



Commercial
Services Group

Local Government Executive Leadership

Steve Wilson

May 2024

APSE – Local by default

- Workforce levels had reached record lows
- Reduction in strategic and policy making capacity
- Creation of ‘Super Directorates’
- Increased demand on services
- Mental exhaustion
- Insourcing
- Equality and diversity
- Competition with the private sector



- CSG Exec Development
- Existing Chief Executives
- Executive Directors
- World Economic Forum – Top 10

Top 10 skills of 2025



Type of skill

- Problem-solving
- Self-management
- Working with people
- Technology use and development

-  Analytical thinking and innovation
-  Active learning and learning strategies
-  Complex problem-solving
-  Critical thinking and analysis
-  Creativity, originality and initiative
-  Leadership and social influence
-  Technology use, monitoring and control
-  Technology design and programming
-  Resilience, stress tolerance and flexibility
-  Reasoning, problem-solving and ideation

Source: Future of Jobs Report 2020, World Economic Forum.

Programme Framework

- Cohort of 12
- 9-month programme
- 3 pillars
- Time and space
- Safe environment
- Action learning
- CEOs, Leaders, Ministers & Academics
- External expertise

How the Local Government Executive Leadership programme is shaped

SUMMER 2024
Date to be agreed with attendees (Online)

- Orientation session and pre-course work.
- Introduction to the programme – including facilitators, format, peers, research base and the 3 Pillars of Leadership.
- Action and social learning.
- Operating context and the landscape of local government leadership challenges faced today and mid to long term horizons.
- Action learning sets.

24-27 SEPTEMBER 2024
Warwick Conferences, Coventry (Residential)

Module 1: Personal & Organisational Resilience

- Group introductions and course introduction refresher.
- Personal and organisational resilience topic and context introduction.
- Workshop with leading expert – Dr Dorian Dugmore.
- Audience with Leadership Academy member.
- Facilitate action learning sets integrating module insights on contemporary challenges.

5-8 NOVEMBER 2024
Warwick Conferences, Coventry (Residential)

Module 2: Collaboration

- Collaborative leadership – foundations in Trust and emotional intelligence for high-performance teams working in demanding and intense situations – topic and context introduction.
- The value of psychological safety and debunking the myths.
- Workshop with a leading expert – TBC.
- Audience with Leadership Academy member.
- Facilitate action learning sets integrating module insights on contemporary challenges.

14 JANUARY 2025
Warwick Conferences, Coventry

Module 3: By the fireside – Lessons from Sector Leaders

- A series of fireside chats covering perspectives of leadership across the spectrum of a local authority CEO – from a ministerial central government, a local authority leader and a local authority CEO.
- Hear what a 'typical' day consists of; what comes across their desk; the wins, learns and concerns at this level of leadership.

11-14 MARCH 2025
Warwick Conferences, Coventry (Residential)

Module 4: Time For Thinking Differently

- A new dimension to problem solving – topic introduction and context.
- Creating the conditions and opportunities; and identifying the behaviours for identifying solutions from insight.
- Workshop with leading expert Kirk Vallis, Google's Global Head of Creativity and learn tools. To increase your capacity to think creatively and understand the conditions for innovation and disruption.
- Audience with Leadership Academy member.
- Facilitate action learning sets integrating module insights on contemporary challenges.

2 MAY 2025
Warwick Conferences, Coventry

Module 5: Consolidation

- Programme consolidation, action learning.
- Research update.

Research

Throughout the programme, the cohort will be asked to diarise their experiences, learnings and how they have embedded the programme in their day-to-day duties. Cohort members will be interviewed at key stages and at the end of the programme. These findings will form the basis of a research paper, jointly created by Commercial Services Group and its research partners, to be shared with the sector, to enable insight and sustainable change.

For more information and to express an interest in this programme, please contact Steve Wilson, Commercial Director – stephen.wilson@csLtd.org.uk or call 07885 823393.

Three core pillars



Dr Dorian Dugmore
Global Wellbeing
Specialist



Prof Helen Sullivan
ANU & Author
(Collaboration & Public Administration)



Kirk Vallis
Global Head of Creativity
Google

Our commitment to the sector

- Direct learning
- Academy
- Research
- Building capacity
- Identifying new talent
- Engaging with the wider market
- Recruitment & selection
- Career pathways



Thank you

To register interest please scan the code:

