

SSN's Best Value & Sustainable
Development Toolkit- one year on
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Context & Local Aims

Context -

- Revised “Sustainability Strategy” being prepared
- Prepare guidance for services/committee papers
- General review of Council approach to BV

Aims -

- Ensure Council meeting BV criteria
- Provide clarity
- Ensure services can demonstrate BV & SD
- Links to Scotland’s Climate Change Declaration

Process

- Copy & pasted “Paths to Improvement” section
- Minor changes made to text
- Local discussion with services (roads, planning, waste, community health)
- Built on previous work through BV audit
- Positively received except the amount of reading/work involved
- Easy for services to “tick” policy but required more thought to demonstrate this
- Local training/seminars would have helped

Local Application

Revised SD Strategy & SCCD

- Useful to “tick off” requirements in strategy
- Provided a starting point for discussion with services

Guidance for Services

- “paths to improvement” useful to guide work/establish level of achievement
- difficult to summarise key points
- work not implemented - too much of a “checklist”
- received positively but too detailed

Summary & recommendations

- General guidance useful
- Resources an issue - no dedicated SD Officer in ERC
- “Paths to Improvement” useful but too detailed
- Indicators too broad for smaller local authority

Recommendations

- Don't panic! - use as a guide
- Pass guide to services - encourage discussion
- Further clarity on indicators would be useful
- Clearer links to other documents (eg SCCD) helpful

Any questions?

Workshop timing

- Discussion in pairs on local responses to the toolkit (15 mins)
- Group discussion (10 mins per point)
- Successes in using the toolkit?
- Challenges in using the toolkit?
- What resources / support would help?
- Gaps in guidance / BV duty / audit process / SSN support etc?
- Prioritising responses to each point (15 mins)
- Ready to feedback by 3:15pm

Group Discussion

- What have been the successes in applying the toolkit locally?
- What have been the challenges in applying the toolkit locally?
- What resources/support would help to improve the pace at which SD is embedded at the local level?
- Where are there gaps in the guidance/statutory duty/Audit process/SSN support?



BEST VALUE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Education



Housing



Social Services



Economic Development



Transport



Planning



Environment



Waste



Leisure



Community Health



Climate Change

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Guide for Services

Climate Change and Energy

Community Planning

Measurement, review and scrutiny

Welcome to the Best Value & Sustainable Development Toolkit

This website is a tool to support local authorities in delivering the Duty for Sustainable Development set out in the Local Government in Scotland Act 2003.

Sustainable development is a fundamental part of Best Value. Every aspect of continuous improvement activity in a local authority should be informed and influenced by sustainable development – from planning to delivery and review.

This online toolkit provides an overview of the Duty of Sustainable Development, a guide to mainstreaming sustainable development and paths to delivering sustainable development within ten key service areas. Definitions, case studies, advice on measurement and links to further information are provided throughout.

The website, launched in September 2007, is the online version of SSN's Best Value & Sustainable Development Toolkit, which was commended to local authorities by the Scottish Executive in September 2006. This Toolkit is advisory and supplements the guidance issued in 2004 by the Best Value Task Force on behalf of Scottish Ministers.

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Economic development

Economic development activity by councils, often in conjunction with the Enterprise networks and, for much of Scotland, with European Structural Funds, has underpinned economic renewal in Scotland. The business case for support being conducted on a basis which combines securing economic, social and environmental benefits includes:



- Assisting compliance with regulations on avoiding discrimination and damage to the environment;
- Direct benefits through resource efficiency savings and supporting the local labour market;
- Improving the quality, image and marketing potential of businesses and of their products and services; and
- Developing the potential of environmental goods and services (themselves a growth sector).

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Paths to Improvement include:	Policy	Being Implemented	Outcomes
Is major economic development being located			