

By: Graham Badman, Managing Director Children, Families, Health and Education

To: Children Families and Education Policy Overview Committee
- 3 June 2008

Subject: NEW NATIONAL INDICATOR SET

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: 2007/08 was the final year for BVPIs. They have been replaced by a new National Indicator set from April 2008.

This report seeks to provide background information for Members on the development of the new National Indicator Set as well as set out those indicators that fall into the remit of this committee.

FOR INFORMATION

Introduction

1. (1) Government is committed to reducing the burden of information collection and performance management on local government and its partners. The recent publication of the new National Indicators represents a major milestone in this journey. The NIS will form part of the new performance arrangements for local government under the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) which will also include assessments of: a) current risks and how they are being managed, b) use of resources and c) a direction of travel statement from the inspectorates.

(2) The CAA is still being piloted and the precise framework is yet to be finalised. However the final version of the NIS was issued in April this year. In total there are 198 indicators. All previous indicator sets for local government such as BVPIs are being abolished although many of the remaining indicators have their roots in existing indicators.

Reducing Burdens

2. (1) The new 198 National Indicators meet many of the requirements that Kent argued for within the presentation by the KCC Chief Executive to Treasury staff in 2006. We have a streamlined set of indicators, which all partners, agencies, quangos and government departments will be working to, tied to the national PSA targets of government, and consistently implemented throughout all public services. This is a significant step forward and provides a much simpler and more coherent framework for monitoring performance.

(2) All previous indicator sets such as BVPIs are being abolished. Only the new national indicators will be used for performance management arrangements and target setting between local areas and government departments. Key areas for improvement will be included as part of the 35 indicators agreed as part of the Local Area Agreement.

(3) All 198 National Indicators will need to be collected and reported upon and they will be one of the underpinning planks of Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) which replaces CPA from 2009.

(4) Government will still require many detailed information returns covering financial, statistical and contextual information, which represent a greater collection burden than the 198 indicators and therefore there are concerns that this does not represent a significant reduction overall. However, government has made a clear commitment in the Comprehensive Spending Review 2007 to reduce these additional collection burdens by 30% by 2010.

Discontinuities

3. (1) While a large number of the 198 indicators are available from current data collections, they do, however, represent new indicators to be tracked within the councils performance management processes.

(2) A number of indicators require new or changed data collection processes as the government has set new priorities and/or definitions. The final definitions for the new indicators were only issued at the start of April 2008. This means that for a number of indicators we are not yet in a position to establish baselines or consider whether performance requires attention as we do not have data or comparative benchmarks. It will probably require 18 months for many new indicators to bed down and for useful comprehensive data to be available for all indicators.

Corporate Related National Indicators

4. Set out in Appendix 1 is a list of the new National Indicators that have a direct relevance to this Committee. Please note that a number of indicators cut across Directorates.

Conclusion

5. The initiative of the new National Indicator set should be welcomed, and is exactly the sort of framework KCC has argued for very strongly. However, the major changes represented by the re-structuring of national indicators, and the move towards comprehensive area assessment represents a significant challenge as we adapt to the new framework over the next 18 months.

Recommendations

6. Members are asked to NOTE the report.

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Background Documents:

None

Other Useful Information:

None

CFHE indicators (new NI set wef 1st April 2008)**Secondary**

Ref	Indicator
NI 74	Achievement at level 5 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 3 (Threshold)
NI 77	Reduction of schools where fewer than 50% of pupils achieve level 5 or above in both English and Maths at KS3 (Floor)
NI 83	Achievement at level 5 or above in Science at Key Stage 3
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths (Threshold)
NI 78	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30 % of pupils achieve 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths (Floor)
NI 84	Achievement of 2 or more A*-C grades in Science GCSEs or equivalent
NI 95	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3
NI 96	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3
NI 97	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4
NI 98	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4
NI 102	Achievement gap between pupils eligible for free school meals and their peers achieving the expected level at Key Stages 2 and 4
NI 105	The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap – achieving 5 A*-C GCSE inc. English and Maths
NI 108	Key Stage 4 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups
NI 87	Secondary school persistent absence rate

Key Stage 2

Ref	Indicator
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold)
NI 76	Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 65% of pupils achieve at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2 (Floor)
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
NI 104	The Special Educational Needs (SEN)/non-SEN gap – achieving Key Stage 2 English and Maths threshold
NI 107	Key Stage 2 attainment for Black and minority ethnic groups

Early years

Ref	Indicator
NI 109	Number of Sure Start Children Centres

FSP

Ref	Indicator
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest

Post-16

Ref	Indicator
NI 79	Achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19
NI 80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19
NI 81	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19
NI 82	Inequality gap in the achievement of a Level 2 qualification by the age of 19
NI 85	Post-16 participation in physical sciences (A Level Physics, Chemistry and Maths)
NI 90	Take up of 14-19 learning diplomas
NI 91	Participation of 17 year-olds in education or training
NI 106	Young people from low income backgrounds progressing to higher education
NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)

Schools

Ref	Indicator
NI 52	Take up of school lunches
NI 89	Reduction in number of schools judged as requiring special measures and improvements in time taken to come out of category
NI 88	Number of Extended Schools

Behaviour

Ref	Indicator
NI 69	Children who have experienced bullying
NI 86	Secondary schools judged as having good or outstanding standards of behaviour
NI 114	Rate of permanent exclusions from school

Health

Ref	Indicator
NI 50	Emotional health of children
NI 51	Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health (CAMHs) services
NI 70	Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people
NI 55	Obesity among primary school age children in Reception Year (Two indicators)
NI 56	Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6 (Two indicators)
NI 57	Children and young people's participation in high-quality PE and sport
NI 112	Under 18 conception rate
NI 115	Substance misuse by young people

AEN

Ref	Indicator
NI 54	Services for disabled children
NI 103	Special Educational Needs – statements issued within 26 weeks

Other

Ref	Indicator
NI 116	Proportion of children in poverty

Fully or Partially Undefined Indicators

Ref	Indicator
NI 71	Children who have run away from home/care overnight

Children's Social Care Indicators

Ref	Indicator
NI 59	Initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 7 working days of referral
NI 60	Core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement
NI 68	Referrals to children's social care going on to initial assessment

Children's Social Care Indicators – Child protection

Ref	Indicator
NI 64	Child protection plans lasting 2 years or more
NI 65	Children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time
NI 67	Child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales

Children's Social Care Indicators – LAC

Ref	Indicator
NI 58	Emotional and behavioural health of children in care
NI 61	Stability of looked after children adopted following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption
NI 62	Stability of placements of looked after children: number of moves
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement
NI 66	Looked after children cases which were reviewed within required timescales
NI 99	Children in care reaching level 4 in English at Key Stage 2
NI 100	Children in care reaching level 4 in Maths at Key Stage 2
NI 101	Children in care achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs (or equivalent) at Key Stage 4 (including English and Maths)

Children's Social Care Indicators – care leavers

Ref	Indicator
NI 147	Care leavers in suitable accommodation
NI 148	Care leavers in employment, education or training