

Administrative information sources for direct output measurement and performance management systems

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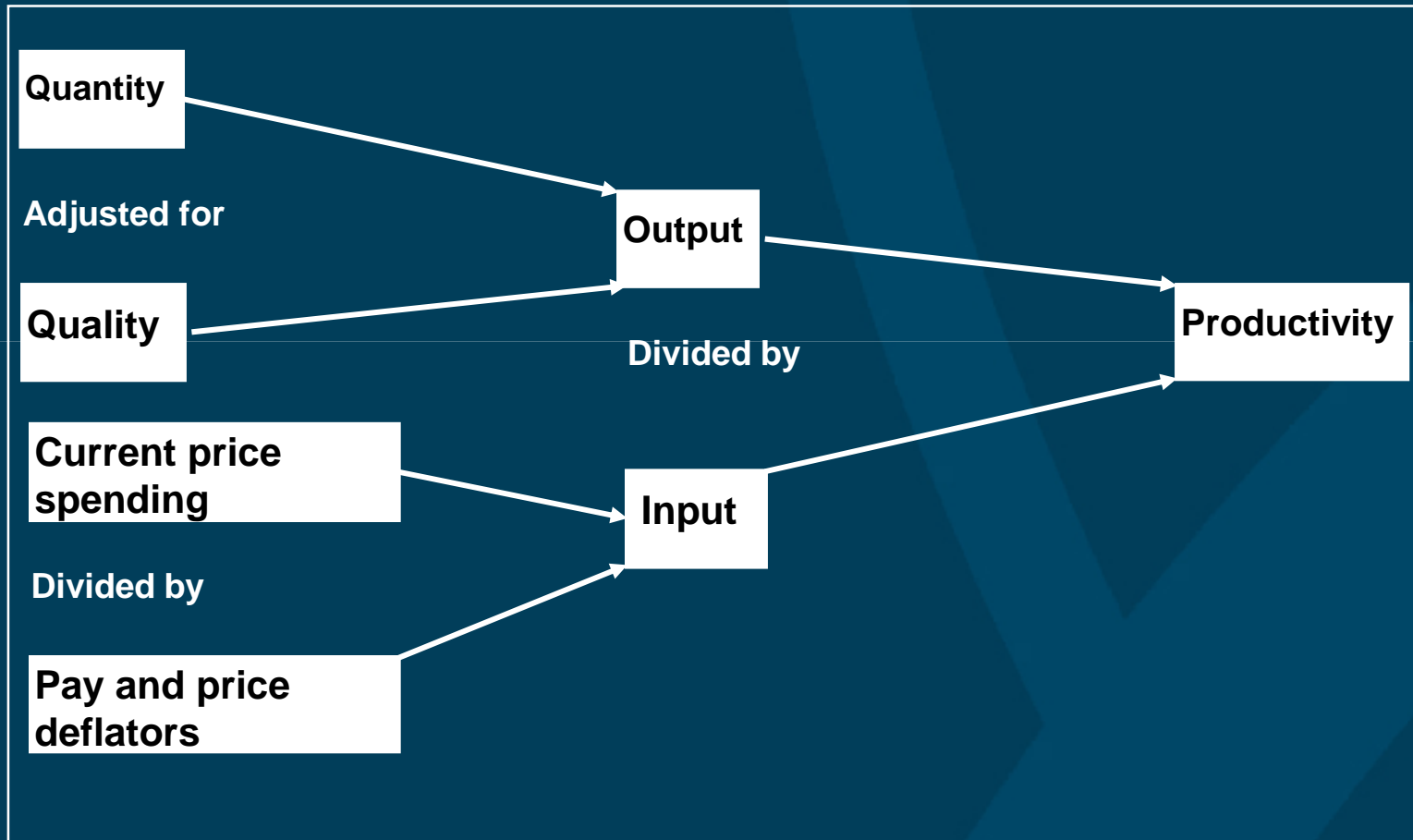
Summary

- UK work on measuring public service output and productivity
- Data issues
- Collaboration, independence
- Conclusions – for UK and others?

