

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:
Jamie Evans 01392 382165

National Indicator Number:

174

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

Indicator Issue	
1. Is the Technical Definition of this indicator clear?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input 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.	
2. Does the Technical Definition for this indicator have any unintended consequences?	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?	It is likely that due to the regional reporting of data for this indicator, significant local and sub-regional skills gaps will be subsumed into regional figures and LAA partnerships will not be aware of these. This will weaken local effectiveness to address problems.

3. Will the Technical Definitions for this indicator work in practice?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If NO a. Why would this technical definition not work in practice?	
4. Is this indicator defined at the right spatial level?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" 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)	Should also include county (and District or lower) level data as this will be one of the LAA area geographies and a significant degree of delivery is likely to be at this level. Data at a smaller spatial level is likely to be necessary to effect change in smaller, yet still very significant areas where major skills gaps may occur. Confidence levels, will however, need to be relatively high from this survey method, if data smaller geographies is to be provided.
5. Should data for this indicator be provided for any or all of the different equalities strands (please tick the relevant box)?	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?

6. Further comments on the questions above and /or any other comments that are not covered above questions.

Data for all LAA indicators to be available for similar time periods and all from the same source/hub

Comments from colleagues at the LSC:

This is an imprecise measure which is a useful indicator but is not an indicator that particularly supports decision making on the provision of learning. Doesn't really clarify the operational decisions that should follow.

Completed versions can be sent to niconsultation@communities.gsi.gov.uk. Hard copy responses should be returned to Local Government Quality and Performance Division, Zone J2, 4th Floor, Eland House, Bressenden Place, LONDON, SW1E 5DU.