

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:
Debbie Ford 01392 383074**

National Indicator Number:

68

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 type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES a. What are the unintended consequences on this national indicator? b. Can the unintended consequence be avoided? If so, how?	
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 checked="" 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)	
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.	
<p>Existing PI. Consultation document states that it is "difficult to quantify whether good performance is typified by higher or lower numbers". Not clear, therefore, what this PI is trying to ascertain and how performance will be judged. Issues re. data collection and definitions of a "referral" - DCSF publications on referrals/assessments acknowledge the "great variability between local authorities shown in some of the figures presented", which "may be a result of local differences in the interpretation of the definitions of the data categories."</p>	
<p>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.</p>	