

G101: *Freedom of Information: Access to Information and Local Councils*
and
G102: *Freedom of Information: A Workshop Module*

The FOI Act 2000 is a response to the desire by the public for greater transparency in the operation of “Public Authorities” at all levels, which includes all Local Councils. Processes to respond to requests for access to information have had to be in place and operating since 2005, and new publications scheme requirements came into force at the beginning of



2009. The first module explores Freedom of Information as it applies to Local Councils and offers practical advice in order that attendees may feel confident about complying with this important Act. It also provides extensive opportunity for discussion of issues that participants have faced. Topics covered include:

- Information held by you that is covered by the Act
- Producing a 2009 Freedom of Information publication scheme
- Handling requests to view information
- Exemptions and the “Public Interest Test”

The second module is a practical workshop where participants have the chance to spend time putting ideas into actions!