

Red Threads

In all quality / excellence initiatives, the assessment criteria are linked. These criteria are not designed to be – and should never be seen or used as - a linear checklist: organisations and partnerships just do not work in this way!

Understanding the inter-relationships between the Criteria and how organisational topics run through the Framework is an important part of understanding what causes excellent results and carrying out effective Self Assessment and improvement planning. This can improve the effectiveness of Self Assessment (for example, you do not have start at Criteria 1.1 and work through to 8.4) and improvement planning (the most valuable improvement projects will often relate to more than one Criteria).

The following table shows critical links (or 'red threads') for the CSP TAES Criteria.

Topic	Critical Links	Explanation
Setting and following a clear direction to achieve the desired outcomes	1.1, 3.1, 2.1, 2.2, 4.3, 5.1, 6.5, 8.2	The Partnership establishes a clear vision for sport, identifies community need and uses this to develop shared strategy, allocates financial resources to the strategy and implements it through targets, plans and individual goals. Achievement of the strategy is measured to enable the direction to be enhanced and followed more effectively.
Engaging people and agencies in the Single System for Sport	1.2, 3.2, 2.1, 7.1, 7.3	Leaders of the Partnership meet agencies and people providing sports services to engage them in the Single System. Their needs and expectations are established and translated into services to support them to deliver the sports services, which achieve the desired outcomes.
Continuous improvement	1.1, 1.3, 2.2, 4.4, 5.3, 6.2, 6.3, 7.1, 8.3, 8.4 TAES Self Assessment and improvement planning	Leaders of the Partnership develop and communicate values relating to continuous improvement, are role models of these values and engage people in improvement activity at levels of the Partnership. This is supported by systems to review and improve the way the Partnership works (TAES Self Assessment is at the heart of this), the service provided and people's performance. This leads to improvements in effectiveness, efficiency and economy.

Topic	Critical Links	Explanation
Financial management	2,1, 2.2, 4.3, 5.1, 5.2, 5.4, 8.3	The Partnership allocates financial resources and seeks funding to support strategy. These financial resources are managed to achieve value for money.
Communication within the Partnership	1.2, 1.3, 4.1, 4.2, 6.3, 7.2, 8.3, 8.4	Leaders encourage collaboration between the various organisations and agencies in the community and communicate vision, values, strategy and plans amongst partners and potential partners. The role of and relationship between the partners is enhanced through regular dialogue, which helps to develop synergy and consensus. People working within the Partnership work together to improve and develop the services and share learning and best practice.
Staff development	1.1, 2.2, 3.2, 4.1, 6.1, 6.5, 7.3, 8.4	Leaders actively encourage and support learning and development amongst all staff and implement training and development plans which support the achievement of strategy and continuous improvement
Providing an excellent service	Establishing the TAES scope 1.3, 2.1, 2.2, 3.2, 7.1, 7.2, 7.3	The Partnership develops a clear understanding of what services it should be providing to whom. Leaders meet with these agencies and people to understand their needs and expectations for sport services; this is supported by research and consultation activity. The Partnership designs services to meet these needs and, through process planning and staff development, delivers them in a way which meets and sometimes exceeds expectations.