

Total Place Local Spend Mapping Template

Total Place is made up of two complimentary strands at the local level:

- a “counting” process (mapping money flowing through the place from central and local bodies) and make links between services to identify where public money can be spent more effectively
- a “culture” process that looks at “the way we do things round here” and how that helps or hinders what is trying to be achieved

The “counting” element will be undertaken in two stages:

- an initial “high-level” counting of total public sector spending in each pilot place, to be conducted locally in the first phase of the project to provoke and stimulate challenge local partners about how public money comes together
- a “deep dive” look in more detail at the public spending specific to the theme that each pilot chooses to focus on and linking directly with work on service transformation

This template relates to the high-level counting part of Total Place and is intended to be a tool to assist this work at the local level. It has been developed in consultation with experts and practitioners who have conducted similar work in the past, as well as colleagues from some of the pilot areas that have started this work. The following principles have guided the development of the template:

- The primary aim is for this to be a tool for local pilots to help develop an initial impression of the broad volumes of total public spending locally to help start the Total Place conversation locally
- The initial high-level counting will need to be done quickly, ideally to feed in to the local “culture” discussion at an early stage. The Total Place national project plan sets the expectation that it will be complete by end July 2009
- Pilots may choose to begin the deep-dive work at the same time as or during the high-level spend mapping if this fits with the pilot’s preferred approach
- The template is intended to help local partners scope the work to be done for the high-level spend mapping and to capture the range of the public sector organisations that spend money at the local level
- It will be helpful to have a degree of consistency in the pilots’ approaches to the high level mapping, and it is expected that the total spending analysis will be shared with the national project team
- We recommend that pilots use the United Nations Classifications of Functions of Government (COFOG) methodology as this offers a consistent high-level approach that applies across the public sector at the local, regional and national levels. A workbook of all COFOG definitions is attached.
- When asked, pilots showed approximately equal support for using CIPFA classifications as they fit most readily with local authority accounts,

although it is not clear how easily they can be applied to all parts of the public sector. Pilots that have a strong preference for using the CIPFA classifications are free to do so. The attached table shows how the CIPFA classification map against the COFOG.

- Double counting should be avoided. Consideration of the original source of spending will help to identify this, for example where a regional body gives a grant to a local body
- Pilots are encouraged to conduct this work from a bottom-up approach and should draw on spending information available at the local level. The template includes guidance on how to obtain spending data from different national, regional and local organisations.
- Where data is not readily available at the spatial level of the pilot, or where boundaries of organisations are not coterminous, the organisations concerned should be asked to make an approximate estimate of spending in the pilot area boundary. As a last resort a population based proxy can be applied to disaggregate spending to the local level.
- If local partners experience difficulty in obtaining data or estimates from local, regional or national partners in the time available, the first point of contact should be the Government Office Network Locality Managers. HM Treasury will provide support in working with national agencies to identify estimates of local spending as necessary.