Introduction to policy

Working in public policy within the Civil Service is a privilege, allowing you to work with government ministers and advisers to make decisions that will impact the lives of people around the country.

Whether you are joining the Civil Service as a policy professional or moving into a policy role from another discipline, this topic will provide you with the essential knowledge to help you make sense of the policy landscape.

Description

This topic will introduce you to some of the issues policy professionals need to consider both when formulating policy recommendations and when planning and implementing the proposals.

You'll learn what policy is, how it is developed and what policy makers do. You'll also come to understand what decision-makers need from policy advice, what expectations senior decision-makers such as ministers and officials have and how your advice is used.

This is ideal for those new to the Civil Service and with limited experience of policy development, as well as those moving from an operational role into a policy role.

What does it involve?

This topic will provide general awareness of policy work. It features a variety of learning activities including videos that explain the role of a policy professional and the processes behind policy development. It includes an online tutorial and a reflective task. The tutorial will help you understand ways to develop robust policy by looking at the 3 core components of policy making in government – politics, evidence and delivery.

The activities will last for approximately 2 hours in total. At the end you will have access to take-away materials to refer back to as and when you need them.

What's the outcome?

After completing this topic, you'll understand the critical components of policy development. You'll appreciate the importance of analysis and the use of evidence when making recommendations. You'll also be able to recognise the Standards within the Policy Profession Career Path, what these mean for policy professionals and how to create a personal development plan.

By understanding the tools, techniques and methodologies that underpin robust policy development, policy professionals and those who are tasked to implement policy across the Civil Service will have a better appreciation of why policies succeed or fail. In addition, they will know how using a range of approaches and techniques can help support successful policy outcomes

Learning activities

Online resources

Online tutorial

Estimated learning time:
2 hours

How to book

learn.civilservice.gov.uk

0203 640 7985
support@governmentcampus.co.uk

Price band: Free