

National Commissioning Academy September 2024

Delivered by the Public Service Transformation academy and hosted by the Royal Borough of Greenwich

We are delighted to announce a new national commissioning academy will launch in September 2024. Fully accredited by the PSTA (Public Service Transformation Academy) and delivered on behalf of the Cabinet Office, a commissioning academy offers an excellent opportunity for you to develop the skills necessary to transform outcomes for the communities we serve. The academy's in-person events will be generously hosted by the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

Described by the former Civil Service Chief Executive John Manzoni as 'one of our flagship development programmes for leaders', the Commissioning Academy is designed to equip commissioners and change makers from across public services with the insight, know-how and tools to improve outcomes.

Originally developed by the Cabinet Office in 2012, the Commissioning Academy is now delivered and certified by the Public Service Transformation Academy – a social enterprise with unlimited access to experts in commissioning and transformation. To book a place or discuss options, [call our chief executive, Benjamin Taylor, on 07931317230](#) or [contact david.mason@publicservicetransformation.org](mailto:david.mason@publicservicetransformation.org)

Would you and your colleagues like to...

- Learn how to initiate and lead change across complex systems through commissioning processes
- Develop individual and organisational capabilities to transform outcomes
- Be part of a national system-wide network of commissioning practitioners

Our approach

Commissioning and systems transformation are inherently multi-disciplinary, and our approach to developing capability combines:

- Action – applying insight and tools to your priorities to bring learning to life, and make a difference
- Process – facilitation and coaching for experience sharing and collaborative learning
- Knowledge – stimulating insights and know-how on proven practices to spark new thinking

Who should apply?

We work with diverse cohorts of people who are involved in commissioning – our programme is designed to be useful to early career commissioners but also to people with years of experience! We work across public services including in local government, adult social care, healthcare, police and crime commissioners, and in the voluntary sector. Anyone working in public service commissioning is welcome!

You will be:

- committed to making a difference
- keen to apply the latest thinking and approaches to realising outcomes
- eager to engage the ideas, assets and energy of all parts of the system
- keen to learn from experts and participants
- responsible for driving improvements in commissioning for outcomes
- able to take back input to your own practical challenges

This 'action learning' approach, means we can support you to learn as we go – applying learning to the complex work you are undertaking to improve the lives of people in the communities you serve – developing people and processes in support of delivery.

What does the Academy cover?

Academy participants will cover key tools and techniques including:

Foundation concepts

- Working as a system and system mapping
- Outcomes thinking – translating needs into better outcomes
- Collaborative working activities exploring current real commissioning challenges

Commissioning for outcomes as a system

- Applying systems thinking
- Mobilising assets
- Creating an outcomes framework

Creating conditions for change

- Systems leadership – your role as a system leader
- Coproduction – using coproduction to rethink service design and delivery
- Promoting innovation and creating social value
- Conditions for system change

Developing inclusive markets and interventions

- Developing markets
- Trauma-informed practice – building into commissioning activity
- Prevention and early intervention
- Inclusive commissioning and leveraging markets to tackle inequalities

What can you expect?

An interactive programme that includes:

- Masterclass workshops (interactive, with input of ideas and frameworks)
- action learning/coaching
- expert speakers/short videos to watch
- peer challenge
- practical action planning on a project or priority you are working on
- membership of a nation-wide alumni

What do past participants of Commissioning Academies say?

'It's a worthwhile investment. I found it a really useful experience. Coming into it with other people from your organisation, makes a big difference in terms of being able to go back into the office and think about what you've taken from each of the sessions and the site visit and translate that into what might you do differently within your organisation.' Assistant Director, Adult Social Care and Health, Barnet

Based on a survey of participants in past programmes:

- 98 per cent of those surveyed reported making useful connections
- 91 per cent said it was a good or excellent use of their time
- 88 per cent said that the Academy was either good, or excellent value for money
- 91 percent report the academy was either relevant or highly relevant to learning needs
- 87 per cent said they would recommend the academy to their colleagues and peers

‘I feel prepared to enter a commissioning role!’

‘It was great to hear from other people about their experiences and how to overcome challenges. It was also reassuring to know the challenges we face aren't just localised challenges.’

‘I learnt a lot about different approaches in commissioning and gained confidence in how to apply new concepts and new knowledge’

‘Now I feel I can consider more what our common purposes is rather than just focusing on need and challenge some of our existing processes - not continue to do things a certain way just because that's how they have always been done.’

Details and dates

The Commissioning Academy September 024 will feature in-person ‘anchor days’ hosted in Greenwich, London. It will also feature action learning, expert speaker webinars and access to our virtual learning environment. We know lots of people have a strong preference for face-to-face delivery and understand the value of this type of networking so will work hard to get the most out of the face-to-face events.

[Provisional schedule \(dates may change depending on update of places, with delay by one or two cycles possible\)](#)

Cycle		Date	Delivery
Before - Induction	Induction	Mon 09/09/2024 14:15 - 15:14	Virtual
One Whole System and relationships	Anchor Day	Mon 23/09/2024 10:00 - 16:00	In person
	Expert Webinar	Thu 26/09/2024 14:00 - 16:15	Virtual
	Expert Webinar	Tue 01/10/2024 14:15 - 16:15	Virtual
Two Outcomes, capability and confidence	Anchor Day	Mon 21/10/2024 10:00 - 16:00	In person
	Expert Webinar	Mon 04/11/2024 09:45 - 11:45	Virtual
	Expert Webinar	Wed 06/11/2024 09:45 - 11:45	Virtual
Three Processes, delivery, models and tactics	Anchor Day	Tue 26/11/2024 10:00 - 16:00	In person
	Expert Webinar	Thu 21/11/2024 14:15 - 16:15	Virtual
	Expert Webinar	Mon 02/12/2024 14:15 - 16:15	Virtual
Four Insight and elbow room	Anchor day	Mon 13/01/2024 10:00 - 16:00)	In person
	Expert Webinar	Wed 15/01/2025 14:15 - 16:15	Virtual
	Expert Webinar	Fri 14/02/2025 09:45 - 11:45	Virtual

Five Convening change	Anchor day	Tue 11/02/2025 10:00 - 16:00	In person
	Expert Webinar	Thu 06/02/2025 09:45 - 11:45	Virtual
	Expert Webinar	Fri 14/02/2025 09:45 - 11:45	Virtual
Afterward	100 Day follow-up	TBA	Virtual

How can I be part of the Academy?

The price per participant in the Academy is £2,300 per person. Discounts are also available for early or group bookings as well as participants who have already completed other PSTA programmes such as the Commissioning: a ten step introduction programme. To discuss options, [contact david.mason@publicservicetransformation.org](mailto:david.mason@publicservicetransformation.org) or call our chief executive, Benjamin Taylor, on 07931317230

Who is the Public Service Transformation Academy?

The Public Service Transformation Academy (PSTA) is a certified social enterprise launched in 2016 to deliver the Cabinet Office Commissioning Academy and continue the Public Service Transformation Network's knowledge sharing mission. The PSTA is a not-for-profit partnership comprising charities, social enterprises, professional networks, businesses and universities working together with local, health, uniformed, and public and civil service bodies. Each partner brings their own networks of expertise and insight to the partnership.



E3M

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Basis
changing the change

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CHAMPIONING
VOLUNTARY
ACTION
NCO

Delivering the



Cabinet Office

Commissioning Academy

On behalf of and through



Civil Service

Leadership Academy



Civil Service Learning



Department for
Digital, Culture,
Media & Sport

The Public Service Transformation Academy, www.publicservicetransformation.org