# Auditing the Use of Natural Resources

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**Barcelona October 2009** 



### **My Presentation**

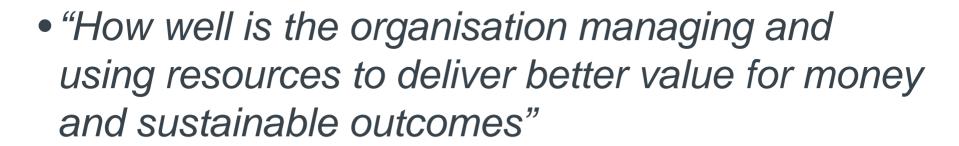
- 1. Auditing value for money
- 2. Why are natural resources important?
- 3. Audit methodologies
- 4. Current results





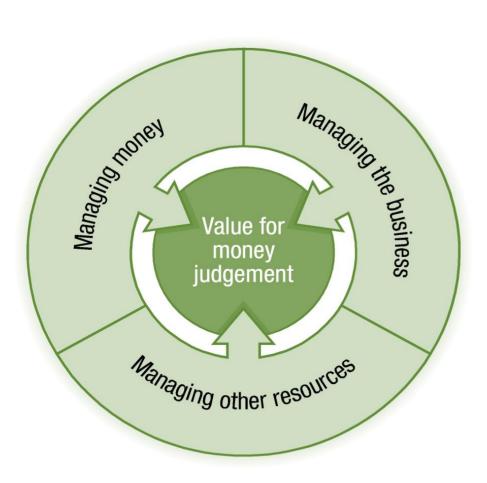
### **Auditing Value for Money**

- Responsibility of public bodies
- Annual assessment
- Scored and published





# **Auditing Value for Money – 3** themes



1 = Not adequate

2 = Adequate

3 = Well

4 = Excellent



# **Managing Resources**

- 1. Assets and Property
- 2. People
- 3. Natural Resources







# Why is management of natural resources important?

- 1. Contributes to sustainable development
- 2. Maintain resources for future
- 3. Reduces pollution
- 4. Influence others by example
- 5. Enhances credibility
- 6. Resources cost money





### What 'natural resources'?

- Energy
- Water
- Clean air
- Land and soil
- Materials



- plant and animal products
- metal and minerals
- waste



# The Methodology

#### 3 Questions to explore:

- Does the Council understand and can it quantify the use of resources?
- 2. How does it manage performance to reduce the impact on the environment?
- 3. How does it manage environmental risks?





# **Understanding and Quantifying Resource Use**

#### Adequate

- Developing strategy
  - Gathering data
  - Setting targets
- Developing initiatives



#### **Doing Well**

- Reducing use
- Good knowledge
  - Effective plans
- Working with others





# **Managing Performance and Risks**

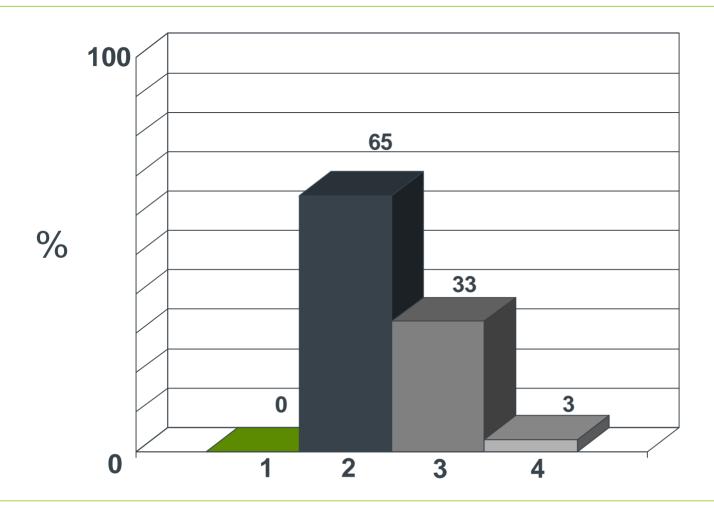
# **Adequate** • Systems in place to reduce use and manage performance Targets in place

#### **Doing Well**

- wide progress against strategy and plans
  - Significant risks identified
- Sustainability impact assessments



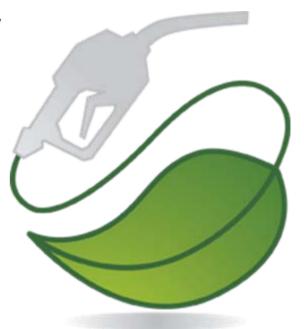
### **Results from Year 1**





### **Some Good Practices**

- Clear understanding of baseline
- Investment in renewable energy
- Use of bio-fuel
- Sustainable staff travel
- Significant carbon reductions
- Raised awareness
- Seeing the whole life costs





# Some messages from good practices

#### Energy costs can be managed,

 significant savings are possible - £420k investment in plant and insulation produced £674k annual savings for a London Borough,

#### Staff and Fleet travel

- Dual purpose waste vehicles reduced the number of journeys needed to collect waste and recyclates
- Rationalising social workers' caseloads means they spend less time travelling, and more time with clients
- And there are many more examples...
  - The wealth of examples we have shows that there is much more to gain

