

Devolution and intergovernmental working

In recent years, more and more powers have been transferred from the UK Parliament to the assemblies in Wales and Northern Ireland and the Scottish Parliament. All policy professionals need to be aware of how devolution affects the policies they work on and the services they deliver, the similarities and differences of decision making in each of the administrations and the support the Civil Service provides.

Description

This topic is aimed at all new and existing civil servants who, as part of an ongoing awareness campaign, need to understand how the Civil Service supports multiple governments in the UK.

The learning activities explain the arrangements for devolution in the UK, including the role of the devolved administrations and devolved legislatures, the difference between reserved and devolved powers and the asymmetrical nature of devolution.

You will also learn about the devolution settlements, decentralisation and City Deals and English Votes for English Laws.

It will also explain the importance of the Devolution 'Memorandum of Understanding and Supplementary Agreements', which sets out a framework and principles for how the UK administrations work together.

What does it involve?

This topic consists of online learning and a half-day workshop, covering information on how the UK is governed and how the different governments operating in the UK work together. During the workshop, you will hear from experienced professionals who have worked on a range of devolution matters and learn about the principles and practice of working with counterparts in other UK administrations. You will also explore confidentiality, when to seek legal advice and the boundaries of devolution, where reserved and devolved powers meet.

At the end of the session, you will be given support to help you build a network of intergovernmental contacts that will help you communicate and collaborate with the devolved administrations.

You can also choose to do this topic in a [digital-only format](#).

What's the outcome?

You will be able to describe what devolution is and recognise the different arrangements in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, as well as for decentralisation in England.

You will understand the benefits of intergovernmental working and how devolution affects the work of civil servants.

Having this knowledge will increase your awareness of how different devolution settlements impact on policy and delivery across the UK – improving your ability to take a UK-wide view on delivering your objectives. It will support communication and collaboration across the UK's administrations.

Learning activities



Online
resources




Online
tutorial




Workshop

Delivery method:

F2F 

VLE 

DGTL 

Estimated learning time:

7 hours

How to book

learn.civilservice.gov.uk

0203 640 7985

support@governmentcampus.co.uk