



Creating Successful Partnerships

This is a checklist for people in the centre who are considering sponsoring partnerships. It is designed to give an idea of some of the issues that need to be addressed during policy development. It is not necessary to answer 'yes' to all of the questions, but the more 'nos' the less likely you are to create a successful partnership.

Are you creating or have you created the conditions for success or failure?

SUCCESS

FAILURE

IS A PARTNERSHIP APPROPRIATE?

Yes Are you sure that the outcome you want cannot be delivered by existing government organisations with better cross-agency coordination? No

Yes Are you sure that an existing partnership could not be adapted to deliver the outcome instead? No

Yes Are you willing to wait for results while a new partnership takes several years to develop the trust, teamwork skills and capacity necessary for effective delivery? No

Yes Are you sure the benefits outweigh the costs of creating a new partnership? No

OBJECTIVES

Yes Have you consulted with all other relevant departments and key stakeholders about the outcomes and high-level objectives you want the partnership to deliver? No

Yes Have you left scope for the local partnership to work out its own detailed operational strategies, objectives and targets? No

Yes Have you given the partnership time to build up to delivering these objectives? No

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Public Services Productivity Panel

SUCCESS

FAILURE

COMMUNICATIONS AND GUIDANCE

Yes	Have you consulted the organisations you want to work in partnership about the advice and guidance they need?	No
Yes	Are you fully aware about best practice in what your guidance should cover?	No
Yes	Is there someone available to the partnership to give knowledgeable advice as and when required?	No

FUNDING AND ACCOUNTING

Yes	Have you done everything possible to rationalise the funding and accounting mechanisms, ensured that they are proportional to the scale of the problem and made them as coherent and straightforward as possible?	No
Yes	Do you have a stable funding regime in place, which will enable the partnership to carry out long-term planning confidently?	No
Yes	Are you planning for a gradual build-up of resources over time, mirroring the gradual development of the partnership's capacity to use them effectively?	No

PERFORMANCE, REVIEW AND EVALUATION

Yes	Have you agreed with all relevant central government departments a single mechanism for monitoring and reviewing performance?	No
	Have you made it clear how and when central government will intervene if the partnership fails?	