

Appendix 3

Outcomes Dashboard - update

The purpose of the dashboard is to monitor the long-term progress of the Best Start in Life priority of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy. In this context, long-term means a year or more.

The JLHWBS itself defines four Best Start in Life ambitions, grouped into 16 desired outcomes. These reflect the positive changes we want to see. Since the last update in Dec 2023, we have developed and detailed 37 indicators to best measure those outcomes.

Selecting indicators and setting targets

Some outcomes can be measured directly (e.g. 1.1 Reduction in tooth decay), while others need to be approximated indirectly (e.g. 1.4 Increased mental wellbeing and resilience of parents and children). The best indicators are those that most directly measure the outcome desired, have data over many years to see trends and variation over time, and allow comparison with other similar areas in order to benchmark performance appropriately (comparing apples with apples). High-quality indicators have been prioritised based on these criteria.

Our ambition is to set targets for each indicator via the Early Years Partnership/BSiL Group. Targets are likely to be selected from the comparator data already documented. This has a number of advantages. The comparator data not only indicate what is realistic to achieve, but what has *actually* been achieved elsewhere; for example, in local authorities similar to our own, other local authorities in our region, or in England as a whole.

Suggestions for changes to indicators are appropriate and welcome and will be judged against the criteria for a high-quality indicator as part of their consideration for inclusion. We currently have over two indicators per outcome. Experience shows that too many indicators can confuse more than enlighten and we should resist a perpetually growing list.

How will we see change?

Short-term change, over less than a year will, be visible through progress against the actions listed in the implementation plan. This can be thought of as activity.

Longer-term change, over a year or more, will be visible through movement in the 37 indicators listed in the dashboard. This can be thought of as the outcome or impact of the shorter-term activity.

Next steps

- Targets to be set and added to dashboard via the Early Years Partnership/BSiL Group (March/April 2024)
- Feedback and finalisation of the current indicator set (March/April 2024)

- Ongoing indicator monitoring phase for Best Start in Life (annual review/update)
- Develop similar outcomes dashboard for Good Mental Health priority to be presented to the Board (June 2024)

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