

Making the right choices – Your service delivery options

Unlike other courses on commissioning, this course recognises the important role for elected members as well as officers in selecting the right path for their culture and sports services.

Why this course?

In the current recession, strategic commissioning is being promoted as a way to tackle the budget deficits, meet very tough targets and cope with an anticipated squeeze on public expenditure. This provides a challenge as well as an opportunity for those involved in the political, strategic and operational delivery of services.

Elected members and heads of services play a pivotal role in delivering this agenda. Both are involved in commissioning through budgets, priority setting and business planning processes. Elected members also maintain the leadership role for their authority. The prioritisation of investment decisions depends on both their own and their officers' ability to carry out a robust options appraisal and make sound business cases that will help produce better outcomes and services for their communities.

Who is it for?

This course has been designed to complement the recent IDeA publication "*Understanding Commissioning - a practical guide for the culture and sport sector*". It is open to elected members and heads of services in the Culture and Sports sector considering alternative delivery arrangements for their culture and sport services.

What will you get from it?

As well as an understanding of the procurement and strategic commissioning process, the course will help you:

- link the vision to the service delivery options
- identify what service delivery vehicles are available and what is best for your service
- outline the criteria for choosing the best option
- show you how to move towards it.

What to expect

The course will be delivered using a mixture of best practice guidance, presentations, and group exercises. It uses case studies based on real life situations to draw out learning that will help you translate options appraisal concepts into practical examples of what needs to be done, and understand how to develop a sound approach to the process. The structure of the day enables plenty of time for discussion and action planning.

Course delivery

The course will run over **four** sessions.

- **Two** sessions for service/senior managers 10.00 – 17.00:
 - 1st November 2010, London venue
 - 10th November 2010, York venue

- **Two** sessions for elected members 10.30 – 15.30:
 - 24th November 2010, London venue
 - 9th December 2010, York venue

For further information or to book a place contact:

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