

# What is commissioning?

*“Commissioning is the cycle of assessing the needs of people in an areas, designing and then achieving outcomes”*

Cabinet Office, 2011



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# Why is it needed?

During the last few years the roles and functions of public bodies have been changing. Increasingly, instead of providing many services directly, public bodies are now looking to external organisations and companies to provide services on their behalf.

Public bodies have been moving in the direction of becoming purchasers, rather than direct providers of services, for a number of years. Commissioning involves making decisions about whether to commission, what to commission and from whom, so enabling priorities and strategies to be translated into services delivered by different organisations and companies.

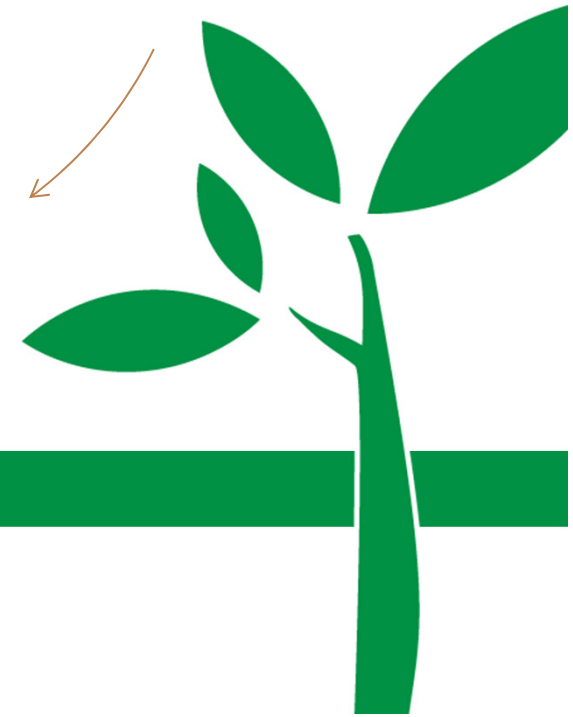
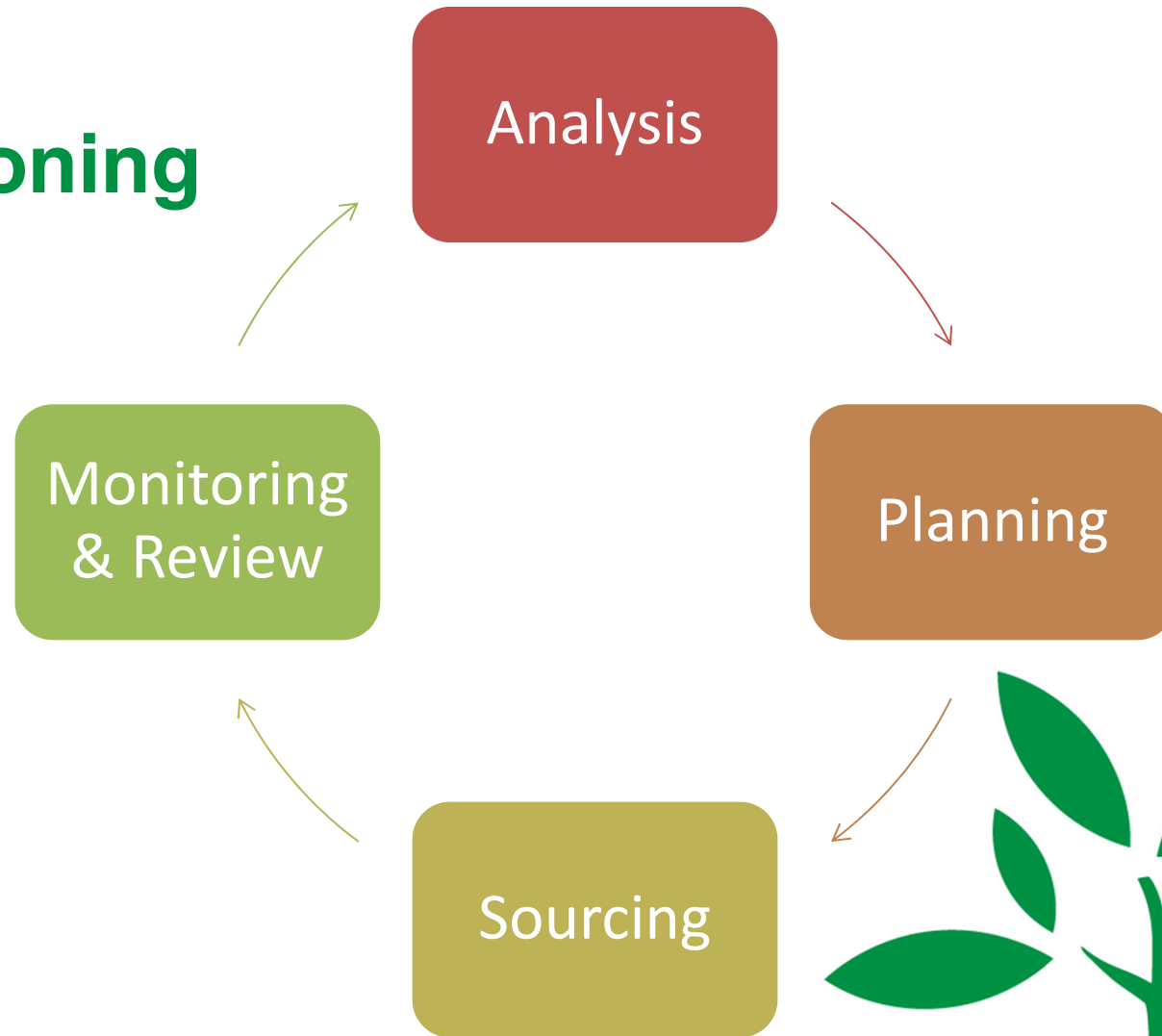
Commissioning is therefore not just a set of technical exercises to purchase services, but is also profoundly shaped by the political environment and priorities of a local area.



