

## What is commissioning?

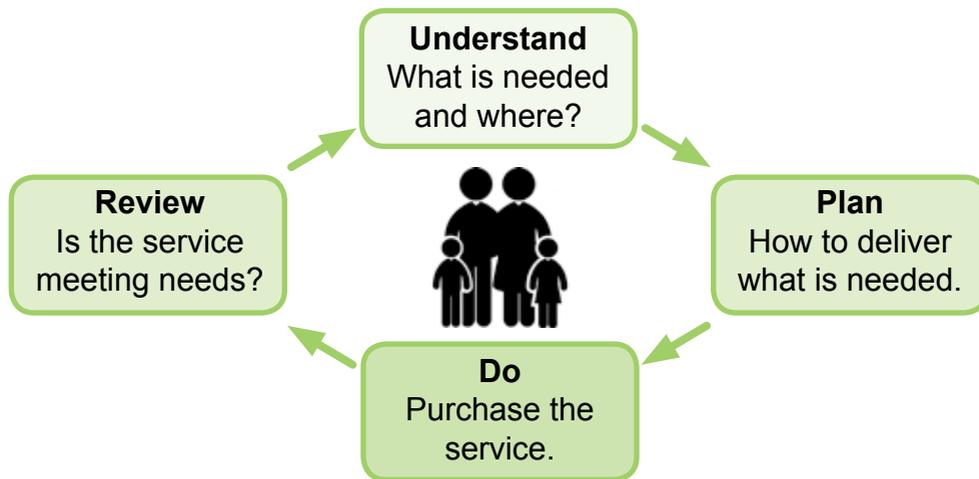
Commissioning means purchasing a service from another organisation, rather than providing it yourself.

Increasingly, public bodies such as local councils and health services, e.g. local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs), look to external organisations and companies to provide services on their behalf.

## How do they know what to commission?

Before a service can be commissioned, public bodies have to make decisions about what is most needed, what resources they can allocate to these services and how that service can be provided.

The cycle for commissioning is:



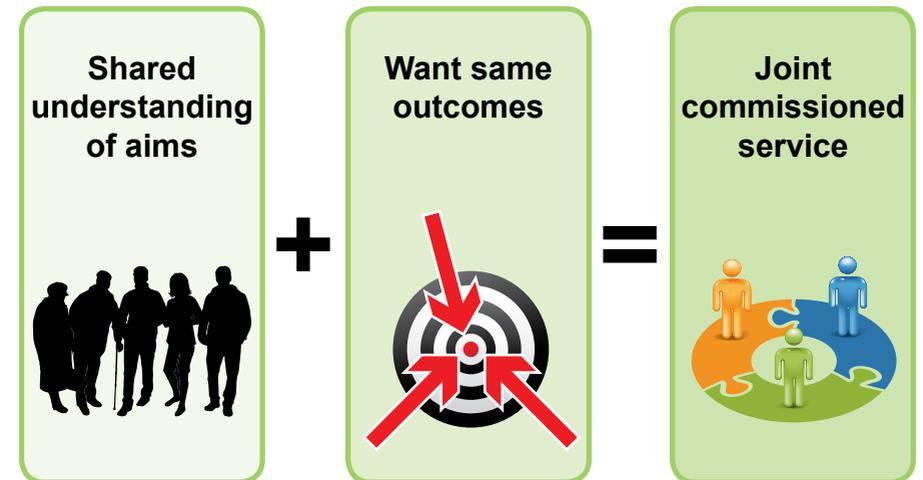
Children, young people, families, communities, voluntary and community organisations often have knowledge, ideas and skills that can be vital to the design and implementation of the best services possible.

## So what is joint commissioning?

Joint commissioning takes place when there is a shared understanding across public bodies of the needs of people living in their local area.

All want the same outcomes for the people in their area and have a common interest in achieving this.

They agree to work together to jointly commission a new service.



## What are the benefits to children, young people and families?

- Joined-up services designed around local needs
- Improved and easier-to-understand services
- Greater consistency in services and in the eligibility to access the services.

## What are the benefits of joint commissioning for public bodies?

- It is more cost effective to fund one service instead of two because of the sharing of assets, premises, workforce and reduced duplication
- Joint assessment of need and identifying new ways to deliver outcomes
- Stronger partnerships, integrated teams and increased purchasing power.

## How can you have your say?

It is very important that you have your say about what services are needed for children and young people with SEND in Norfolk.

You can do this by providing your feedback through the Local Offer or by emailing [send@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:send@norfolk.gov.uk)

For more information visit the Local Offer at [www.norfolk.gov.uk/send](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/send)

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This leaflet is part of a series of leaflets that cover:

- **Joint commissioning**
- The Local Offer
- Special educational needs (SEN) support
- Education, health and care (EHC) plans
- Personal budgets
- Preparing for adulthood.

## Joint commissioning



The Children and Families Act 2014 has a focus on joint commissioning and how it helps families with children or young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).