Act 2014.



**An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála,
Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil**
Department of Housing, Planning,
Community and Local Government



Comhshaol & Pleanáil, ITBÁC
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