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# Stages of Commissioning

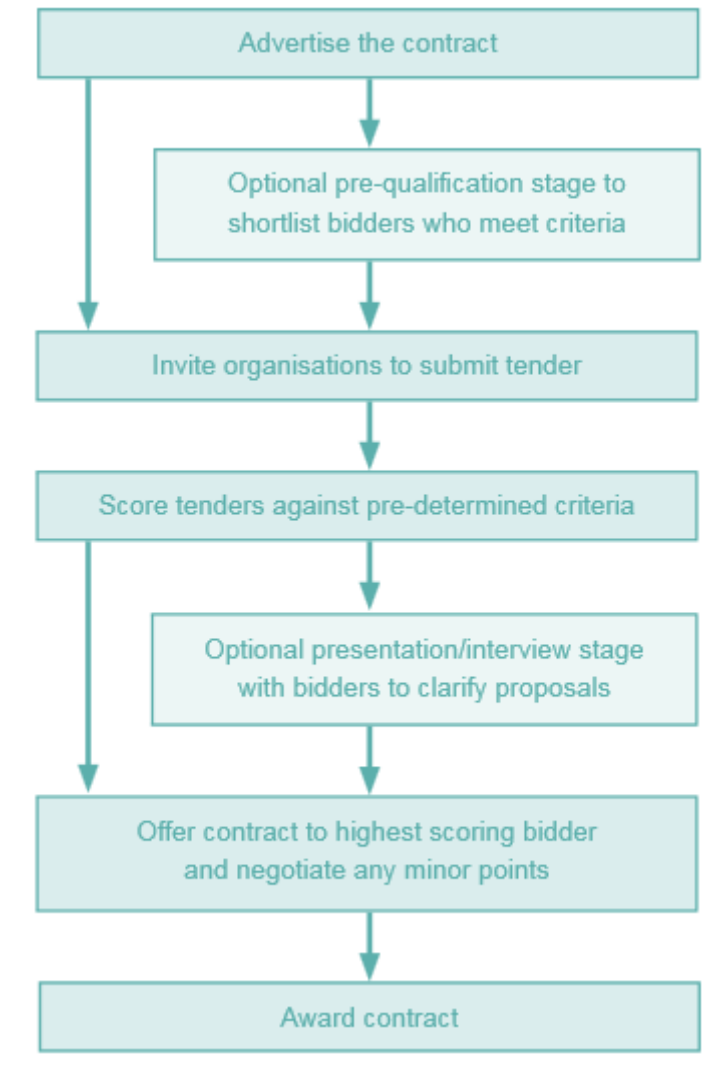


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# What is procurement?

*“The stage of the commissioning cycle that involves buying the service and leads to the award of a contract”*



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# Why is it important to the voluntary and community sector to learn about commissioning?

- Reduction in public spending
- Reduced number of grants
- Terminology
- More competition



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# Further information and guidance:

<http://www.sustainweb.org/growinghealth/commissioning>

[http://www.sustainweb.org/growinghealth/the\\_health\\_service/](http://www.sustainweb.org/growinghealth/the_health_service/)



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