

Appendix D: Criteria for the evaluation of Privatisation

Referenced on pages 233 and 393 of the paperback.

Economy

1. ECONOMIC IMPACT

Strategic objectives and priorities

Impact on local, regional, national economies

Effect of competition, ownership and market forces

Effect on efficiency and productivity

Economic costs of congestion

2. INVESTMENT and INNOVATION

Investment strategy

Research and development

Economic development

Reconfiguration and improvement of public services

3. ECONOMIC & SOCIAL NEED AND DEMAND

Identify and quantify social needs

Private sector dictating social and public needs

Demand forecasts based on different scenarios and assessed for optimism bias

Public costs

4. FINANCIAL IMPACT, PUBLIC COSTS AND AFFORDABILITY

Financing method

Public costs and affordability

Cost of state support for market mechanisms, guarantees, subsidies

Effect of 'buy now-pay later' financing

Transaction costs

Cost overruns and delays

Assessment of claimed cost savings

Valuation of public assets

Taxation and offshoring

Secondary market and profiteering

Foreign direct investment

Implications of refinancing deals

5. USER COSTS

Impact of changes in charges/rents/tolls/prices/fares/tuition fees/tariffs Affordability

Effect of top-ups for vouchers and personal budgets

Increased debt and effects of financialisation and personalisation

6. CORPORATE WELFARE

Dependence on public subsidies, loans, guarantees, vouchers, tax credits

Free trade agreements

Increased corporate influence in the local economy

Quality of public services, networks and buildings

7. QUALITY OF SERVICES and INFRASTRUCTURE

Performance of privatised assets

Performance of privately operated public services – inputs, processes, outputs, outcomes Defaults and financial reductions for non-availability and/or poor services.

Technical assessment of delivery plan

Service improvement, integration and operational flexibility

Urban-rural provision

Quality of repairs and maintenance

8. **DESIGN**

Design vision and standards

Flexibility and adaptability of infrastructure

Urban design policy

Long-term asset management proposals

Equalities and social justice

9. SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EQUITY

Access, discrimination, participation

Impact on poverty

Equality Impact Assessment

Welfare distribution

Intergenerational equity

Effect on employment inequalities

10. SOCIAL IMPACT

Community needs met

Demographic change

Relocation and transitional severance

11. PUBLIC HEALTH

Health and safety

Health inequalities

Community well-being

Nature and environment

12. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Prevention of commercialisation and marketisation of ecosystem services

Safeguarding biodiversity, flora and fauna

Noise and air quality

Reverse land degradation

Landscape, heritage

Water quality

Environmental Impact Assessment

Environmental and climate risks

Waste management and recycling

13. CLEAN ENERGY ECONOMY AND CLIMATE ACTION

Contribution to lean energy economy

Reduction in emissions

Mitigation and adaption of infrastructure to climate change

Employment

14. QUALITY OF EMPLOYMENT

Staffing levels (and job creation targets if relevant)

Fair/Living wage and benefits, minimum and living wages, pensions

Training and education

Working conditions and health and safety

Trade union recognition, bargaining and facilities

Staff and trade union participation in planning, design and delivery

Compliance with labour standards and rights

Employment impact by gender, race, age, education and income group

Offshoring jobs

Relationship between quality of employment and quality of service

Employer use of agency and interim staffing companies

Democratic accountability

15. DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE, PARTICIPATION AND TRANSPARENCY

Neoliberal transformation of democratic structures

Impact on democratic accountability

Democratic accountability of contracts, joint ventures and 'partnerships'

Effect of new private organisations and zones

Accountability of regulatory agencies

Transparency

Monitoring, scrutiny and reviews

16. CITIZEN, USER AND STAFF PARTICIPATION

Participation of service users, citizens, staff and representative organisations Linkage between involvement and quality of service

17. POWER SHIFT

'Empowerment' of poor and working class communities Effect on trade union and community organising

Increased power of business interests

Public sector capability

18. IMPACT ON PUBLIC POLICIES AND PUBLIC SECTOR CAPABILITY

Impact on the public domain, public rights and public interest

Effect on other public services and welfare state

Effect of mainstreaming procurement and contract culture

Loss of capacity in the planning and development process

Potential longer-term exploitation, distortion and change of core objectives

Foreign policy impact

Effect on government ability to regulate

Capacity to manage, amend or terminate contracts

Embedding public service principles and values

Loss of intellectual knowledge

Constraints on digitisation and automation of services

19. **RISKS**

Assess strategic risks

Assess allocation and responsibility for risks

Risk retention/transfer and pricing

Increased corruption

20. MARKET AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

Effect of deregulation/need for re-regulation

Planning and development controls

Market support mechanisms required

Effect of Regulatory Asset Base for utility services

Available from https://www.european-services-strategy.org.uk/public-ownership