

Silly Sausage Corner

Hello little sausages. Me again!

Are you all up-to-date with your Harry Potter reading? Just in case you're not, I'll won't mention who died in books 4 or 5. But a bit like changes in Secretaries of State for Happiness (did you know they used to be called Secretaries of State for Happiness and Silly Sausages?), they'll soon be forgotten as the plot moves on, so don't get upset. "Here today, gone tomorrow" as someone on the Telly once said.

So, I guess you're all fans of Quidditch. Indeed I think there have been some silly sausages, especially in Essex last summer, flying around on broomsticks. If you haven't heard about this you obviously have not been reading the Daily Mail. Very wise!

But have you ever thought Government policy was a little like the Golden Snitch? I have.

If you, the silly sausage Seeker, catch the Government policy Golden Snitch then you are just about guaranteed to come out on top and get a prize. You become a celebrated star (well, 3 star).

The only trouble is while you are dashing around trying to catch the Snitch, it keeps darting in different

directions (especially when there is a new Government minister, or bright new civil servant wanting to make their mark) and it passes you at high speed. Sometimes you can't even see it as the policy Snitch hides in some new Government guidance or statement!

And while you are playing fair and trying to get to grips with the Snitch, Bludgers (yes, Bludgers not Partners) keep attacking you and the Beaters on your team sometimes fail to protect you.

Maybe the Daily Mail (I think the editor is called Malfoy of the Mail. Honest!) and the Evening Standard are Bludgers trying to knock us silly sausages off course. If you are a front-line silly sausage maybe managers and local politicians are like Beaters, trying to steer the Bludgers away but sometimes failing. Ouch!

Anyway, 'til next time, keep caring.



Focusing on Outcomes:

Partnership Policy and Practice

This paper, written by Alison Petch, Ailsa Cook and Emma Miller was published in the Journal of Integrated Care Volume 13, Issue 6, December 2005 © Pavilion Publishing (Brighton).

Abstract

Policy and practice documents are increasingly adopting a focus on outcomes. This article seeks to clarify what is meant by the term 'outcome', the outcomes that have been highlighted in key policy documents, and the extent to which they reflect the outcomes prioritised by service users. The discussion will draw on the early stages of a DoH-funded project exploring the effectiveness of health and social care partnerships from the perspectives of service users.

The article can be accessed at www.pavpub.com/pavpub/journals/JIC/thismonths/sample.pdf

Alison Petch will be discussing issues relating to outcomes at the SSRG Annual Workshop - Ed