

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATIONAL INDICATOR SET TECHNICAL HANDBOOK - RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

**Name and address of responding organisation:  
Devon County Council**

**Is this your organisation's official response to the consultation? Y/N**

**Name and phone number of key contact in case of follow-up queries:  
Louise Taylor - 01392 383478**

**National Indicator Number:**

**NI040**

***Please complete a separate form for each indicator on which you wish to respond***

<b>Indicator Issue</b>	
<b>1. Is the Technical Definition of this indicator clear?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If NO a. What aspects of the technical definition of the indicator are unclear? Please specify clearly - is it in relation to the measurement method, or - on reporting b. Please suggest how the template can be clarified/improved.	<b>There is a conflict between the definition and the formula. The definition states this will be reported as a 'percentage' while the formula, rationale and return format refer to the 'number'. This should be recorded as a percentage or it will not permit comparisons.</b>
<b>2. Does the Technical Definition for this indicator have any unintended consequences?</b>	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If YES a. What are the unintended consequences on this national indicator? b. Can the unintended consequence be avoided? If so, how?	<b>An increase in treatment does not infer that harm is being reduced proportionately to need. If there is more drug use the increase in treatment may not have kept pace and therefore result in a</b>

	<b>smaller proportion getting treatment. The data should be recorded in some respect according to the need for the treatment.</b>
<b>3. Will the Technical Definitions for this indicator work in practice?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If NO a. Why would this technical definition not work in practice?	
<b>4. Is this indicator defined at the right spatial level?</b>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
a) If not, what level should it be defined at? (including whether information is already gathered and/or reported at that level and if so where, if not, estimated cost of collecting and reporting it)	
<b>5. Should data for this indicator be provided for any or all of the different equalities strands (please tick the relevant box)?</b>	Ethnicity <input type="checkbox"/> Gender <input type="checkbox"/> Religion <input type="checkbox"/> Age <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual orientation <input type="checkbox"/> Disability <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> (Please specify)
a) For any boxes ticked at 5, is this information already gathered and/or reported and, if so, where? If not, what would be the estimated additional burden of collecting and reporting it?	
<b>6. Further comments on the questions above and /or any other comments that are not covered above questions.</b>	

Completed versions can be sent to [niconsultation@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:niconsultation@communities.gsi.gov.uk).  
Hard copy responses should be returned to Local Government Quality and Performance Division, Zone J2, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Eland House, Bressenden Place, LONDON, SW1E 5DU.