UK work on measuring public service output and productivity

- 1998 ONS began direct output measures of Government (SNA, ESA)
- 2004 Atkinson Review – principles, recommendations to improve techniques
- 2005 UK Centre for Measurement of Government Activity – UKCeMGA
- Productivity articles as well as NA
- Work: extending output measures, quality adjustment, better input methods

Productivity is measured as change in:



Data Used

- Quantity of output: NHS activity, pupil numbers, nursing home weeks
- Quality of output: survival after hospital treatment, patient experience, blood pressure control, exam grades
- Current price spending – Government records, by COFOG category
- Pay and price deflators – ONS earnings survey, ONS price indices, other sources; also direct input methods

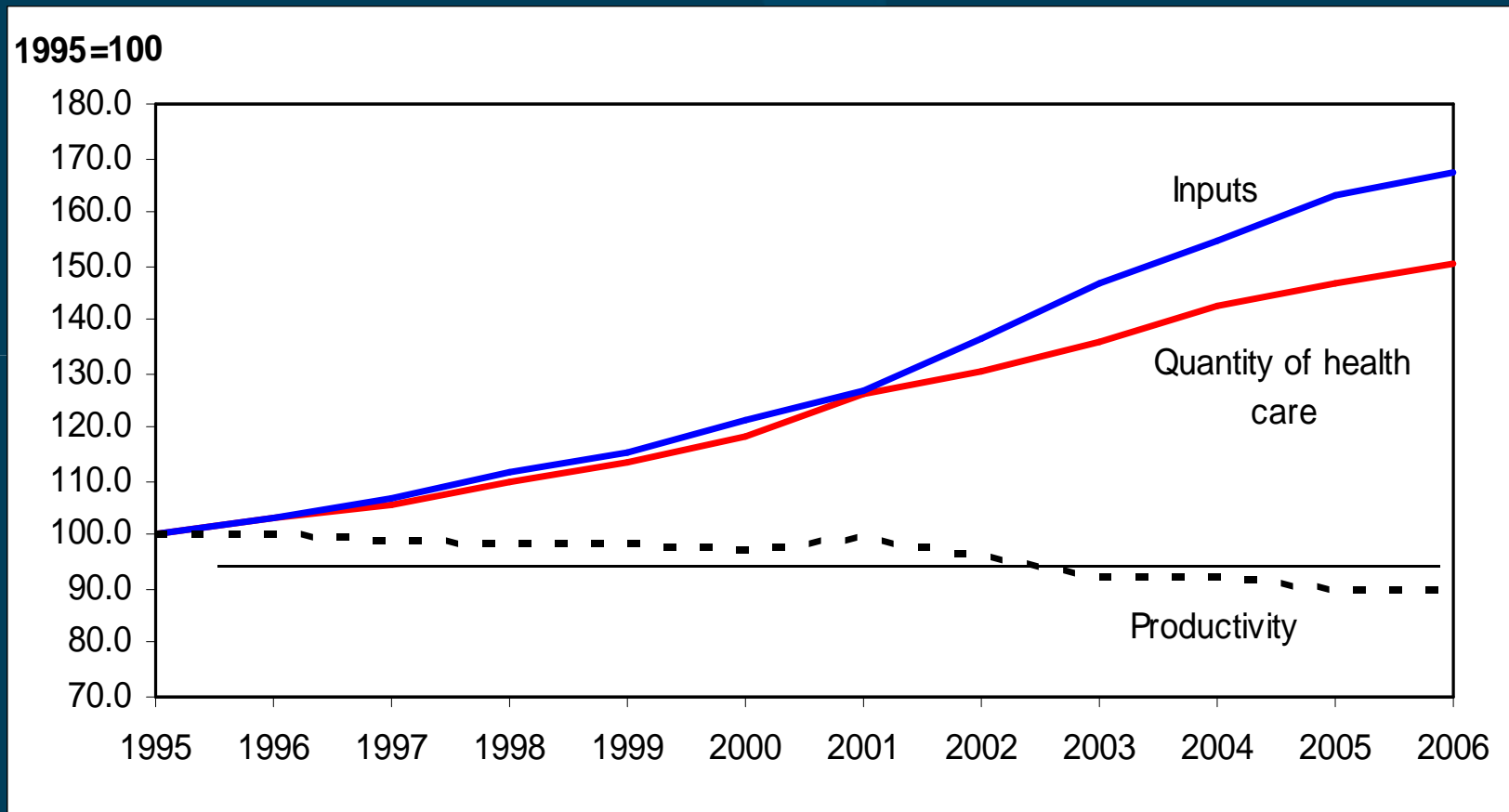
Principles for good data

- Activity data cover everything done with funds
- Data are recorded accurately between COFOG and economic category
- Data are disaggregated to different types of activity, with unit costs
- Data available for all 4 countries in the UK
- Data measured consistently over time
- Quality measures are ‘incremental change in outcome attributable to public service’

