

# SLCC

For Local Council Professionals

# COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE

Develop your career, support your council and strengthen your community



DE MONTFORT UNIVERSITY  
LEICESTER

# PROSPECTUS 2023



#SLCCCommGov



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[www.slcc.co.uk/community-governance](http://www.slcc.co.uk/community-governance)

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# A CERTIFICATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE (LEVEL 4)

**Choose your qualification** – students are able to achieve the Level 4 qualification without pressure to proceed to Levels 5 and 6.

**How you study:** The course is part-time and distance learning with two face-to-face events and one virtual event each year, and many opportunities to meet your tutors and fellow students online.

## WHAT YOU STUDY:

### YEAR 1

#### **SLCC1001 Community Governance (15 points)**

Focus on community leadership, community engagement and democratic processes. Consider the structures, functions and values of community governance, and the practices of stakeholders and policies affecting local communities.

#### **SLCC1011 Local Council Finance (15 points)**

Learn about the financial management of councils in England and Wales according to statutory proper practices. Consider the management of risks to public money and the statutory requirements for transparency.

#### **SLCC1004 Community-led Planning (15 points)**

Explore different techniques for community-led planning with emphasis on statutory neighbourhood plans and non-statutory plans. We suggest a range of tools for consultation, participation and collecting evidence.

**OR**

#### **SLCC1005 The Planning System (15 points)**

Learn how the planning system in England and Wales impacts on local communities. Identify how the system works and examine power and influence in the system.

#### **SLCC1008 Organisational Governance (15 points)**

Reflect on current practice to strengthen the governance of an organisation such as a community group, charity or local council. Investigate new ideas and recommend improvements.

### YEAR 2

#### **SLCC1010 Local Council Law & Procedures (30 points)**

Study the law, procedures, powers and duties for the management of town, community and parish councils in England and Wales. Find out how other councils operate.

#### **SLCC1012 Building Communities (15 points)**

Study a local community in depth and identify the community's social, environmental and economic assets. Discuss the principles, practices and benefits of community development for local democracy before considering how to build on these assets to strengthen community.

#### **SLCC1006 Managing People (15 points)**

Consider formal aspects of managing people such as employment law, recruitment and human resource policies. Explore ways of developing staff or councillors and reflect on the impact of personalities and the management of conflict.

**OR**

#### **SLCC1007 Managing Projects (15 points)**

Learn about project management for people working in local communities. You consider a practical project management lifecycle and tools for managing and evaluating the process.

**The tuition fee for each qualification is £6,500 (£3,250 per year) normally paid in instalments over two years with an initial deposit of £375 (the deposit covers administration and registration process for starting the course) which will be deducted from the final invoice. Unfortunately, student finance is not currently available for Level 4.**

For more information please visit [www.slcc.co.uk/community-governance](http://www.slcc.co.uk/community-governance)

# A FOUNDATION DEGREE IN COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE (LEVEL 5)

**How you study:** The course is part-time and distance learning with two face-to-face events and one virtual event each year, and many opportunities to meet your tutors and fellow students online.

## WHAT YOU STUDY:

### YEAR 1

#### **SLCC2004 The Manager's Role (30 points)**

Investigate and evaluate the strategic role of a manager working with one or more local communities. Draw up a management plan for a local community project.

#### **\*SLCC2008 Researching Sustainable Communities (30 points)**

Examine the theory and practice of sustaining local communities including community development, local democracy and climate action. Develop investigative skills and practise participative democracy by carrying out research in a local community.

### YEAR 2

#### **SLCC2001 Communities in the Political System (30 points)**

Strengthen your understanding of the place of local communities in the political system. Examine the concept of a liberal democracy and the nature of community-based localism. Learn theories explaining power in the political system to help you analyse power and influence affecting local communities.

#### **\*SLCC2009 Professional Development (30 points)**

Develop personal and professional skills including independent and critical thinking, negotiation skills and reflective practice. Link the review of a book relevant to community governance to an associated activity undertaken in a local community or workplace setting. A field visit of up to five days may be organised to facilitate studying in a new setting.

