



THE LOCAL AUTHORITY CHALLENGE...

...WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?!



**Breckland
Training Services**
Delivering skills and experience

INTRODUCTION

The Local Authority Challenge will offer you, as an aspiring (or new) manager within local government a rare opportunity to gain exposure to issues outside of your normal working life and to give you a taste of what senior management is like.

The challenge is open to teams of up to six people from any area of local authority work. You will spend the day as the management team of one of four fictional local authorities that make up the fictional County of Linfolk. All four councils are failing (or have failed), the previous senior management team have all resigned, and you are one of their replacements!



Throughout the day you will encounter many of the tasks that a real senior management team would deal with. You will have to work as a team, with neighbouring councils and with partner organisations to deliver a new strategy for the council. You will need to deal with the Council leader, the media and a wide range of other interested parties (including local business men and members of the public).

Ultimately, you will have to choose which areas to prioritise, decide how to deal with politically sensitive issues and still keep your focus on how to give the public the best services with limited resources.

TIMINGS

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| 08:45 | Role Player Briefings |
| 09:30 | Challenge introduction |
| 09:45 | Challenge starts |
| 10:30 | Leaders/Partner's appointments begin |
| 12:00 | Lunch (this may be a luxury – could be more grab and go!) |
| 14:15 | Partner's appointments end |
| 14:30 | Presentations Pre-Brief |
| 15:20 | Presentations begin |
| 16:30 | Presentations end |
| 16:45 | Residents Magazine Deadline |
| 17:00 | Event Ends |
| 17.00 | Supper |
| 18:30 | Awards |
| 19:30 | Close |

REASONS TO ATTEND

So why attend?

- Gain an understanding of issues beyond your normal role and see the bigger picture of how local authorities operate.
- Develop the skills needed to deliver more for less in a tighter fiscal climate.
- Take the opportunity to learn by doing.
- Discover your strengths and weaknesses, and how to develop them, in a safe environment.
- Use the days experience as an opportunity to help progress to the next level career-wise.

IMPORTANT OUTCOMES FROM THE CHALLENGE

- You will gain a practical insight into how a local authority management team works.
- You will work with colleagues from across the organisation to improve joint working on return to the office.
- You will have the chance to think about your own councils transformational agenda and develop innovative ideas to take back to your organisation.
- You will develop ways of managing the current financial constraints.
- You will engage in partnership working and political communication and thus gain a better understanding of the benefits this can bring.