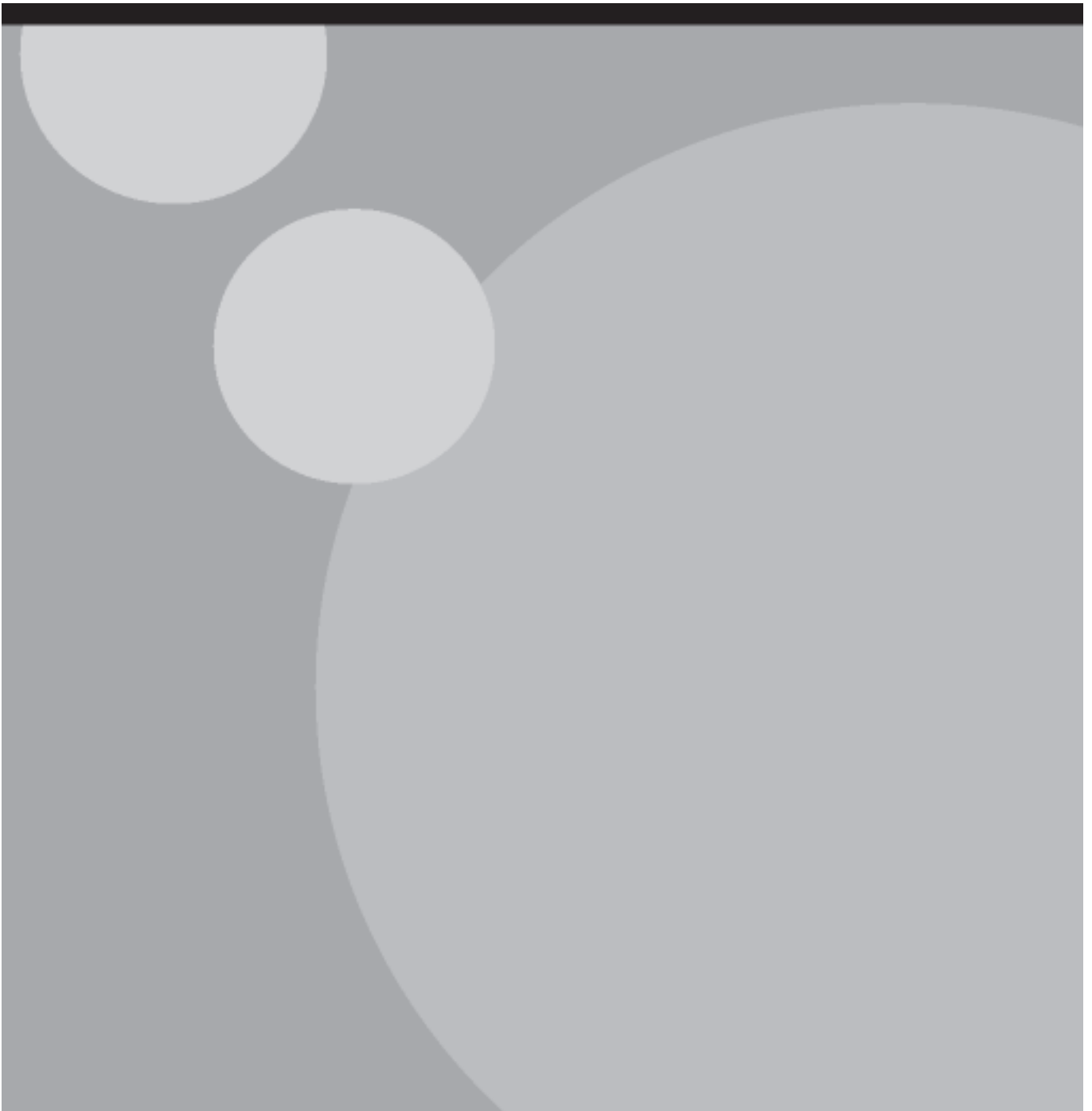




Smarter Government



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Smarter Government

Putting the Frontline First: Smarter Government committed Government to reducing burdens and increasing flexibility for local areas. These freedoms should enable local authorities and their partners to make efficient use of their resources, allowing them to focus funding on frontline services.

