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LOCAL AUTHORITY MEASURE OF SERVICES TO DISABLED CHILDREN (NATIONAL INDICATOR 54): 2008-09

INTRODUCTION

This publication reports initial results from the disabled children's services indicator for 2008-09. This includes an overall England baseline and scores for the 30 local authorities that have been included in this survey. These figures support National Indicator 54 (NI 54), which is to assess parents' experiences of services provided to disabled children, and is one of the 'vital sign' indicators (VSC 33) for Primary Care Trusts (PCTs). This indicator is also a key measure of PSA 12 on Child Health and Well-being and for the Aiming High for Disabled Children (AHDC) programme. See **Annex A** for more details on the technical definition of NI 54.

This is **not** a National Statistics publication. It has been produced to aid local authorities and other partners involved in NI 54 and Local Area Agreement (LAA) processes.

THE NATIONAL INDICATOR SET AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS

The disabled children's services indicator NI 54 is one of the 188 indicators included in the National Indicator Set for local authorities. The National Indicator Set underpins the performance management framework for local areas. It contains the only measures on which central Government can performance manage outcomes delivered by local government working alone or in partnership. In each local area, targets against up to 35 national indicators are negotiated and agreed within the LAA. Each area also agrees a number of education and early years statutory targets, which relate to specific national indicators but which legally sit outside the LAA.

The 30 local authorities included in this publication have all chosen NI 54 to be part of their LAAs for 2008-09 (either as a formal LAA indicator or as a local target). This indicator is also included in the NHS Operating Framework as one of the 'vital sign' indicators (VSC 33) for PCTs.

SURVEY OF PARENTS' EXPERIENCES OF SERVICES PROVIDED TO DISABLED CHILDREN

This indicator is a new measure and required a considerable amount of development. The research group NatCen were contracted to run a feasibility study for the indicator and their report was published in September 2008 (see **Notes to Editors** for the relevant link).

BMRB (British Market Research Bureau) were subsequently contracted to carry out a large scale survey to produce a national baseline from a sample across the country, and to generate local level data for the 30 local authorities. Data were generated through a questionnaire to a sample of parents with disabled children which asked for views of their experience of three broad service sectors (health, education and social care) against each of the five core offer standards (information, transparency, assessment, participation and feedback). The figures

included in this publication represent a single overall score for parental experience that is underpinned by these 15 sub-indicators.

Each of the 15 sub-indicators have been calculated based on responses to the relevant section in the questionnaire. Responses to each section of the questionnaire have been used to identify whether respondents had received an 'acceptable level' of experience of the relevant services in the past twelve months. Respondents that had not had experience of relevant services in the past twelve months have been excluded from the calculation of the sub-indicator.

BMRB's full research report of the 2008-09 survey will be published in summer 2009. This survey will be conducted on an annual basis and will be extended to cover all local authorities from 2009-10 onwards.

TABLES

Table 1: NI 54: Parents' experiences of the services provided to disabled children: national baseline and overall indicator scores

An additional table (Table 2) will be published on 10 June 2009 that includes national and local authority figures for each of the 15 sub-indicators.

TABLE 1
NI 54: PARENTAL EXPERIENCES OF SERVICES PROVIDED TO DISABLED CHILDREN: OVERALL SCORES^{1,2,3} FOR 2008-09

National baseline and scores for the 30 LAs that have chosen NI 54 as part of their Local Area Agreements for 2008-09

