

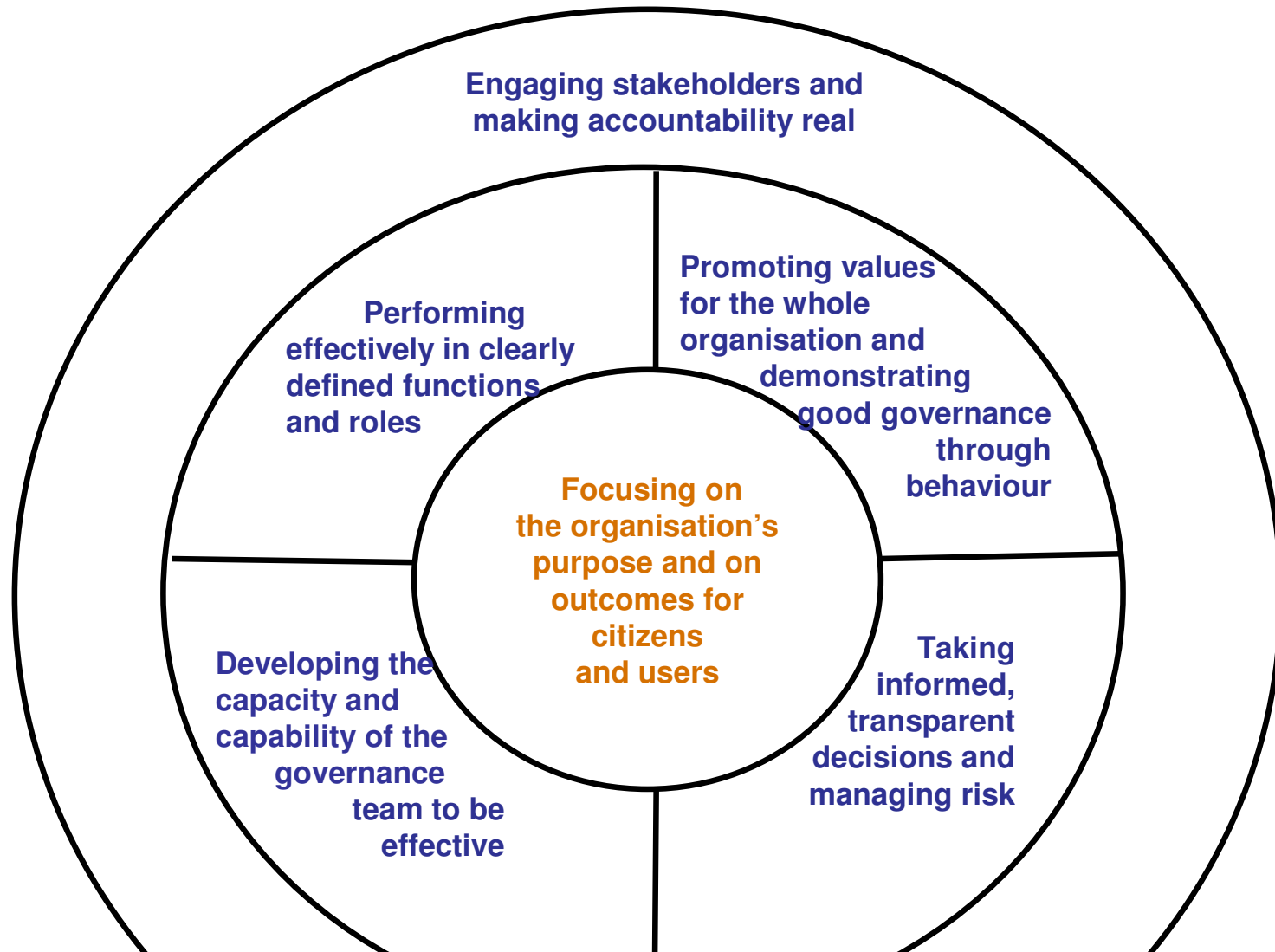
# Assessment, commissioning and the future?

