

Review of Public Administration

Back to Basics

Financial and Implementation Issues

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Peter McNaney
Chief Executive, Belfast City Council

Overview

1. Context
2. The Basics
3. The Rate
4. Development of the area
5. Services
6. What we need to do

Back to Basics

Why are we doing this?

- Strong local government
- Primacy of political process
- Accountability to public
- Engagement with citizens
- Delivery of VFM services that meet need
- Improvement of our area

Through

- Community Planning and Place shaping

Back to Basics

The Financial Environment

- Recession
- Effect on Tax Take and levels of debt
- Parliamentary Election May 2011 – change of government?
- Effect on Northern Ireland
- Local financial pressures:
 - CSR: 2011-13
 - Water rates
 - Equal pay claims
 - Freeze of regional rate
 - Departmental demands

Back to basics – Aide Memoire

- What we need to **remember** about **change**
- Nothing happens without **Leadership** – political and managerial leadership is key to success
- Nothing happens without **resources**
- Nothing happens without **structure** and clarity of who does what in the **process**

Good change management needs Benefit Realisation

- Nothing succeeds without showing the **public** that it makes things **better**
- People need to **see, touch** and **feel improvement**
- This will not happen by **accident** – it needs to be **planned** now

The Basics

The Rate

- People will not view Local Government Reform as a success if rate bills go through the roof
- Needs to be planned for
- Rates support scheme
- Efficiency targets

The Basics

Development of our area

- Attract private sector investment
- Capital investment by Council
- Capital investment by government
 - DSD
 - DARD
 - DRD
 - DETI
- Budget crises = less money for capital investment
- Result = less development of our areas

The Basics

Development of our area

- Need to plan now to make a difference
- Single budget line in CSR for local government RPA covering DSD, DARD, DRD, DETI
- Need to have capital to invest so people can see, touch and feel the difference
- Need to encourage a Total Place Agenda in government and look at funding solutions

The Basics

Development of our area

- Funding solutions
- ADZ
- Community infrastructure levy
- Regional Infrastructure Fund
- JESSICA
- Local asset backed vehicles
- Need to develop agenda and pursue with Government

The Basics

Services

- Challenge of bringing services together
- Additional costs of merging workforces, fleet and systems
- Rationalisation/closure of facilities

Result – poorer services than before RPA

The Basics

Services

- Plan for solutions
- Efficiency targets
- Funding support for investment in new technology
- Fleet
- Facilities
- Symbolic improvements eg public service centres

What we need to do

- Make a good argument
- Central government will not pay for all of this
- Recognise local government needs to demonstrate payback through

More for Less

- 3 tools of efficiency
 - Revenue generation
 - Cost reduction/saving
 - Service effectiveness
- Work up the **HOW** mechanisms

Benefit Realisation : How Mechanisms

- Rate support programme
- Single budget line for RPA in CSR
- Total Place Agenda for each Council – Government Response
- Funding Solutions Paper and Lobby
- What Local Government will do – Efficiency Programme
- Symbolism – Public Service Centres
ADZ's
- Create the message
- Plan for its realisation

Benefit Realisation : Results

- Balanced VFM rate
- More integrated citizen services
- More integrated capital development of areas
- Better government

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