

Working together to make a difference: Commissioning Strategy 2010 -2013

Foreword/Introduction

To be completed.

A Definition of Commissioning

“Strategic commissioning is the process of specifying, securing and monitoring services to meet people’s needs at a strategic level. This applies to all services whether they are provided by the local authority, NHS, other public agencies or by the private and voluntary sectors.” (Audit Commission)

It is the entire cycle of assessing local needs (Analyse), designing services to meet the needs (Plan), securing the services (Do) and monitoring the effectiveness of the services (Review). Although linked it differs from simple procurement.

Procurement forms part of the commissioning cycle. It is concerned with those activities that focus on the process of buying goods or services.

About this Strategy

This strategy sets out what the Council intends to achieve by developing an approach to commissioning. It outlines the background to commissioning in both a national and regional context; the key policy objectives and principles that guide the Council’s commissioning activities and our strategic vision and aims for commissioning in Ryedale.

The strategy is supported by our Commissioning Framework, which outlines how we will undertake our commissioning activities; our Procurement Strategy and the Contract Procedure Rules.

This corporate commissioning strategy will not specify individual service outcomes or detail our targets and priorities for improvement through commissioning. These will be published in individual annual service commissioning plans.

These plans will detail what will be delivered through commissioning and how that activity will help to deliver the vision for our people and our place as agreed in the Council’s Sustainable Community Strategy (Imagine Ryedale) and the Council Plan.

Our Visions and Values

The vision of local people for Ryedale in 2013 is of a place:

Vibrant Communities	with vibrant communities where everyone is respected; where all generations have opportunities to express themselves; where diversity is welcomed and encouraged.
Strong Safe Communities	that is home to welcoming and familiar neighbourhoods, where people and friendships are valued. Community spirit is strong, underpinned by security and safety. There is mutual trust between local people and the organisations that exist to help, support and serve them.
Access and Communications	where it is easy to access any part of Ryedale, and all other places, for work and play. Communication is dealt with in flexible and innovative ways.
Health and Well-being	where people enjoy life, work and leisure at their own pace. Freed from stress, they can take care of themselves and others.
Landscape and environment	which is a cherished mixture of towns, villages and landscapes. It is a peaceful sanctuary, not crowded or polluted.
Developing Opportunities	where everyone is involved in and can influence planning for the community; the places where they live and work; increasing opportunities to meet, learn and have fun.

The Council's vision for Ryedale is of a place...

...where all residents can enjoy a good quality of life, with strong, prosperous and welcoming communities.

To deliver this vision the Council has agreed the following priority aims:

To meet our housing need through...	1. Changing and adding to our housing stock. 2. Supporting people to access a suitable home or remain in their existing home.
To create the conditions for economic success through...	3. Development of the economic and supporting infrastructure. 4. Increasing wage and skills levels.
To have a high quality, clean and sustainable environment through...	5. Reducing waste and CO2 levels. 6. Planning to adapt to climate change. 7. Maintaining the quality of our local environment.
To help all residents achieve a healthy weight by encouraging an active lifestyle, in communities where everyone feels welcome and safe through...	8. Supporting the development of safe and healthy villages and towns.
To transform the Council through...	9. Knowing our communities and meeting their needs. 10. Developing the leadership, capacity and capability to deliver future improvements.

Our Values

The core values of Ryedale District Council are fundamental to the planning and delivery of all our services whether delivered directly by us or in partnership with others. These values guide both our relationships within the organisation and with partners and the communities we serve.

Honesty and Openness

We are open and honest in our relationships and in our communications.

Brave and Decisive

We are willing to make brave decisions, to take on big challenges and see them through.

Positive

We will nurture the positive and celebrate our successes.

Respect

We value every individual, respecting people for who they are and for their unique knowledge, skills and experiences recognising they are part of our strength as a team.

Passionate

We are passionate about our communities and the service we deliver.

Above all, we are proud, we act with integrity, striving to uphold the highest professional standards, providing sound advice and maintaining our impartiality.

Overall Purpose of the Commissioning Strategy

The Council has a general duty of best value as set out in the Local Government Act 1999: “to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the way in which its functions are exercised, having regard to a combination of economy, efficiency and effectiveness”.

The overall purpose of this strategy is to ensure that the Council is best placed to meet this general duty and in particular it outlines our approach to ensuring that we are able to achieve a balance between responding to the needs of all sections of its communities; seeking to address the whole-life costs of decisions; exploiting economies of scale and achieving locally responsive services.

Drivers and Context

To be completed with profile information.

