



Outcome-based commissioning: a ten-step introduction

Cohort 8

Why this learning programme?

Everyone is working hard to maximise the impact of their limited commissioning budgets. The need to make a real difference to citizens and outcomes has never been greater. Add to this the complexity of the system you work in, your limited resources and the pressure to act quickly and your challenge can often feel overwhelming.

This development programme has been designed to assist all those charged with deploying commissioning budgets to improve overall effectiveness, efficiency, and agility. It is an intense, [introductory](#) programme to outcomes-based commissioning designed to give you an overview and develop the way you work. It is complimentary to the PSTA's Commissioning Academy learning programme delivered on behalf of the Cabinet Office.

What past participants say:

'I was new to commissioning when I started my new role in November. I have already made changes to the current systems and created a commissioning strategy to drive forward our approach as a team, thank you.'

'I learnt a lot about different approaches in commissioning and gained confidence in how to apply new concepts and new knowledge'

'There is a lot of learning that I will take away and put it into practice.'

Introduction

The aim of this [online and interactive](#) learning programme is to enable you to grasp the core principles & practices of effective commissioning. By the end of the programme you will be better placed to help develop public services that make a really positive and lasting difference to local people's lives. You will also be able to act quickly with confidence using a commissioning mindset and call on your network of fellow participants for support and challenge.

The programme takes place over four mornings over a few weeks with space between each session to reflect and apply learning. Ahead of the first day we will provide a link to a 20-minute presentation on The Evolution of Commissioning by our colleague Stephen Moss. Participants are expected to have watched this before the first session. Each session starts with a check in at 9am and runs to 12.30pm with a couple of breaks. We will spend an hour to 90 minutes on each of the steps listed below. In addition, you will have time in small groups working as an action learning set (one which it is hoped will continue after the programme is over).

[The dates for this cohort are to be confirmed, but will be late Spring / early Summer 2024.](#)

Sessions usually take place on Wednesday mornings between 9-12:30.



The programme

Please note that this is a learning programme, not a teaching programme. If you are looking for a series of lectures where your only initiative is to make a few notes, this is not the course for you. Instead, you will be asked to contribute (lots) and ask questions (lots), as well as doing some research and reading offline outside the three sessions. The more you put into your learning, the more you will learn and take away from this training.

The learning steps are:

1. What are we doing anyway?
2. What is commissioning?
3. Do we have to talk about leadership?
4. Are members of the public just customers?
5. How do we make the most of our resources?
6. Where does quality come into Commissioning?
7. Can we talk about procurement now?
8. Where do our values fit in?
9. How can we work best with our partners?
10. How can we design in creativity and innovation?
11. *What now...?*

Course content includes:

- Laser focus on outcomes
- Asset Based Commissioning
- Whole system working
- From 'Quick Fix' to 'Stay Fixed'
- Innovative process redesign
- Co-production
- Grants versus Contracts
- Partnership working with the VCFSE sector
- Leading change and transformation
- Evidence based practice

Act now!

If you wish to be part of this innovative programme please contact Sarah Johnston sarah.johnston@publicservicetransformation.org or 077010 49836 to book your place(s) as soon as possible.

The cost of the programme is £850 (exc VAT) per person. We offer a discount for any participants who progress on to the Commissioning Academy. Other discounts are available for early and group bookings.