*'Not 'just another qualification', Community Governance (CG) develops your ability as a professional clerk to lead and advise your council, generating confidence to move forward to meet new challenges. The modules are structured to expand previous legislative and procedural knowledge at Level 4, and to develop critical thinking, analytical, and leadership skills at Level 5.*

*The tutors understand the life/work/study pressures on the CG student, are always supportive and answer queries in a timely and detailed manner. If you/your council are concerned about the cost, consider it an investment that will repay way beyond monetary value!*

*Angie Hurren PSLCC, Broadclyst Parish Council*

**The tuition fee for each qualification is £6,500 (£3,250 per year) normally paid in instalments over two years with an initial deposit of £375 (the deposit covers administration and registration process for starting the course) which will be deducted from the final invoice. Level 5 students can apply for student finance (if they have studied Level 4.) Contact [commgov@slcc.co.uk](mailto:commgov@slcc.co.uk) for more information.**

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# AN HONOURS DEGREE (LEVEL 6)

**How you study:** The course is part-time and distance learning with two face-to-face events and one virtual event each year, and many opportunities to meet your tutors and fellow students online.

## WHAT YOU STUDY:

### YEAR 1

#### **SLCC3001 Power & Politics in Community Governance (30 points)**

Examine the intricate political context that has an impact on local community governance and questions the effectiveness of the UK's representative democracy at all levels. Focus on the complex and varied relationships between different tiers of government. Explore the tensions between a centralist government and localism and between confrontational party politics, consensus and coalition.

#### **SLCC3002 Delivering Public Services (30 points)**

Examine the detailed and complex knowledge and planning required for the effective delivery of public services for a local community. Explore the meaning, purpose, funding and perception of public services. Consider how to explain public services to a public audience.

### YEAR 2

#### **SLCC3003 Management & leadership (30 points)**

Obtain a practical experience of management and leadership. Work in a team to organise and manage a thought-provoking training seminar relevant to the work of parish, community and town (or local) councils. Present your interim findings from your research project.

#### **SLCC3004 Community Governance Research Project (30 points)**

Examine a specific community governance topic that has an impact on the local community or the parish, town, community (local) council sector. Complete a major piece of research that shows originality within the local council sector.

*"I have just completed year 1 of Community Governance Level 4 and have learned so much already. Whilst CiLCA gives you a great grounding in the role of the clerk, this takes it to another level. I feel much more confident about the advice I offer councillors and how best to support them in running the council. I was hesitant about starting this, but have no regrets – whilst it is hard work it has been thoroughly enjoyable. Meeting fellow clerks on the same journey has been an enormous support, and continues to be with the day to day queries that are part of our normal day in the office."*

**Samantha Heynes PSLCC, Cuckfield Parish Council**

*'The Community Governance courses are a must for any professional clerk. They have been invaluable in building my skills, experience and confidence, and have also been a great way to meet other clerks.'*

**Sheridan Jacklin-Edward PSLCC, Burnham Parish Council**

*"Having undertaken a degree straight out of sixth-form, the last thing on my mind would be to do another. However, with the flexible learning style of distance learning and subjects directly related to my job I thought – why not? At Level 4 of the Community Governance Degree, the Local Council Law & Procedures Module has enabled me to tighten up on our processes. As a fairly new manager, the Managing People module has been me feel more confident in tackling staff issues whilst at the same time making sure we do right by our staff. No one could have predicted the Covid-19 pandemic but I think everyone, from us students to the teaching staff have adapted really well and despite not being able to meet in person, we have had access to them through virtual tutor groups and module seminars and even managed the odd couple of virtual socials (without the hangover!) – if anyone has the chance to start their Community Governance journey and are hesitant – don't be – the support you get, the friends you make and the knowledge you gain is second to none!"*

**Andrew McKenzie PSLCC, Town Clerk, Dawlish Town Council**

The tuition fee for each qualification is £6,500 (£3,250 per year) normally paid in instalments over two years with an initial deposit of £375 (the deposit covers administration and registration process for starting the course) which will be deducted from the final invoice. Level 6 students can apply for student finance (if they have studied Level 4 and 5.) Contact [commgov@slcc.co.uk](mailto:commgov@slcc.co.uk) for more information.

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