



NATIONAL SCHOOL CONFERENCE TO ASSIST THE DELIVERY OF CROSS-DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC SERVICE AGREEMENTS

A National School of Government conference at the QEII Conference Centre in London on 11 June 2008 will explore how public servants can work together to meet rising public expectation around areas such as climate change and the health and well-being of young people - the themes of just two cross-cutting Public Service Agreement (PSA) targets.

Picking up some of the key themes of the *Civil Service Live* event attended by 5,000 civil servants in April, 'The Challenge of Delivery: cross-Departmental PSAs' will see delegates from central government and their peers from the wider public sector explore how they might work across organisational boundaries, and different levels of government and sectors, as they seek to deliver on the 30 most important priorities of government.

Designed for people working to deliver on cross-departmental PSAs, the event will feature speakers including Sir Gus O'Donnell, Cabinet Secretary and Head of the Civil Service, Ray Shostak of the Prime Minister's Delivery Unit, and Jonathan Brearley, Director, Office of Climate Change. The conference will foreground case studies of current approaches to PSAs and participants will be encouraged to share experiences, explore the essential ingredients of successful approaches, focus on good practice and contribute guidance, and begin developing communities of practice. Delegates attending the event will be joined by colleagues from the regions via interactive teleconferencing facilities.

National School of Government conference director Eleanor Goodison commented: "Today's challenges are complex and require imaginative and pluralist approaches. Our conference will contribute to this process, bringing people together to learn about the different approaches and to see how they can be applied to tackle these difficult and intractable problems."



The National School works with organisations to ensure they have the necessary capability to deliver on PSAs. As well as offering assistance with organisational development, the School offers training programmes covering leadership, partnership working, and sustainable development and climate change.

In addition, the National School's Sunningdale Institute is working with HM Treasury and the Cabinet Office to develop an approach to assessing delivery capability that will form generic guidance. Toolkits and other resources are also scheduled for 2008, with Institute Fellows and National School staff available to work with PSA teams and others to advise on capability development.

For more information, or to book a place at the conference, visit www.nationalschool.gov.uk/PSA1 or contact Sharon Robinson on 01344 634238 (sharon.robinson@nationalschool.gsi.gov.uk).

Notes for editors

1. As the Government's centre of excellence for learning and development, the National School of Government became a separate government department in January 2007. It strives to ensure the highest professional and academic standards in public service organisational and people development. Visit www.nationalschool.gov.uk for more information.

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