Commissioning Skills and Competencies

How did you become involved in ‘commissioning’?

Commissioning – a leadership task

- Working with partners to integrate services around the end user
- Moving from command and control to influencing and facilitation
- Communicating the local vision
- Cascading an understanding of the market across all partners, including local communities
- Securing effective engagement of people who use services
- Leading entrepreneurial thinking and service transformation

Roles of commissioners

Commissioners play at least three roles:

- Advocate for the patient or service user
- Advocate for communities
- Guardian of taxpayers' money

Taken together they create dilemmas and trade offs – the essence of the role of commissioning.

Commissioning for quality improvement – The Health Foundation

A reminder…

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Effective commissioners – what skills do you need?

- In groups, using the IPC commissioning model, come to a consensus about the top three skills needed for each segment of the cycle Analyse, Plan, Do and Review, as well as Core Skills to be an effective Commissioner

- Full group: Review the skills required to deliver strategic commissioning

Commissioning skills and organisational development…

- Use the outcomes of the previous discussion to help you form a picture of the balance of skills in your team/service area

- Any thoughts about your own/your service/team's development areas

National Occupational Standards for Commissioning in the Public Sector

1. Engaging with individuals and stakeholders
2. Governance and management
3. Project management
4. Knowledge and skills training
5. Establish outcomes and priorities
6. Develop options
7. Strategy and policy
8. Work in partnership
9. Develop the market
10. Service procurement and contracting
11. Manage and monitor contracts
12. Review and evaluate commissioning activity

Your reflections on the course

We said:

- The aim of this programme is to understand the essential elements of commissioning and purchasing, and to share knowledge and compare practice.

- By the end of the training participants will:
  - Demonstrate good knowledge of the national agenda for commissioning
  - Analyse own organisation's commissioning arrangements against good practice
  - Use evidence-informed learning to implement good commissioning practice
  - Critically reflect on own learning and practice

Summary and Reflections

So, what does this all mean for for you?

Thinking about each area of the commissioning cycle:

- What is your learning?
- What might you do differently?
- What would be your advice or recommendations for you and the team following the course?
- What are your next steps?

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Certificate of Credit in Commissioning and Purchasing for Public Care

ZH51/PGASSO

Assignment task

Submit a written assignment which **explains and reflects upon a commissioning or purchasing project** that you have undertaken. The **rationale** for the work must be clearly set out in the context of **national policy and best practice**, and draws on a **critical analysis of the current commissioning and purchasing arrangements** in your local organisation or service.

Supporting information will be expected that gives evidence of the project activities and implementation of good commissioning or purchasing practice. The project must have been **accepted by your line manager** as appropriate to the needs of your organisation, and have been undertaken during the course.

Minimum of **4,000 words** and a maximum of **5,000 words**.

Example projects

- Development of a commissioning strategy
- A review of contract monitoring and development of a reviewing framework
- A risk assessment and option appraisal for a poorly performing service
- Development of a service specification
- An investigation into swifter tendering options and development of an approved provider list
- Remodelling a service to achieve better outcomes
- Joint commissioning of a community service

Assignment support process

Key dates

Assignment support

- Support Session 1: 20th April ‘23, 9.30 – 11.30
- Tutorial 1: w/c 8th May ’23 – 1 hour
- Support Session 2: 22nd June ‘23, 9.30 – 11.00
- Support Session 3: 14th September ‘23, 9.30 – 11.00
- Tutorial 2: w/c 2nd October ’23 – 1 hour

Submission deadline: 30th October ‘23

Contact us

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