Key actions table

By Business Case Approach phase and the five-case model

Select the links to go to web pages with more information about the phases, cases and other guidance.

			(activity)		
BCA phase	Point of entry	Programme business case	Indicative business case (activity)	Detailed business case (activity)	Pre-implementation and implementation phases
Five-case model	F				
Strategic case	Check: • What's known • What's needed	Develop: Strategic context Problem/benefit definition Risks and uncertainties Investment objectives	Progress/refine: Strategic context Problem/benefit definition (activity) Risks and uncertainties (activity) Investment objectives (activity)	Progress/refine: Strategic context Problem/benefit definition (activity) Risks and uncertainties (activity) Investment objectives (activity)	Review and confirm: • The case for change
Economic case	Check: • What's known • What's needed	Develop: • Multi-criteria analysis (MCA) criteria • Alternatives and options • Strategic response • Recommended programme	Progress/refine: (activity-level) • MCA criteria • Longlist options and evaluation • Recommended option (or shortlist)	Progress/refine: Recommended option (or shortlist) Develop: Economic evaluation of shortlist Other MCA criteria Preferred option	Review and confirm: Optioneering from detailed business case
Commercial case	Check: • What's known • What's needed	Develop: (high-level - programme) • Procurement strategy	Progress/refine: (high-level - activity) • Procurement strategy	Progress/refine: Procurement strategy Risk allocation Contractual and other issues	Finalise: • Procurement risk management
Financial case	Check: • What's known • What's needed	Develop: (high-level) • Programme affordability and funding	Progress/refine: (high-level) • Activity affordability and funding	Progress/refine: • Activity funding plan	Finalise: • Activity funding plan
Management case	Check: • What's known • What's needed	Develop: • Programme management planning (including implementation plan) • Programme governance	Progress/refine: (high-level - activity) • Project management planning	Progress/refine: Project management planning Change, benefits, risk and post-project management planning	Finalise: Project management arrangements Change, benefits, risk and post-project management planning arrangements

Single-stage business case

Note: If you are going straight from point of entry to an indicative or single-stage business case, the above actions will be 'Develop' instead of 'Progress/refine'.



