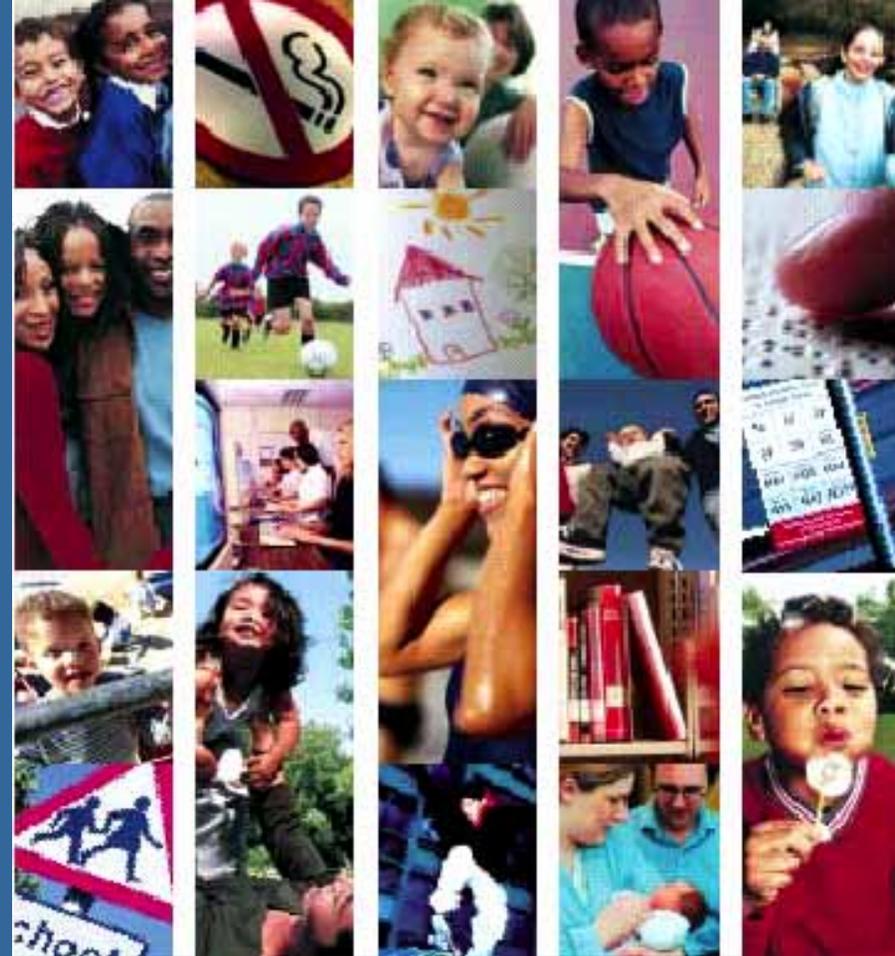


Measuring improvement in outcomes for children and young people



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Knowledge for Improvement project

- Knowledge needs –reviewing the way we measure progress against the ECM outcomes and aims
- Knowledge management – improving the way we collect, use and analyse knowledge – now and in the future

[‘We’ refers to the whole ECM: CfC programme, at a national, regional and local level]

Why bother?

- Outcomes and aims are very powerful
- But feedback suggests there are problems with the indicators beneath them:
 - Many are not outcome-focused
 - Many are not available at a local level
 - Uneven coverage across the outcomes
 - Uneven coverage across the age ranges

How can we improve?

The Kfl project is proposing 4 linked pieces of work:

1. Develop a set of 'descriptors' to clarify the aims and highlight their most important aspects
2. Use the descriptors to develop a more complete set of *population indicators*
3. Work with inspectorates and local authorities to refine the existing set of *performance measures*
4. Ensure that quality data is available to underpin the indicators and measures and allow breakdown of outcomes for vulnerable groups

Principles (1)

- Indicators and measures must meet the needs of central government, local areas and inspectorates – all stakeholders should be involved in their development

Principles (2)

- Indicators and measures should be available at a national and local level
- The set should be as small as possible – e.g. one indicator per descriptor
- They are focused on outcomes rather than processes (like the aims)
- They are applicable to all children and young people (like the aims)

Population indicators

We are developing possible indicators which will be assessed for:

- ***Communication Power:*** Does the indicator communicate to a broad and diverse audience?
- ***Proxy Power:*** Does the indicator say something of central importance about the descriptor?
- ***Data Power:*** Is quality data available on a timely basis at a national and local level?

Key challenges

- Using national surveys to provide local level results
- Unpicking data for all children and young people in order to identify the position for vulnerable groups

Workshop

- Response to proposed methodology, including:
 - how to achieve a set of measures which balances outcome-focused population indicators (the 'what' of performance) and service-level performance indicators (the 'why');
 - what other data LAs need to manage services;
- Comments on descriptors;
- Views of attendees on how to respond to key challenges.

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