



#### Evaluation of Universal Free School Meals

Rachel McAdams

NHS Health Scotland

Email: rachel.mcadams@nhs.net

11th November 2014

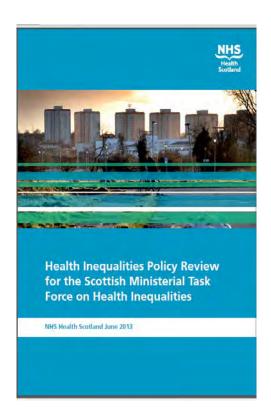
## Background

NHS Health Scotland: who are we and why are we interested?

#### Background

NHS Health Scotland: who are we and why are we interested?

- National specialist health board which works to improve health and reduce health inequalities in Scotland.
- Some evidence that universal FSM could help to reduce dietary (and as a result health) inequalities



#### Background

#### Jan 2014

Scottish Government announces FSM for all P1-P3 to be introduced Jan 2015

#### *Mar-Aug 2014*

Evaluability Assessment: if, what and how

#### Sep-Nov 2014

**Evaluation planning** 

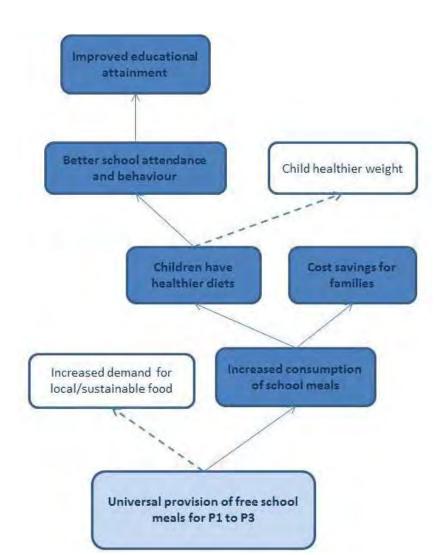
# How evaluable is universal FSM?

 What do we expect the policy to do? (identify outcomes by looking at evidence and asking stakeholders)

## How evaluable is universal FSM?

- What do we expect the policy to do? (identify outcomes by looking at evidence and asking stakeholders)
- 2. Agree a theory of change

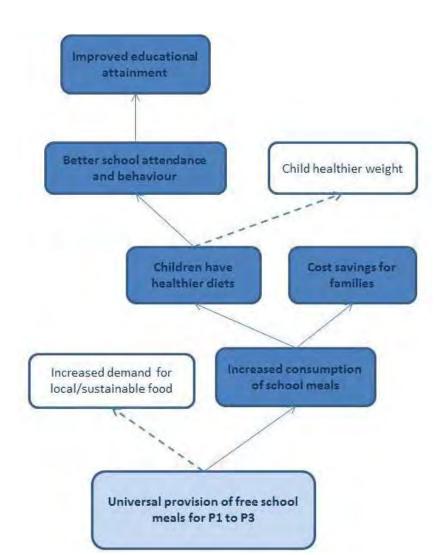
### Theory of Change



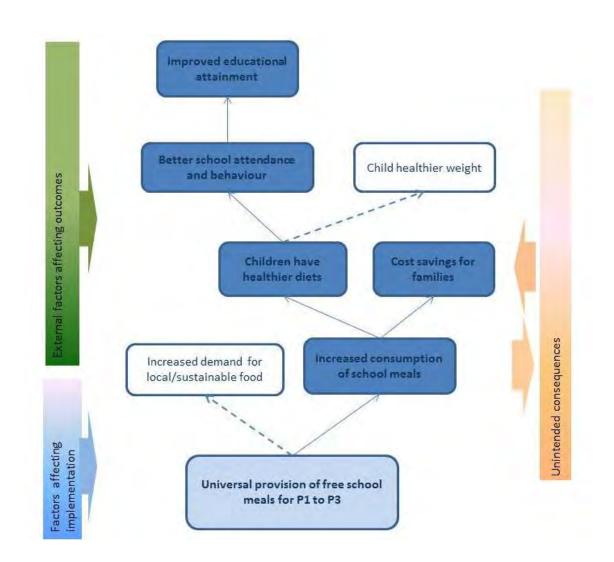
# How evaluable is universal FSM?

- What do we expect the policy to do? (identify outcomes by looking at evidence and asking stakeholders)
- 2. Agree a theory of change.
- 3. What should an evaluation focus on?
- 4. How could we gather this information?

### Theory of Change



## Theory of Change



#### **Evaluation questions**

- What are the impacts of the introduction of universal FSM? What is the social distribution of these impacts and could universal FSM contribute to a reduction in dietary and educational inequalities?
- What are the key variations in how universal FSM is implemented across local authorities and schools?
- What are the barriers, facilitators and unintended consequences of implementation and how can these be overcome and/or mitigated?

1. Monitoring changes in uptake of school meals

- 1. Monitoring changes in uptake of school meals
- 2. Understanding the social patterning of and motivations for universal FSM uptake and cost-savings for families

- 1. Monitoring changes in uptake of school meals
- Understanding the social patterning of and motivations for universal FSM uptake and cost-savings for families
- 3. School responses to universal FSM

- 1. Monitoring changes in uptake of school meals
- 2. Understanding the social patterning of and motivations for universal FSM uptake and cost-savings for families
- 3. School responses to universal FSM
- 4. Local variation in implementation of universal FSM

- 1. Monitoring changes in uptake of school meals
- 2. Understanding the social patterning of and motivations for universal FSM uptake and cost-savings for families
- 3. School responses to universal FSM
- 4. Local variation in implementation of universal FSM
- 5. Understanding impact on school menus

#### What we need from you

#### Study 4

Local variation in implementation of universal FSM

- Nov 2014:- Disseminate and complete a short online survey
- Feb-April & Sept-Oct 2015:- Contribute to the postimplementation evaluation (interviews, surveys, administrative data sharing)