Hi
For the record, I attach my personal views about the draft Regulations for Assessment Panel Members. Somehow I'd like to feed it into the process.
Regards
Michael
Assessment Panel Accredited Professionals Scheme

The scheme should relate to members of ALL assessment panels in the State which are the State Assessment Panel; Council Assessment Panels; Regional Assessment Panels; Combined Assessment Panels and Joint Planning Boards.

This will ensure that the community can be assured that decisions are being made by suitably qualified professionals who undergo regular training and may be subject to auditing.

There should be two levels:-

**Level 1 Assessment Panel Presiding Members**

An additional skill set is required to successfully chair a meeting, requiring knowledge of planning legislation that may not be required by other Panel Members.

**Level 2 Assessment Panel Members**

Panel members should be covered by their own appropriate professional streams and any CPD requirements removed. Panels are meant to be independent and professional and Members bring different skill sets to the decision-making process.

Potential Panel Members should not be deterred by an onerous process and the costs involved for the accreditation itself and personal liability insurance. Decisions of Council Panels (all types) should be covered by the LGA Mutual Liability Scheme.