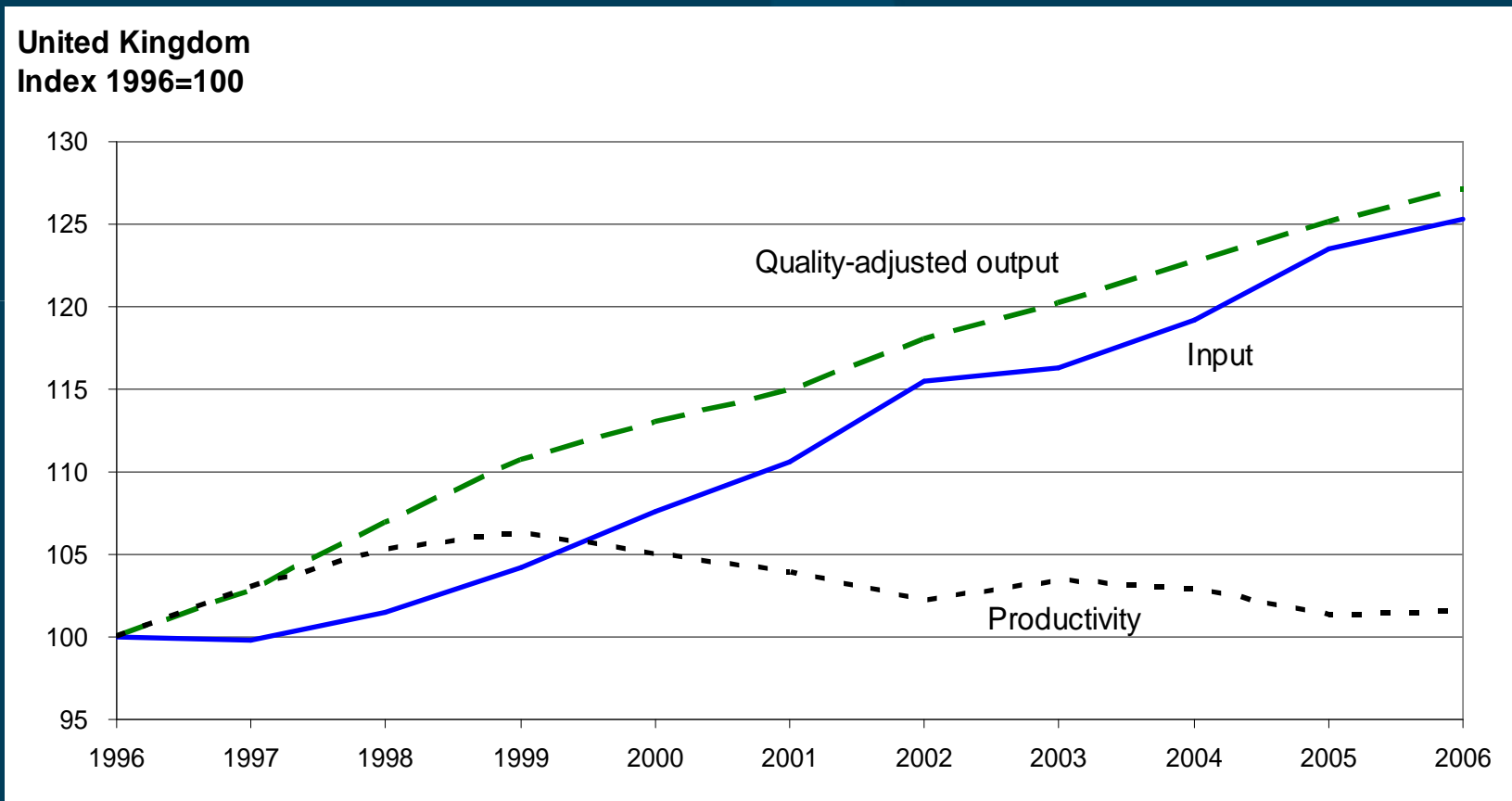
Resolving data problems

- Understand data source: purpose, definitions, planned changes, omissions, errors
- Project work with Scotland, Wales, NI
- Quality measures – research collaboration
- Joint action with HM Treasury to improve recording of Government spending
- Review, improve deflators eg police, defence
- Test data quality by preparing for publication – productivity articles

