

# Annex A: Grid of policy actions

<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead department(s)</b>	<b>Timing (completion/implementation date)</b>
<p><b>Chapter 3</b></p> <p>1. The Government will explore the potential of the new research by the Institute of Education to build the identification tool for practitioners.</p>	<p>Social Exclusion Task Force</p>	<p>September 2006</p>
<p>2. By April 2007, the Government will begin trials of a new evidence-based assessment tool for use by community midwives and health visitors to improve targeting and support. These will be evaluated as part of the health-led parenting support demonstration projects.</p>	<p>Department of Health and the Department for Education and Skills</p>	<p>April 2007</p>
<p>3. The Government will explore how to ensure that those identified as at risk are followed up, including at later critical life stages.</p>	<p>Social Exclusion Task Force, Department for Education and Skills, Department of Health, Department for Communities and Local Government, and the Home Office</p>	<p>Comprehensive Spending Review, summer 2007</p>
<p>4. The Social Exclusion Task Force and the Government Social Research will work with key stakeholders across Whitehall and beyond to develop and promote a code of practice and common rating of high-quality evaluations of programmes.</p> <p>In addition, the Government will explore how to simplify the existing infrastructure in relation to spreading best practice. In particular we will consider the case for a Centre of Excellence for Children's and Family Services, building on or situated within existing organisations.</p>	<p>Government Social Research Unit and the Social Exclusion Task Force</p>	<p>Comprehensive Spending Review, summer 2007</p>

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5. The Government will ensure that approved and rated programmes, be they by third sector or innovative public or private sector providers offering services to other areas, have clear channels to highlight blockages to best-practice delivery. For example, failures could be drawn to the attention of Local Authority Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Audit Commission.	Department for Communities and Local Government, Office of the Third Sector and the Social Exclusion Task Force	Autumn 2006
6. The Government will continue to strengthen and support the capability of commissioners of services. We are examining how commissioning can be strengthened in central and local government and will publish proposals in due course.	Department for Communities and Local Government, Office of the Third Sector and Social Exclusion Task Force	Autumn 2006
7. The Government will strengthen the role of Local Area Agreements in the forthcoming Local Government White Paper; with the Social Exclusion Task Force working closely with DCLG and other departments to ensure that these changes will help drive forward improved multi-agency working around the most socially excluded.	Department for Communities and Local Government, the Social Exclusion Task Force, Department of Health, Department for Education and Skills, Her Majesty's Treasury and the Department for Work and Pensions	Autumn 2006
8. The Government will promote increased transparency of the downstream costs associated with social exclusion. Wherever possible, this will be done by publishing simple, area-based information about per capita spending on key costs. This information can then be used by local service providers to strike innovative deals for better, and more cost-effective, service provision.	Department for Work and Pensions, Department for Communities and Local Government, Department for Education and Skills, Department of Health, and the Social Exclusion Task Force	Spring 2007

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<p>9. The Government will explore how to extend data sharing in relation to the most excluded or at-risk groups, including any additional powers that may be necessary.</p>	<p>Department for Communities and Local Government, Department of Health and the Department for Constitutional Affairs</p>	<p>Autumn 2006</p>
<p>10. Using the lessons from the pilots on budget-holding lead professionals, we will explore whether, and how, to extend the funds held by professionals. In particular we will consider how how portions of budgets used for mainstream services could be applied to lead professionals' budgets.</p>	<p>Department for Education and Skills</p>	<p>Autumn 2006</p>
<p>11. The Government will explore extending tariffs, paid to service providers and reflecting social costs, for delivering particular outcomes in relation to those with multiple problems and at risk of a lifetime of social exclusion.</p>	<p>Department for Communities and Local Government, Department of Health and the Department for Education and Skills</p>	<p>Comprehensive Spending Review, summer 2007</p>
<p>12. The Government will continue to actively encourage a rights and responsibilities approach to service delivery, encouraging service providers, individual brokers and lead practitioners to agree clear and explicit divisions of responsibility with clients.</p>	<p>Social Exclusion Task Force, Department for Communities and Local Government, Department of Health, Department for Education and Skills, Department for Work and Pensions and the Office of the Third Sector</p>	<p>Spring 2007</p>

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13. The Task Force will work closely with HM Treasury and other government departments to ensure that the next generation of Public Service Agreements address the unique challenges of the most socially excluded.	Her Majesty's Treasury, Department for Communities and Local Government, Department of Education and Skills, Department of Health, Department for Work and Pensions, the Home Office and the Social Exclusion Task Force	Comprehensive Spending Review, summer 2007
14. The Government will explore how to strengthen our performance management regime, with a clear ladder of intervention for the most excluded around underperforming provision, while leaving good local statutory services alone. The forthcoming Local Government White Paper will consider how the local government performance framework might evolve to continue to drive genuine service improvements, and how to deal with cases of underperformance.	Department for Communities and Local Government	Autumn 2006
15. The Task Force will explore alternative composite measures of social exclusion that can be used by the Government to monitor progress and to focus targeted intervention and support.	Department for Communities and Local Government and the Social Exclusion Task Force	Comprehensive Spending Review, summer 2007
<b>Chapter 4</b>		
16. The Government will establish 10 health-led parenting support demonstration projects from pre-birth to age 2, building in a rigorous evaluation of targeted support.	Department of Health and the Department for Education and Skills	April 2007

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<p>17. The Government will support the upskilling of midwives, health visitors and commissioners to support early-years interventions and will develop commissioning guidance to encourage the spread of best practice nationally.</p>	<p>Department of Health and the Department for Education and Skills</p>	<p>Upskilling to begin in January 2007 in the demonstration sites Issue guidance on commissioning April 2008</p>
<p><b>Chapter 5</b></p>		
<p>18. The Government will publish a Green Paper on children in care in October 2006, which will set out proposals to narrow the gap between the outcomes of children in care and other children, and will include proposals on individual budget holding for children in care.</p>	<p>Department for Education and Skills</p>	<p>October 2006</p>
<p>19. The Government will publish an updated Teenage Pregnancy Strategy with a particular focus on failing local authorities and on the underlying causes of teenage pregnancy.</p>	<p>Department of Health and the Department for Education and Skills</p>	<p>September 2006</p>
<p>20. The Government will launch pilots to test different interventions for tackling mental health problems in childhood, such as 'Multi-systemic Therapy' and 'Treatment Foster Care', to prevent the onset of problems later in life.</p>	<p>Department of Health</p>	<p>Spring 2007</p>
<p>21. By summer 2007 the Government will review and consult on how well services aimed at at-risk children and adults are working together on the ground. We will identify any further actions or powers that are needed to deliver a coherent whole-family approach for those most in need of help, challenge and support.</p>	<p>Social Exclusion Task Force</p>	<p>Summer 2007</p>

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<b>Chapter 6</b>		
22. The Government will examine the effectiveness of alternative approaches to improving outcomes for people with chaotic lives and multiple needs, pilot the most promising approaches and use the findings to inform further policy development.	Department for Communities and Local Government, the Home Office, Department of Health, Department for Work and Pensions and the Social Exclusion Task Force	Scoping phase: winter 2006 Pilots begin: spring 2007
23. Building on current guidance and legislation, the Government will develop dedicated regional teams to provide further support for the implementation of good practice around employment of those with severe mental health problems.	Department for Work and Pensions and the Department of Health	April 2007