The future of assessment : NLGN seminar  
24 March 2010

Hilary Thompson  
OPM

# Overview

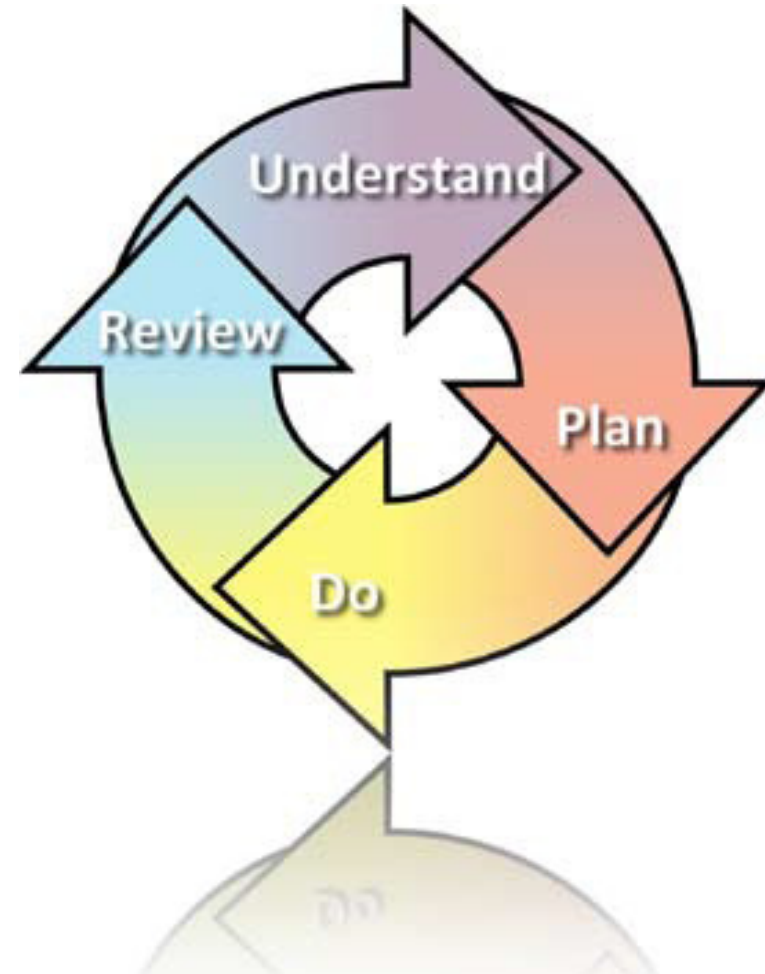
- **Local authorities now**
  - Good governance
  - Good commissioning
  - Current agendas
- **What the future may offer**
- **Future for assessment?**



# The good governance standard for public services

[www.opm.co.uk](http://www.opm.co.uk)

# Good commissioning .....



**Achieving better outcomes: Commissioning in children's services  
Commissioning Support Programme**

<http://www.commissioningsupport.org.uk/resource-bank/essential-reading-list.aspx>

# Commissioning is .....

- **Whole system**
- **About decisions that are**
  - Evidence based and transparent
  - Informed by wide involvement – users and providers
  - Outcome focussed
- **Led**
- **Governed**

# Current local authority agendas

- **Local leadership of place and people**
  - duty to lead on quality of life working with and through others (LG Act 2008) – including scrutiny
- **Better use of resources across partners**
  - Commissioning/next generation efficiency/Total Place
  - Children's Trusts
  - Integration with PCTs?
- **Reduced carbon futures**

.....this means working in partnership in roles that are understood

# What the future is likely to offer.....

- **More**
  - co-production with citizens
  - personalisation and individual budgets
  - changing behaviours
  - co-payment by many
- **Focus on**
  - anti poverty – 20% of the population
  - new, more effective and efficient services for 5% of families

# What the future may perhaps offer.....

- **New metrics for wider impact?**
- **New models for public service delivery?**
  - eg user and employee ownership
- **A new Beyond Beveridge settlement?**
  - a shift in culture: from social security to social productivity
  - a shift in power: from centre to citizens
  - a shift in finance: reconnecting financing with the purposes of public services

[www.2020publicservicetrust.org](http://www.2020publicservicetrust.org)

# Future for assessment?

- **Fit for future**
  - assessment of a more commissioned, more plural system?
- **Direction of travel**
  - retain independent national regulation
  - lighter touch, risk based
  - system and sustainability focus?
- **Build sector ownership of**
  - improvement processes
  - evidence about what works?