	PCTs and Care Trusts with coterminous boundary with LA ⁴	2008-09	
		Overall score	Base ⁵
ENGLAND		59	12,226
NORTH EAST			
807 Redcar and Cleveland	Redcar and Cleveland PCT	60	274
NORTH WEST			
351 Bury	Bury PCT	61	347
353 Oldham	Oldham PCT	56	245
YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER			
370 Barnsley	Barnsley PCT	61	372
811 East Riding of Yorkshire	East Riding of Yorkshire PCT	57	421
812 North East Lincolnshire		60	261
813 North Lincolnshire		61	335
816 York		65	355
EAST MIDLANDS			
831 Derby	Derby City PCT	62	304
830 Derbyshire		59	406
856 Leicester	Leicester City PCT	59	218
WEST MIDLANDS			
334 Solihull	Solihull Care Trust	57	303
885 Worcestershire	Worcestershire PCT	60	285
EAST OF ENGLAND			
873 Cambridgeshire	Cambridgeshire PCT	59	382
919 Hertfordshire		56	373
821 Luton	Luton Teaching PCT	59	295
926 Norfolk		60	471
874 Peterborough	Peterborough PCT	60	294
LONDON			
INNER LONDON			
204 Hackney		58	193
209 Lewisham	Lewisham PCT	55	195
OUTER LONDON			
301 Barking and Dagenham	Barking and Dagenham PCT	56	265
303 Bexley	Bexley Care Trust	58	265
304 Brent	Brent Teaching PCT	57	156
SOUTH EAST			
846 Brighton and Hove	Brighton and Hove City PCT	60	300
868 Windsor and Maidenhead		62	254
SOUTH WEST			
800 Bath and North East Somerset	Bath and North East Somerset PCT	61	387
878 Devon	Devon PCT	57	405
916 Gloucestershire	Gloucestershire PCT	59	359
836 Poole		60	307
880 Torbay	Torbay Care Trust	57	265

Source: Survey of parents' experiences of services provided to disabled children (BMRB)

- (1) Overall scores have been calculated from 15 sub-indicators that reflect parental experience of three sectors (health, education and social care) against each of the five Core Offer standards (information, transparency, assessment, participation and feedback) for services provided to disabled children
- (2) Overall scores have been calculated on a 0-100 scale with higher scores denoting greater satisfaction with services
- (3) Sub-indicator scores will be published on a national basis and for the 30 participating LAs on 10 June 2009
- (4) Primary Care Trust (PCT) or Care Trusts are listed when coterminous with LA
- (5) The base is the number of respondents included in the overall indicator score

NOTES TO EDITORS

1. This **not** a National Statistics publication. It has been produced to aid local authorities and other partners involved in the National Indicator and Local Area Agreement processes.
2. Enquiries (non-media) about information contained in this document should be addressed to Isabella Craig, Analysis and Research Division, 4th Floor, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT or telephone 020 7340 7865.
3. Media enquiries about information contained in this Statistical First Release should be made to the Department's Press Office at DCSF, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT or telephone 020 7925 6789.
4. The feasibility report "Development of a Survey for Services for disabled children" was published by DCSF on 25 September 2008 and can be found at:

www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/programmeofresearch/projectinformation.cfm?projectid=15553&resultspage=1

5. Reports on questionnaire testing and pilot testing of the screening and main questionnaire were both published by DCSF on 30 April 2009 and can be found at:

www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RR099.pdf

www.dcsf.gov.uk/research/data/uploadfiles/DCSF-RR100.pdf

ANNEX A: TECHNICAL DEFINITION FOR NI 54: SERVICES FOR DISABLED CHILDREN

The survey questionnaire has sections covering each element of the core offer (information, transparency, assessment, participation and feedback) for each of the service sectors covered (Health, Social Care and Education). Each of the fifteen sub-indicators were calculated based on responses to the relevant section in the questionnaire. Responses to each section of the questionnaire were used to identify whether respondents had received an 'acceptable level' of experience of the relevant services in the past twelve months. Respondents that had not had experience of relevant services in the past twelve months were excluded from the calculation of the sub-indicator.

The formula for each sub-indicator is:

$$s = 100x_1/(x_1+x_2)$$

Where:

x_1 = number of respondents to whom section was relevant who indicated an acceptable level of service for that element of the core offer in that service sector

x_2 = number of respondents to whom section was relevant who did not indicate an acceptable level of service for that element of the core offer in that service sector

The overall indicator score for each area are calculated as the mean of its 15 sub-indicator scores and rounded to the nearest integer. So the formula is:

$$I = (\sum s)/15$$

Where:

I = overall indicator score

s = sub-indicator scores

The main stage survey received a response rate of 54%. This exceeded BMRB's target response rate of 50%.