

Module C: Translating evidence into policy

Module C		Course outline
Aim of module:	To give local authority planning officers more confidence in developing planning policies relevant to their local evidence base in relation to the PPS1 Supplement	
Target audience:	Primarily planning policy officers	
Prior knowledge:	Basic familiarity with climate change policy, local policy objectives and evidence base related to the PPS1 Supplement (e.g. contents of modules A and B)	
Learning outcomes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understanding of the relationship between the evidence base and policy derived from it; • More confidence in drafting effective planning policies related to the PPS1 Supplement; • Improved drafting skills, arising from increased awareness of the implications of policy wording for development management functions; • Better understanding of the relevance of different delivery mechanisms to particular contexts (e.g. Section 106 agreements; Energy Statements) 	
Links to other modules:	<p>We strongly advise that the session starts with some information on policy context (e.g. module A). Module C could also be combined with module B, as part of a full day course for planning policy officers who have a basic familiarity with climate change issues but have not yet completed their core strategies (modules A, B and C).</p> <p>Module C could be run as a short half-day course, for planning policy officers who have the prior knowledge required, or combined with module D (development management) for a mixed audience of planning policy officers and development managers (e.g. modules A, C, D).</p>	
Length:	2 hours 10 minutes (excluding breaks)	
Format:	Cabaret style seating in groups of 6-8 or boardroom seating – depending on the number of participants	
Structure/ content:	5 minutes	Introduction: what we aim to cover in this module; the task of developing evidence-based policy
	15 minutes	Presentation C1: The challenge: the scale of the challenge in meeting renewable energy targets for the South West; the task of developing evidence-based policy related to climate change (sustainable energy and

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		adaptation)
	15 minutes	<p>Exercise: Mix and match policies</p> <p>Aim: understanding of how policies need to be derived from and 'fit' the local evidence base</p> <p>Each small group is given worksheets with a set of evidence base 'thumbnails' on one side of the page and a set of policies on the other. Their task is to match the policies up with the evidence bases.</p>
	5 minutes	<p>Feedback discussion:</p> <p>One answer from each group in turn. Discuss 'right', 'wrong' and 'ambiguous' answers.</p>
	30 minutes	<p>Presentation C2: Drafting policy and targets: sustainable energy and adaptation</p> <p>Options for policy content (with handout giving examples of policies):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainable Energy • Adaptation
	10 minutes	<p>Plenary discussion: pro's and con's of different approaches to drafting climate change policy</p>
	20 minutes	<p>Exercise: Drafting policies</p> <p>Each small group reviews the options for drafting policy in a particular policy area and agrees a preferred way forward.</p>
	10 minutes	<p>Feedback discussion: Facilitator asks for comments on each of the policy topics in turn and records key learning points for future reference.</p>
	15 minutes	<p>Presentation C3: Options for policy delivery</p> <p>Based on toolkit, outline the main tools for implementing policy and their applicability, including area-wide tools, and tools for strategic developments.</p>
	10 minutes	<p>Plenary discussion: experiences/realities of using these tools in different contexts.</p>
	5 minutes	<p>Final discussion and summing up: facilitator briefly reviews what participants wanted from the module/course and whether this has been achieved; he/she summarises key learning points from the module/course and hands out evaluation forms, if this is the end of the course.</p>

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Powerpoint file:	Module C – translating evidence into policy
Further reading and resources:	Toolkit www.planningrenewables.org.uk www.pas.org.uk