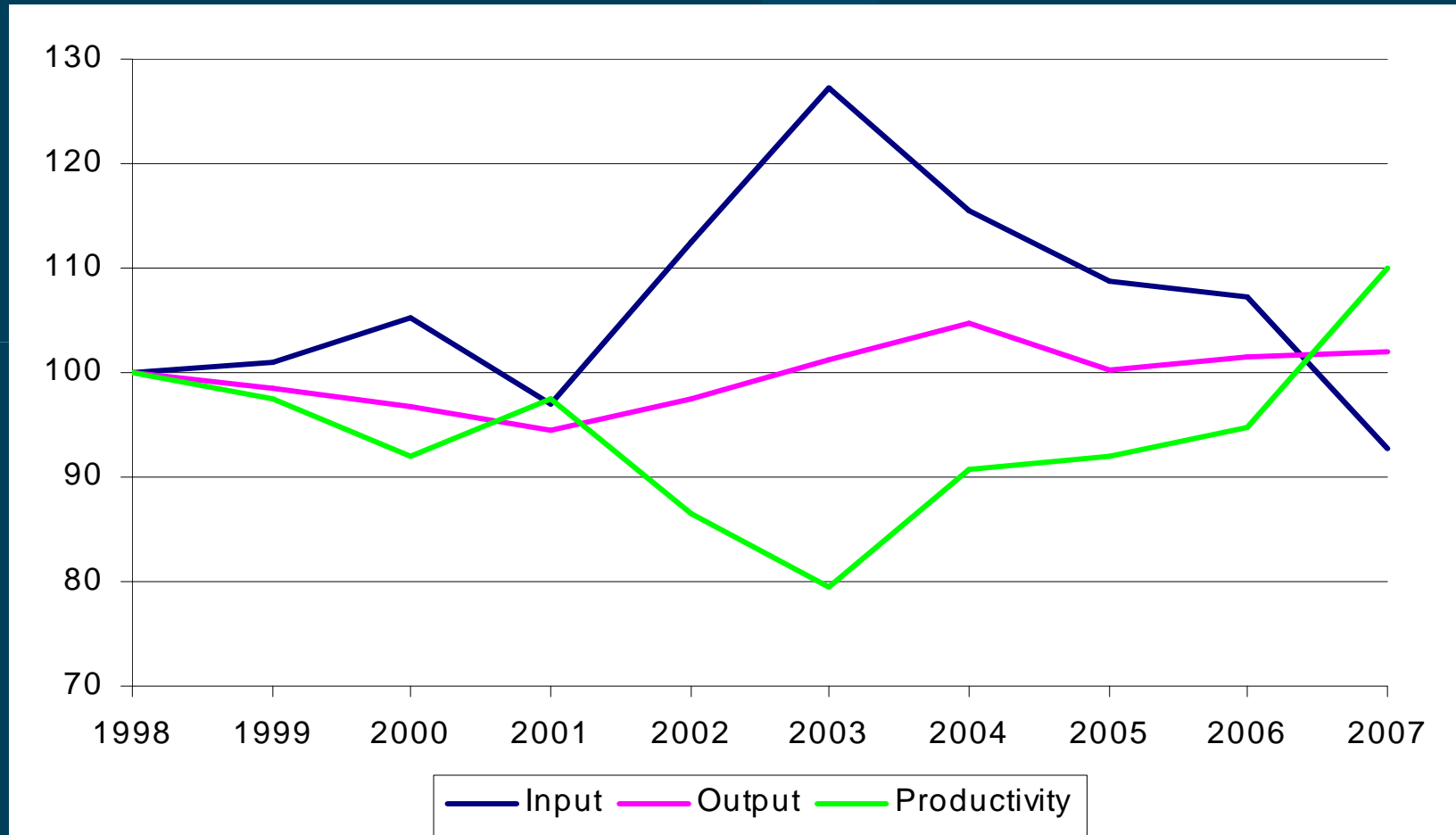
Health care productivity 1995-2006



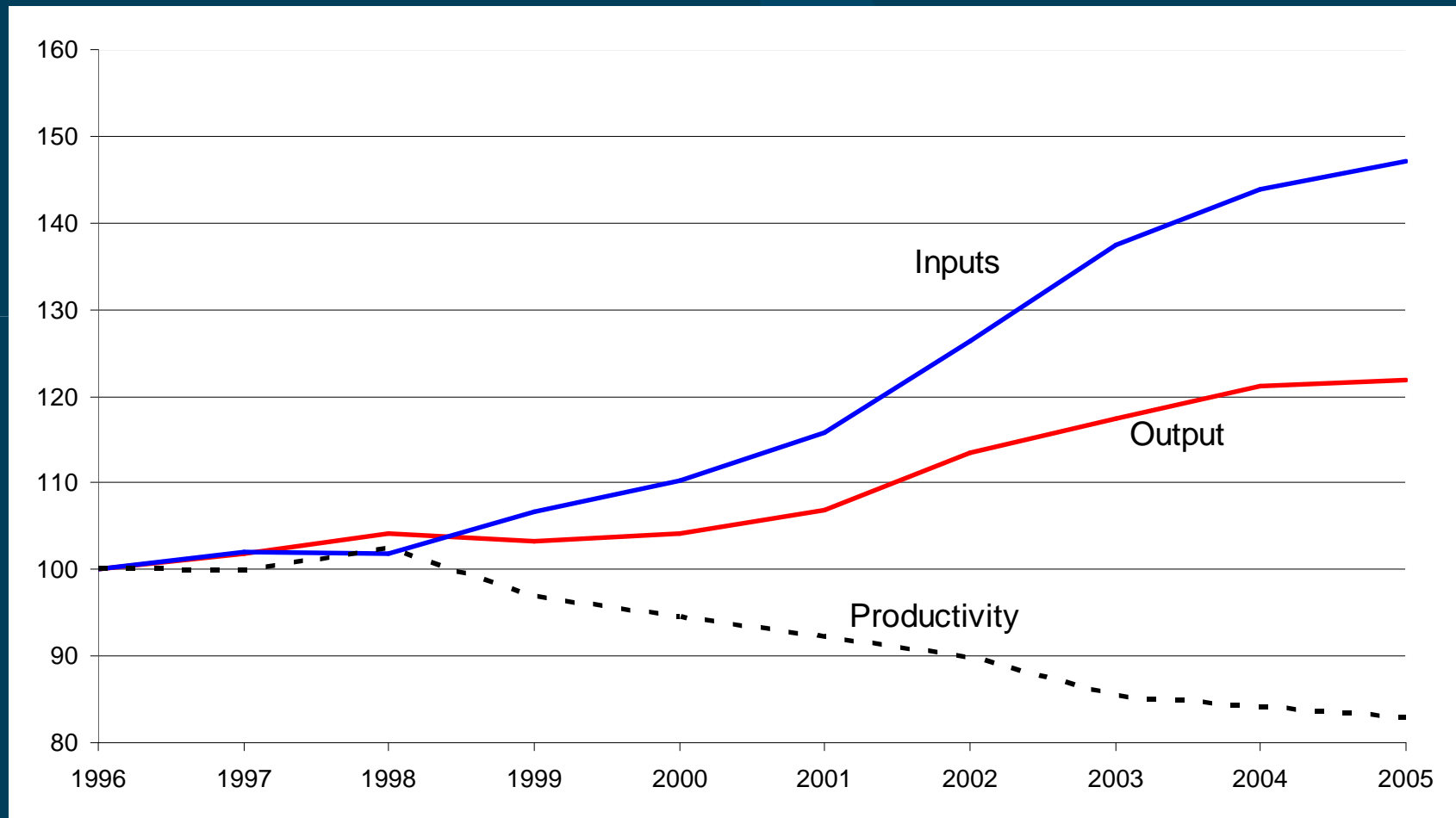
Education productivity 1996-2006



Social Security Administration Productivity 1998-2007



Adult social care productivity 1996-2006



Collaboration, independence

- To use admin data sources, need collaboration with Govt departments
- Analysis of productivity change can embarrass government
- How to achieve both collaboration and independence?

UKCeMGA Safeguards

- Departmental Output and Productivity Advisory Group
- Regular reports to head of civil service
- UKCeMGA Advisory Board – independent chair and members, unpaid
- UK Statistics Authority, Code of Practice
- Publish methods and productivity articles
- External quality assurance of all articles
- Peer review before NA change

Conclusions

- Measuring public service output requires admin data, collected for other purposes
- Analysis is important to check data quality, interpretation
- Collaboration essential, but safeguard independence
- Measures of public service output and productivity deserve good data, good analysis, transparency, publication ...
and international comparisons