Public Sector Examples of Linking Strategic Objectives to Budget Allocation

Recognising **strategic objectives in the annual budget** means ensuring that what is funded clearly reflects what the organisation says it wants to achieve.

Below are **practical public sector examples**, framed in a way that would suit a Ministry, Legal Aid Authority, or Central Government Department.

Example 1: Ministry of Justice – Reducing Court Backlogs

Strategic Objective

Reduce average case processing time by 30% by 2028.

How It Is Recognised in the Annual Budget

Budget Line	Link to Strategic Objective	Evidence of Alignment
£12m – Recruitment of 150 court clerks	Increase processing capacity	Staffing directly increases case throughput
£8m – Digital case management system	Improve efficiency & reduce delays	Capital investment tied to backlog KPI
£3m – Judicial overtime fund	Short-term backlog reduction	Explicitly linked to performance targets

What Good Practice Looks Like

- Budget narrative explicitly states: *"This allocation supports Strategic Objective 1: Reduce Court Backlog."*
- KPI in budget document:
  - Baseline: 420 days
  - Target: 320 days
- Performance indicators included in budget annex.

Example 2: Free Legal Aid Agency – Improving Access to Justice

Strategic Objective

Increase access to legal aid for vulnerable groups by 20% by 2027.

Recognition in the Annual Budget

Budget Allocation	Strategic Link	Performance Indicator
UAH 5m – Outreach clinics in rural areas	Expand geographic coverage	Number of rural beneficiaries
UAH 2m – Digital application portal	Reduce barriers to entry	% of online applications
UAH 4m – Civil society partnership grants	Target vulnerable groups	Cases supported for priority groups

Practical Mechanism Used

- Programme-based budgeting structure
- Each programme mapped to strategic objectives

- Budget justification template includes mandatory field: *"Strategic Objective Supported"*

Example 3: Ministry of Finance – Strengthening Public Financial Management

Strategic Objective

Train 80% of finance officers in PFM and internal control systems by 2027.

Budget Recognition

Programme	Budget	Output Target
PFM Training Programme	£1.2m	1,000 officers trained
E-learning Platform	£600k	5 online modules developed
Internal Control Certification	£400k	300 certifications issued

Strong Alignment Features

- Outputs quantified in the budget
- Medium-term expenditure framework (MTEF) shows multi-year funding
- Performance-based budget annex

Example 4: Health Ministry – Reducing Maternal Mortality

Strategic Objective

Reduce maternal mortality rate by 15% by 2026.

Budget Recognition in Practice

- Ring-fenced maternal health programme
- Capital investment in rural clinics
- KPI integrated into budget documentation
- Performance-based grant to regions tied to mortality reduction targets