A full update on Smarter Government actions is available at:

www.hmg.gov.uk/frontlinefirst/update.aspx

Smarter Government committed us to reducing the National Indicator set, de-ringfencing and streamlining grants, aligning performance frameworks, and reviewing inspectorates. We have already made progress. The Budget sets out specific measures we are taking deliver these commitments in 2010-11, and how we will go much further in the next spending review period

Specific outcomes for Budget 2010 include:

- 18 indicators (10% of the current NIS) that will be removed from the NIS from April 2010. This is in line with commitments made in the *Putting the Frontline First: Smarter Government* to remove indicators that were no longer relevant or needed. Full details are set out below.
- A more significant evolution of the indicator set and other aspects of the performance framework will follow as part of our next Spending Review. This will further free up local areas to find new efficiencies and work together more effectively, based on Total Place principles.
- Continued progress on mainstreaming grants and rationalising funding streams with:
 - Reduction in the number of funding streams from 110 to 94 (a reduction of 15%) which includes combining schools specific grants within Dedicated Schools Grant
 - Further reduction in ringfencing for non-schools funding of £1.3bn or 1.1% (non schools ringfencing would reduce from 9% to 7.9%)

Reductions from National Indicator Set

The following table shows the list of 18 indicators to be removed from April 2010 as a result of the budget announcement:

NI	Indicator Title
NI 002	% of people who feel that they belong to their neighbourhood
NI 003	Civic participation in the local area
NI 010	Visits to museums and galleries
NI 013	Migrants English language skills and knowledge
NI 014	Avoidable contact: The proportion of customer contact that is of low or no value to the customer
NI 023	Perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and consideration
NI 033	Arson incidents
NI 037	Awareness of civil protection arrangements in the local area
NI 046	Young offenders access to suitable accommodation
NI 049	Number of primary fires and related fatalities and non-fatal casualties, excluding precautionary checks
NI 132	Timeliness of social care assessment (all adults)
NI 133	Timeliness of social care packages following assessment
NI 140	Fair treatment by local services
NI 170	Previously developed land that has been vacant or derelict for more than 5 years
NI 174	Skills gaps in the current workforce reported by employers
NI 180	The number of changes of circumstances which affect customers' Housing Benefit/ Council Tax Benefit entitlements within the year
NI 183	Impact of local authority regulatory services on the fair trading environment
NI 184	Food establishments in the area which are broadly compliant with food hygiene law

FAQs

Q. How have you decided on which indicators to remove?

The Smarter Government White Paper commitment was to remove a number of indicators that are no longer relevant or needed from April 2010. Information relating to what was needed at national and local level, supplied by both Government and local areas in the NIS Review, was used to identify candidates for removal.

Q. Does the removal of indicator X mean that the issue it measures is not longer important to Government?

The removal of these indicators is not a signal about the importance of certain policies or programmes. We have targeted those indicators where measurement at the local level has been a problem and where the indicator did not add value for national performance monitoring via the NIS.

Q. Will all data collections that provided data to calculate the indicators that have now been removed now end?

Not in the majority of cases. The removal of some indicators will also mean the associated data collection is discontinued. However most of the indicators that have been removed from the NIS were based on data that is collected by Government anyway. These collections will continue, however it will not be possible for Government to set associated targets on local areas against these data returns.

Q. What about LAA targets and reward where indicators have been removed?

Where individual areas have an LAA target associated with a removed indicator, we are working to ensure that the reduction does not impact on these LAAs, in terms of either loss of target or reward. This approach fits with the Smarter Government stress on allowing areas more control over their priorities, avoids additional bureaucracy (i.e. another LAA target refresh) whilst ensuring that the vast majority of areas would benefit immediately from the streamlining of the indicator set.

