



Irresistible pressures for change in the 'local government family'

- Budget situation
- From 'Making the Connections' to 'Total Place'
- New local government measure / duty to collaborate
- WAG's new SD scheme: 'central organising principle'
- A 'new understanding' with WAG



Budget situation

First wave

- 2010/11 – cuts of £216m rev and £200m cap
- £80m cuts for LG
- Up to 2,000 job losses anticipated in LG by 2011

Second wave

- 2011/12-13/14: ‘cuts of £1.5b rev + £0.7b capital’
- First real cuts in public expenditure since 1999
- Av real cut in capital expenditure of 17.2%p.a



From 'Making the Connections' to 'Total Place'

- **Making the Connections** – (citizen centred; equality and social justice; Welsh Public Service; better value of the Welsh pound)
- **Total Place** – customer insight and social media tools; whole area approach; cross agency work; eliminating duplication / step change in efficiency



New local government measure/duty to cooperate

- **Measure** – reforms the statutory basis for service improvement and strategic planning by local authorities in Wales
- **General power to collaborate** – and common duty to cooperate in the delivery of community strategies (reserve Ministerial power to intervene)
- **Improvement** – strategic effectiveness; service quality; service availability; fairness; sustainability; efficiency; and innovation



New SD scheme

- **Core principles** – involvement and integration
- **Supporting principles:**
 - Reducing ecological footprint
 - Full costs and benefits
 - Precautionary principle
 - Polluter pays
 - Proximity principle
 - Reflecting distinctiveness



A 'new understanding' : WAG and the LG family

- Understanding of respective roles
- Agreement of priorities
- Focus on outcome agreements
- Co-production
- Reduction in volume of specific grants (c£700m)
- Changes in regulation, audit and inspection



Key questions

- How does 'the family' respond to the challenges ahead?
- Fine words or a real basis for joint action?
- Will the budget situation dominate/override?
- What forms of collaboration should we be discussing – 'deepening' in an area? 'widening' across areas? Can we do *both* simultaneously?
- Can we use the building blocks in a constructive and positive way – or will the pressures prove too much?



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TITLE OF PRESENTATION

Name

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