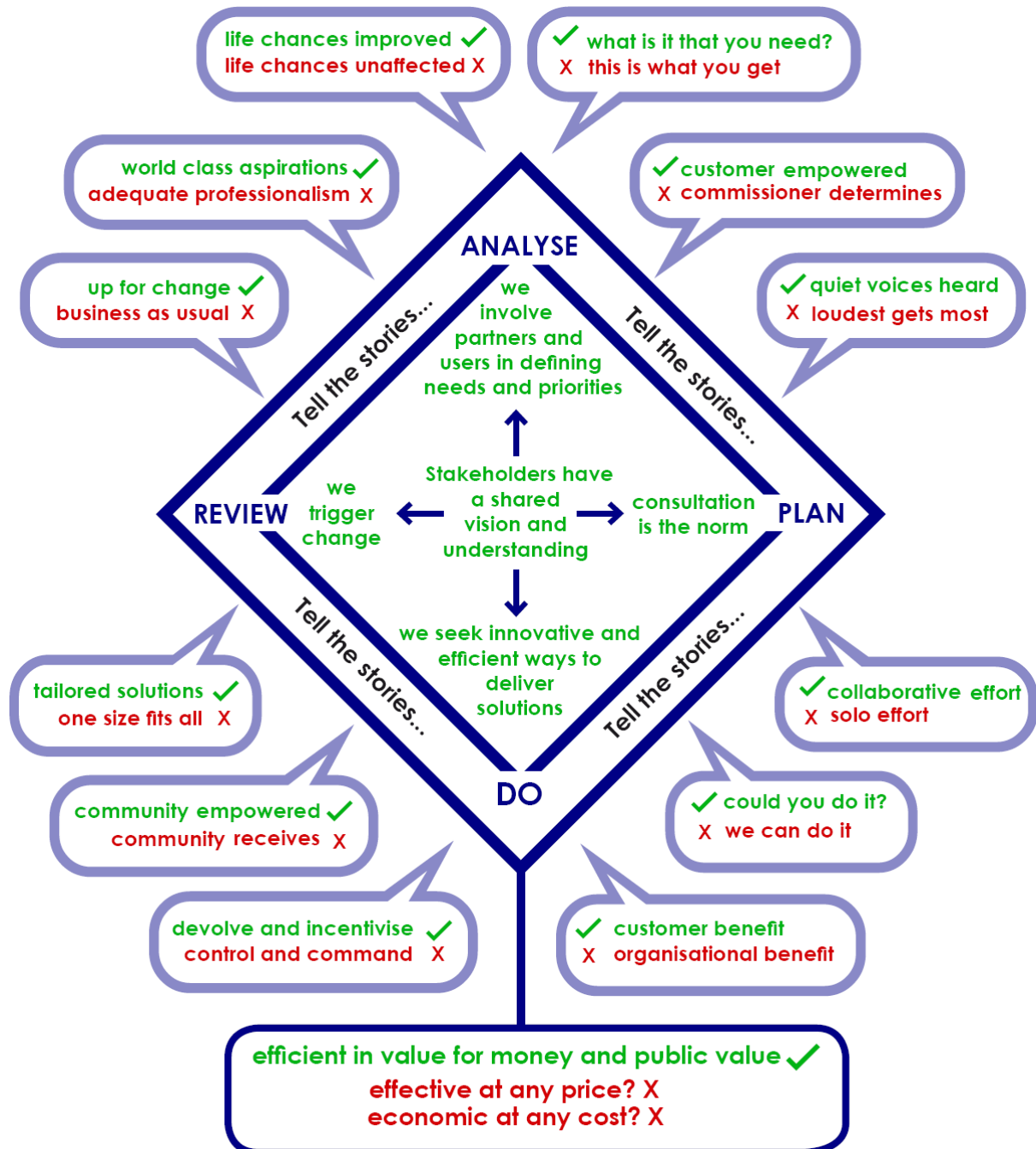
Commissioning Vision and Principles

Our overall vision for commissioning is to ensure that Ryedale's public services deliver value for money and public value.

RYEDALE
DISTRICT
COUNCIL



Our Vision for Commissioning in Ryedale



Based on the diagram developed by the Strategic Commissioning Beacons Devon, Hackney, Wakefield and Westminster. What Beacons have achieved (and how) "messages not mysteries"

Our vision for commissioning supports the Council's identified priorities for Aim 5 of the Council Plan: Transforming the Council:

- Knowing our communities and meeting their needs and
- Developing the leadership, capacity and capability to deliver future improvements.

Our strategy has been developed on the basis of the following policy principles:

Ryedale District Council...

- defines the entire commissioning cycle as assessing needs, designing services to meet those needs, securing services and evaluating outcomes;
- recognises the need to balance delivering cost savings and efficiencies with the need to deliver good quality responsive services;
- will put people and place at the heart of its commissioning activities, involving users and communities throughout the cycle;
- recognises and embraces diversity in the way services are provided and will focus on outcomes not on the service delivery vehicle;
- supports sustainable commissioning and will consider the broader social, environmental and economic impacts of its procurement and commissioning decisions;
- recognises it has a key role to play in developing local markets;
- will make decisions in an open and transparent way in line with local, national and European financial regulations;
- will actively seek opportunities for joint commissioning across statutory partners;
- will manage its commissioning activities through the establishment of a Commissioning Board.

Strategic Objectives for Commissioning

Our vision for commissioning is supported by the following strategic objectives:

Objective 1

To adopt a *Total Place* approach and identify opportunities to jointly commission services with our partners.

Objective 2

To optimise the impact of public sector investment in Ryedale, including the use of budgets, buildings, staff and technology.

Objective 3

To encourage innovation in the design of services, both by and for customers and users.

Objective 4

To develop a mixed economy of sustainable local markets and delivery options.

Objective 5

To empower communities to have a greater say over the decisions that affect them by supporting local choice and working collaboratively.

Objective 6

To align our processes with other strategic commissioners in order to develop a set of shared rules for engagement with the third sector.

In delivering this strategy the Council will priorities those opportunities that will maximise opportunities to improve value for money; performance and community outcomes.