



1. Home (<https://www.gov.uk/>)
2. Government (<https://www.gov.uk/government/all>)
3. Government efficiency, transparency and accountability
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/government-efficiency-transparency-and-accountability>)
4. Government spending (<https://www.gov.uk/government/government-spending>)

Guidance

The Green Book: appraisal and evaluation in central government

HM Treasury guidance on how to appraise and evaluate policies, projects and programmes.

From:

HM Treasury (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/hm-treasury>) and Government Finance Function
(<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/government-finance-function>)

Published

18 April 2013

Last updated

3 December 2020 — See all updates

Documents

The Green Book (2020)

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/938046/The_Green_Book_2020.pdf)

P.D.F., 2.89MB, 152 pages

The Green Book (2020) (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-green-book-appraisal-and-evaluation-in-central-government/the-green-book-2020>)

HTML

Business case guidance for projects

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/749086/Project_Business_Case_2018.pdf)

P.D.F., 1.82MB, 134 pages

Business case guidance for programmes

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/749085/Programme_Business_Case_2018.pdf)

P.D.F., 1.22MB, 111 pages

Agile digital and IT projects: clarification of business case guidance

(<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-green-book-appraisal-and-evaluation-in-central-government/agile-digital-and-it-projects-clarification-of-business-case-guidance>)

HTML

Details

The Green Book is guidance issued by HM Treasury on how to appraise policies, programmes and projects. It also provides guidance on the design and use of monitoring and evaluation before, during and after implementation.

Previous editions of the Green Book

The previous 2003 edition of Green Book guidance is now withdrawn. For purposes of academic study and public information it may be found on the National Archives website

(http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20080305121602/http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/media/3/F/green_book_260907.pdf).

Published 18 April 2013

Last updated 3 December 2020 + show all updates

1. 3 December 2020
Updated with HTML version of The Green Book 2020.
2. 25 November 2020
Updated with The Green Book 2020.
3. 19 November 2020
Reduced content on page.
4. 21 July 2020
Updated with 'Infrastructure Business Case: International Guidance, Infrastructure Business Case: International Guidance Annexes and Infrastructure Business Case: International Case Study'.
5. 23 April 2020
Added Business Case Templates documents to the page
6. 19 March 2019
Updated with revised version of 'Access to training and accreditation in best practice business cases'.
7. 18 October 2018
Replaced 'Public sector business cases using five case model: guidance' with 'Business case guidance for programmes', 'Business case guidance for projects', 'Business case guidance for programmes (International version)' and 'Business case guidance for projects (International version)'.
8. 6 March 2018
New version of the Green Book published, as well as accompanying academic paper.
9. 11 November 2016
Link to new guidance on Treasury approvals for programmes and projects added.
10. 20 October 2015
Updated better business cases guidance published
11. 19 November 2014
updated 'Access to training and accreditation in best practice business cases' publication

12. 6 August 2014

Public sector business cases using the five case model: templates file (.doc) replaced (with .odt)

13. 11 April 2014

'Agile digital and IT projects: clarification of business case guidance' published

14. 4 February 2014

Updated guidance on public sector business cases using the 'five case model' published

15. 18 April 2013

First published.

Related content

- The Green Book and accompanying guidance and documents (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/the-green-book-and-accompanying-guidance-and-documents>)
- Levelling Up Fund: additional documents (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/levelling-up-fund-additional-documents>)
- Spend controls framework (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/spend-controls-framework>)
- Assess the impact of air quality (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/assess-the-impact-of-air-quality>)
- Culture and Heritage Capital portal (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/culture-and-heritage-capital-portal>)

Collection

- The Green Book and accompanying guidance and documents (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/the-green-book-and-accompanying-guidance-and-documents>)
- Government Finance Function (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/government-finance-function>)
- Transforming government (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/the-cross-government-transformation-programme>)

Explore the topic

- Government spending (<https://www.gov.uk/government/government-spending>)

Is this page useful?

-
-

Thank you for your feedback

Help us improve GOV.UK

Don't include personal or financial information like your National Insurance number or credit card details.

What were you doing?

What went wrong?

Help us improve GOV.UK

To help us improve GOV.UK, we'd like to know more about your visit today. We'll send you a link to a feedback form. It will take only 2 minutes to fill in. Don't worry we won't send you spam or share your email address with anyone.

Email address