

## *Managing Budget Cuts in the Public Sector*

The cuts are coming. The best you can do is make the process as rational, transparent and painless as possible. Complexity Solutions and Catalyze have joined forces to offer a proven, effective and configurable process to meet the needs of the public sector at this time of rapid adaptation to tighter financial constraints.

### *Process in outline:*

The process involves working in groups with a proven process and skilled facilitators. It uses on-the-spot computer-based modeling of both quantitative and qualitative data and information. The model and the results it generates are displayed continuously throughout: such visual aids can empower those without technical knowledge to take part effectively. The purpose is to achieve:

- Transparency – decisions taken are defensible and with an audit trail
- Shared understanding of the issues
- A sense of common purpose, while preserving individual differences of opinion
- Commitment to the way forward – but allowing individual differences in the paths taken

### *Quotes:*

*“The real benefit is engagement in the process.”*

Dr Jenifer Smith, Public Health Director and Chief Medical Adviser, Isle of Wight

*“It empowers them to justify even the difficult decisions, especially if they're looking at disinvestment, which is politically very, very difficult to do.”*

Mara Aioldi, Researcher and facilitator, London School of Economics

*“Wholly collaborative end-to-end process”; “Everyone’s opinion is respected”;*  
*“How else could it have been done?”*

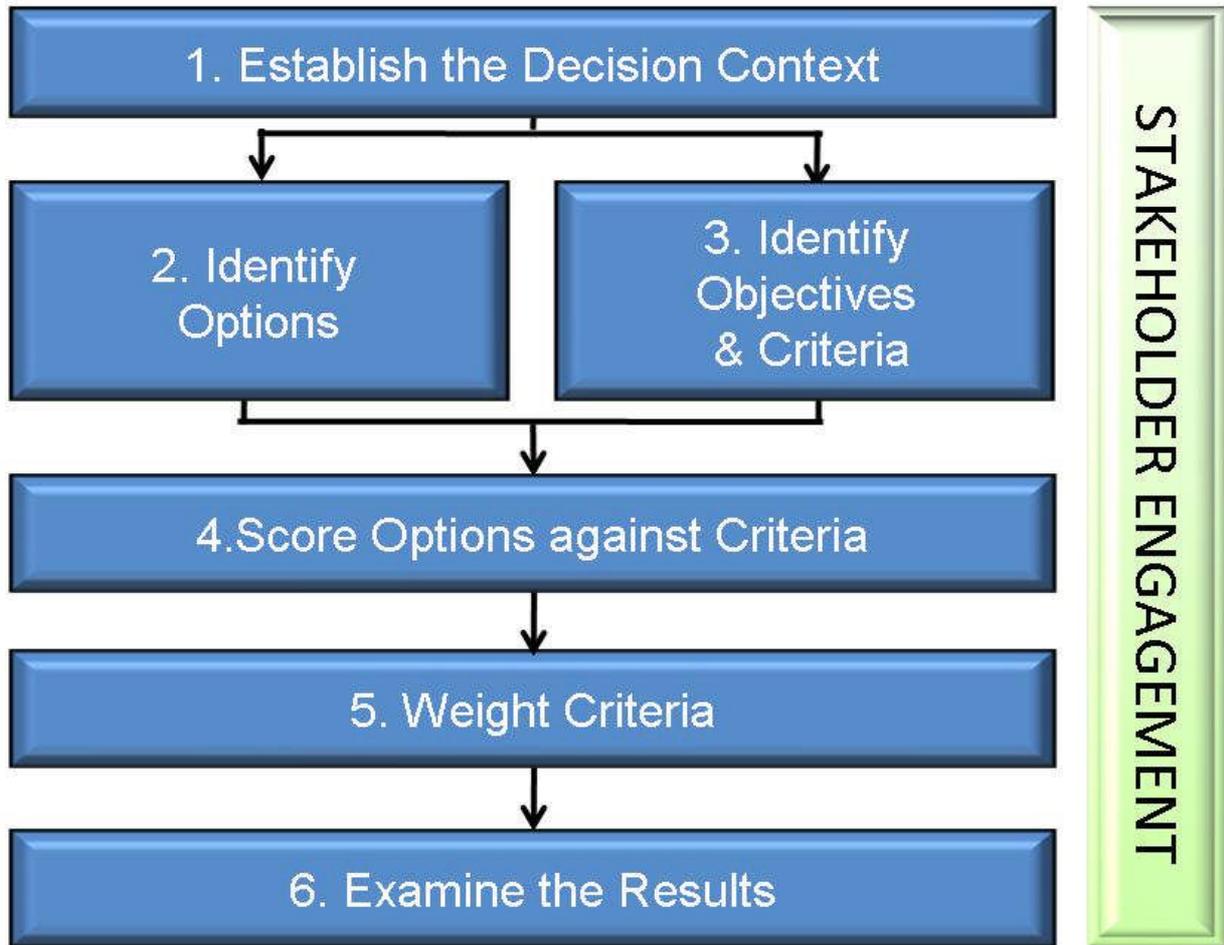
Process participants, Buxton

### *References:*

- Treasury Green Book <http://bit.ly/cmKssx>
- DCLG MCDA Manual <http://bit.ly/bBMdUX>



*The Process:*



*The Partners:*

Catalyze are forerunners in the development of Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis methods and tools, originally developed in conjunction with the London School of Economics. Customers include the Ministry of Defence, the NHS and the National Audit Office.

Complexity Solutions has a 20-year track-record of resolving complex, high value and often politically sensitive issues. UK public sector clients include the Ministry of Defence and the NHS.

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