



Workshop:

Keeping sustainable development in mind

WORKSHOP AIMS

- 1 To introduce ideas about how sustainable development might be promoted through the new political structures.
- 2 To arrive at recommendations on changes to the council's management structures to better support sustainable development.

Resources

- Briefing: [“How can sustainable development be incorporated into the new structures?”](#)
- The case studies on new political structures.
- PowerPoint presentations: Four slides on management functions to promote sustainable development. Five slides on experience from other councils.
- Workshop resource: [“Table showing the council's management structure”](#).

NB: See [Hints for managing workshops](#) for general guidance on running successful workshops.

SUMMARY (indicative timings are shown in brackets)

1. Introduction (10 minutes)

Introductions, agree workshop objectives and arrange small group membership.

2. Council functions for promoting sustainable development (40 minutes)

Ask small groups to brainstorm what management structure functions are necessary to ensure that the council promotes sustainable development, and to write each different function on a Post-it note.

After 15 minutes, ask one group to put their Post-it notes on a wall, flip-chart, or white board, and then explain these to the other groups. Go through each of the functions suggested by group one in turn. Ask the other groups if they have thought of the same function. If so ask them to stick their Post-it note next to the same function of the first group.

After working through all of the functions suggested by the first group, ask if any of the groups have thought of any other functions. Go through a similar process so that Post-its with similar functions are grouped together.

Sum up the different functions that the groups have identified and discuss if any should be dropped or changed. Record agreed functions on a flip-chart.

Show the 'functions' overhead. Discuss variations with the list reached in the workshop. Ask participants to decide if they want to make any changes to their list. Add these to the consolidated list on the flip-chart as appropriate.

**END HERE IF YOU ARE INTENDING TO RUN EXERCISES 2 AND 3.
CONTINUE WITH REST OF EXERCISE IF NOT RUNNING 2 AND 3.**

3. Experience from other councils (15 minutes)

Hand out the case study sheets and the briefing ["How should sustainable development be incorporated into the new structures?"](#). Briefly summarise each case study using the overheads provided.

4. Allocating functions to management (30 minutes)

Ask a small group to write down on a separate Post-it note each of the functions on the consolidated list and ask them to decide which part of the management structure should be primarily responsible for each function. (15 minutes)

Prepare a flip-chart for display throughout the exercise that sums up the council's management structure (see the Workshop resource ["Table showing the council's management structure."](#)). Ask groups to place their Post-its alongside the relevant part of the management structure, then work through each component of the management structure starting with full council.

For each one discuss if the groups agree or there is a divergence of views. If the latter, try to reach consensus in the plenary discussion.

5. Changes to the council structure and constitution (15 minutes)

Sum up the conclusions from the previous exercise. Let participants comment on any changes needed and record the conclusions on a flip-chart.