Reducing ring-fencing and rationalising workstreams

Central government grants moving to formula grant:

Grant	Department	£ million 2010-11	Ring-fenced 2010-11	CSR07 Delivery Mechanism	2011-12 Delivery Mechanism	Ring-fenced 2011-12
Economic Assessment Duty	CLG	11.0	No	Area Based Grant	Formula Grant	No
Concessionary Fares	DfT	223.0	No	Specific Grant	Currently expected to be paid through Formula Grant	No

Central government grants moving to area based grant:

Grant	Department	£ million 2010-11	Ring-fenced 2010-11	CSR07 Delivery Mechanism	2011-12 Delivery Mechanism	Ring-fenced 2011-12
Social Care Reform	DH	237.0	Yes	Specific Grant	Area Based Grant	No
Learning Disability Campus Closure Programme	DH	51.0	Yes	Specific Grant	Area Based Grant	No
AIDS Support	DH	25.5	Yes	Specific Grant	Area Based Grant	No
Stroke Strategy	DH	15.0	Yes	Specific Grant	Area Based Grant	No
Homelessness	CLG	49.2	No	Specific Grant	Area Based Grant	No

Central government grants moving to either formula grant or area based grant:

Grant	Department	£ million 2010-11	Ring-fenced 2010-11	CSR07 Delivery Mechanism	2011-12 Delivery Mechanism	Ring-fenced 2011-12
Environmental Damage Regulations	DEFRA	0.1	No	Area Based Grant	Formula Grant or Area Based Grant	No
Aggregate Levy Sustainability Fund	DEFRA	3.0	No	Area Based Grant	Formula Grant or Area Based Grant	No
Preserved Rights	DH	235.4	No	Area Based Grant	Formula Grant or Area Based Grant	No

Central government grants moving to either formula grant, area based grant or specific grant:

Grant	Department	£ million 2010-11	Ring-fenced 2010-11	CSR07 Delivery Mechanism	2011-12 Delivery Mechanism	Ring-fenced 2011-12
Learning Disabilities (£1bn funding from 2011-12 transferred to local authorities from NHS)	DH	-	-	-	Formula Grant, Area Based Grant or Specific Grant	No

Central government schools grants moving into dedicated schools grant:

Grant	Department	£ million 2010-11	Ring-fenced 2010-11	CSR07 Delivery Mechanism	2011-12 Delivery Mechanism	Ring-fenced 2011-12
Dedicated Schools Grant	DCSF	30,959.3	Yes	Specific Grant	Part of Single DSG Specific Grant ¹	Yes
School Development Grant (schools element)	DCSF	1,980.6	Yes	Specific Grant	Part of Single DSG Specific Grant ¹	Yes
Schools Standards (including personalisation)	DCSF	1,590.9	Yes	Specific Grant	Part of Single DSG Specific Grant ¹	Yes
London Pay Addition Grant	DCSF	27.7	Yes	Specific Grant	Part of Single DSG Specific Grant ¹	Yes
Early Years: Flexibility of Free Entitlement for 3-4 Year Olds	DCSF	340.0	Yes	Specific Grant	Part of Single DSG Specific Grant ¹	Yes
Ethnic Minority Achievement	DCSF	203.0	Yes	Specific Grant	Part of Single DSG Specific Grant ¹	Yes
Extended Schools - Sustainability	DCSF	189.5	Yes	Specific Grant	Part of Single DSG Specific Grant ¹	Yes
Extended Schools - Subsidy	DCSF	166.9	Yes	Specific Grant	Part of Single DSG Specific Grant ¹	Yes
School Lunch Grant	DCSF	77.3	Yes	Specific Grant	Part of Single DSG Specific Grant ¹	Yes

1. DSG figures will change to reflect changes in pupil numbers and number of academies.

Central government fire grants moving into fire resilience grant:

Grant	Department	£ million 2010-11	Ring- fenced 2010-11	CSR07 Delivery Mechanism	2011-12 Delivery Mechanism	Ring- fenced 2011-12
Firecontrol	CLG	36.3	No	Specific Grant	Specific grant	No
New Dimension	CLG	31.0	No	Specific Grant	Specific grant	No
Firelink	CLG	1.7	No	Specific Grant	Specific grant	No

2. Once the Firecontrol network is fully operational CLG will look to provide Fire funding through a single consolidated funding stream.

Central government grants that are ending:

Grant	Department	£ million 2010-11	Ending
Olympic Funding (Fire)	CLG	1.2	2012-13
Stronger Safer Communities	CLG	4.9	tba
Climate Change Policy Statement	CLG	7.3	2010-11
Coastal Change Pathfinder	DEFRA	3.0	2010-11
Waste Management Pilots	DEFRA	2.5	2010-11
Extended Schools Start Up	DCSF	70.7	2012-13
Pitt Review Implementation	DEFRA	4.5	2011-12