

C4EO Tailored Support Sector Specialists





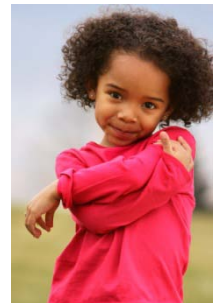
Sector-led improvement

- C4EO is committed to supporting sector-led improvement.
- Local areas want help to ‘build their own capacity’.
- A recognition that there is a vast wealth of expertise, skills and knowledge in children’s services and across other fields.
- C4EO’s brief is to harness this, spread it and use it to help others in the sector.



‘Building capacity’ is concerned with:

- **increasing understanding** about ‘what works’ (e.g. disseminating knowledge, showcasing examples).
- helping us to **learn from practice** (this is often ahead of research).
- **developing skills** (by working alongside people)
- **promoting new ways of thinking** (e.g. outcome-focused or system-wide).
- **challenging** current strategies or ways of working.



Sector Specialists: the what

- Peer advisors (IDeA accredited).
- C4EO-trained.
- Invited in (voluntary engagement, no targeting).
- Acting as 'honey bees' transferring knowledge.
- Catalysts for change.
- Working alongside others.
- Increasing understanding of what works and embedding this in local practice.
- Helping to plan for improvement.

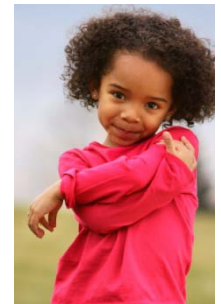


Sector Specialists: the who

- ‘From the sector’ – people currently working in the relevant field (in any agency).
- With operational credibility and a track record of achieving outcome improvement.
- Typically senior managers.
- On secondment to C4EO for an agreed number of days (with backfill contribution) over 12 months.



- Sector Specialists now available for assignments ('for the sector').
- May be deployed in an individual agency, or with several agencies in partnership, or across partnerships within the region.
- Typical assignment might be 5 – 10 days.
- No cost to the requesting agency.
- Some possible examples



Tailored support: possible menu (1)

1. Help to spread knowledge of ‘what works’.
2. Support to use some of the audit tools to assess performance and practice locally.
3. Provide an external perspective to challenge local policy, processes and practice in light of the knowledge base.
4. Help to ‘translate’ C4EO outputs into an appropriate local improvement plan.



Tailored support: possible menu (2)

5. Facilitate the use of Outcomes Based Accountability (OBA).
6. Arrange to showcase examples of effective practice from the area.
7. Working with key individuals who are leading local change to support them.

etc etc



Accessing tailored support

Assignments should:

- Align with local priorities (in the LAA).
- Align with the research priorities of C4EO.
- Complement any existing improvement support.
- Support strategic, systems-level change.
- Accelerate the expected rate of improvement of outcomes.
- Leave a sustainable legacy.
- Generate learning that other agencies can benefit from.



Process:

- Complete a request form – individual agency or collective (or speak to us informally).
- Discuss needs.
- Matching request (to Sector Specialist and to the schedule).
- Agree terms of reference.
- Assignment undertaken.
- End of assignment report.



