6 diagrams for academic library development

1. **The service seesaw**

   ![Diagram of a seesaw]

   The service seesaw looks at how far members of your team consider you are under and/or over-performing, and how far you are achieving the right balance. This is particularly useful when discussing problem services or efficiency-savings. Get your team to draw the see-saw to evaluate a particular service and discuss the elements that tip the balance.

2. **The annual overview**

   ![Diagram of annual overview]

   This diagramme provides with you an annual overview showing you key activities or projects running across one year. This can help for organisational / departmental purposes, as well as for individual planning.

3. **The molecular structure**

   ![Diagram of molecular structure]

   This diagramme helps show connections between a larger complex issue or service. Each atom represents one part of the larger whole. It is flexible in as much as many atoms can be added or taken away. Lines show the connections between the parts, showing the crucial elements of the whole with the most connections.
4. **The central theme satellite**

The central theme allows you to connect to sub-themes visually. E.g. Open Science could be the central theme on which you want to build new services. Sub-themes could include open access, open peer review or open data.

5. **The bull's eye**

This diagramme is great to use when looking at the circle of influence in your organisation or as a circle of concern. The core is your key focal point or essence of your problem. The wider the layer, the larger the issue, client group or theme.

6. **The axis of barriers**

This diagramme helps visualise obstacles in the area of an innovative idea, or in a service area for example which still has not met with user expectations. This visual can be used as part of a risk analysis in the idea development stage or later on into the process as a way of recording and discussing key barriers.

Sept 2016, Vanessa Proudman