

Management functions to promote sustainable development



What functions do you need?



Key functions (1)

1. Develop and review the council's sustainable development policy as part of the community strategy
2. Integrate sustainable development into the council's policy framework under the community strategy
3. Ensure sustainable development is addressed in Best Value, procurement and service improvement
4. Involve stakeholders in decisions about sustainable development.



Key functions (2)

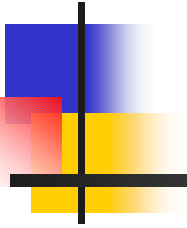
5. Keep up to date with national sustainable development targets and objectives and revise council policies as necessary
6. Implement sustainable development policy
7. Check that decisions and implementation by council, executive and committees are in line with sustainable development policy
8. Monitor sustainable development conditions in the area and the impact of council decisions upon them.



Key functions (3)

9. Resolve conflicts and maximise integration when sustainable development and other policies conflict
10. Ensure members and staff understand the sustainable development impact of their decisions
11. Check that the budget promotes sustainable development.

The role of the executive, area and regulatory committees





The role of the executive

- Lead the community planning process
- Search for Best Value
- Lead the preparation of the council's policies and budget
- Deliver the council's policies and budget
- Take decisions on resources and priorities with stakeholders and partners
- Be the focus for forming partnerships to address local needs.



The role of full council

Approve:

- Council constitution
- Council policies
- Council budget
- Decisions not in accordance with council policy or budget.



The role of committees

Area:

- Take decisions delegated from the executive and regulatory committees
- Consult local stakeholders on the council's policies.

Regulatory:

- Development control
- Licensing and registration
- Health and safety at work.

The role of overview and scrutiny committees





Overview and scrutiny – the roles

1. Develop and review policy and budget
2. Conduct Best Value reviews and monitor council performance
3. Scrutinise the work of other local organisations.



Overview and scrutiny – the roles

4. Hold the executive to account:

- Scrutinise decisions which the executive is planning to take
- ‘Call-in’ decisions prior to implementation
- Scrutinise executive decisions that have been implemented
- Review the performance of the executive and senior officers.



Experience from other councils



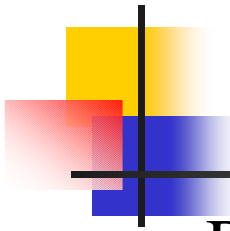
Other councils – the executive

Bristol City:

- Deputy leader responsible for sustainable development and social justice
- Executive member for environment, transport and leisure
- Separates cross-cutting sustainable development from environmental services.

Sandwell MBC:

- Leader is responsible for promoting Local Agenda 21
- All cabinet members have responsibility for sustainable development
- Town committees have duty to promote Local Agenda 21.



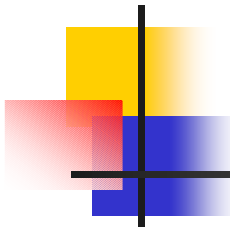
Other councils – overview and scrutiny (1)

Bradford City:

- Sustainability aspects of each Best Value review are scrutinised by overview and scrutiny committees
- Environment overview and scrutiny committee has co-optees from:
 - Environment Agency, Bradford Environment Action Trust, Business & Environment Forum, and University.

Sandwell MBC:

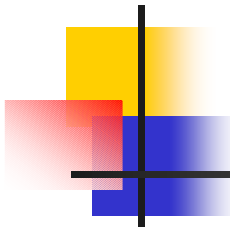
- Has environmental stewardship and urban form scrutiny committee. Remit includes:
 - Scrutiny of cabinet decisions in respect of LA21 and sustainable development, environment and energy.



Other councils – overview and scrutiny (2)

Bristol City:

- Sustainable development and social justice scrutiny commission
- Terms of reference include:
 - Annual policy review
 - Call in decisions that have significant impact on sustainable development
 - Promote better integration of services
 - Investigate issues of public concern about services delivered by other agencies that impact on citizens' quality of life.



Other councils – overview and scrutiny (3)

Cambridgeshire County Council:

- Introduced sustainable development checklist for overview and scrutiny committees to assess council policies and reports
- Checklist derived from the council's corporate policies.