



11 KING'S BENCH WALK
CHAMBERS

WinckworthSherwood
Solicitors and Parliamentary Agents

Freedom of Information MasterClass for Local Authorities

In association with
Freedom of Information Journal

www.foimasterclass.co.uk

TOPICS COVERED

Introduction

Cases:

We will examine Information Tribunal cases that are critical for Local Authorities to know. In particular, we will look at cases dealing with Freedom of Information requests and the various themes in these, including: the requirement to advise and assist, costs, what information is held, vexatious requests, the meaning of prejudice, and the public interest test.

Procurement and commercial issues:

Local Authorities have to balance the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act against the interests of those that they contract with. We will review how best to maintain that delicate balance.

Employee issues:

There are FOI issues when dealing with employees, often where there is an intersection between the Data Protection Act and the Freedom of Information Act. We will cover the rights of an employee under the Data Protection Act, grievances, handling personal information, and the difference between a person's public work and private area at work.

Panel discussion, work scenarios and questions

Programme

10.00 am

Registration/
Coffee

10.15 am

Introductions

10.30 am

Presentations

11.30 am

Coffee

11.45 am

Presentations

1.00 pm

Lunch

2.00 pm

Presentations

3.00 pm

Panel discussion,
scenarios and
questions

4.00 pm

Close

THE MASTERCLASS LEADERS

Timothy Pitt-Payne

11 King's Bench Walk

Timothy Pitt-Payne was called to the Bar in 1989 and practices from 11 King's Bench Walk in London. He is a specialist in information law, employment law, public law, and in related aspects of commercial, European and human rights law. Timothy is the joint author (with Michael Supperstone QC) of *Guide to the Freedom of Information Act 2000* (Butterworths 2001).

Tim Watts

Winckworth Sherwood

Tim Watts is a partner at Winckworth Sherwood. He regularly advises public sector organisations on information law issues. His work includes advice on developing information handling policy and on disputes concerning employment issues. He also assists organisations in responding to challenges to decisions on disclosure.

From this course, delegates will gain the following:

- ✓ A review of the most recent cases
- ✓ Understanding how to identify and balance competing interests
- ✓ The consideration of policy and procedure
- ✓ Identifying trends in how the Act is being used: who is using it and for what purposes
- ✓ Seeing how the Act relates to other legislation regarding disclosure of information
- ✓ Understanding the interaction between open government and the protection of individual privacy
- ✓ Learning how other local authorities are dealing with these issues

FOI MasterClass for Local Authorities

Dates:

Thursday, 25th Jan 2007

Thursday, 15th Mar 2007

Thursday, 17th May 2007

Time:

10.00 am - 4.00 pm

Location:

To be held at the office of

Winckworth Sherwood

35 Great Peter Street

Westminster

London SW1P 3LR

Fee:

£195 plus VAT (£229.12)

includes lunch and

comprehensive materials

Payment Information:

I enclose a cheque payable to "PDP"

Please send me an invoice

I am unable to attend - please send me the course papers for £45 plus VAT (£52.88)

Total remittance: _____

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Date of Course

Name

Job Title

Organisation

Address

Telephone

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Others attending from your organisation

(15% discount for first delegate, 25% discount for second delegate):

Second Person

Third Person

Five easy ways to book

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