Reviewer’s report

Title: Evidence-informed policy formulation and implementation: Comparative case study of two national policies for improving health and social care in Sweden

Version: 3  Date: 10 July 2015

Reviewer: Alec Fraser

Reviewer’s report:

I have no major compulsory revisions.

Many thanks to the authors for the revised version. I feel that my four substantive comments on the previous draft have been respectfully considered and adequately answered in this new draft. The case selection is much clearer, so too the methods used for the data collection and analysis. I am satisfied with the response my previous comments about contextual detail. I particularly like the use of interview quotes which I feel helps in this regard. Finally the use of the term policy ‘actors’ is now clearer to me, and I understand much more now about how the authors use this term and why.

I have a number of minor (mainly English language) discretionary revisions:

Results section, case 1, agenda setting paragraph 1, sentence 2 might be better rephrased as it is written in rather vague English.

Results section, case 1, Policy implementation section, implementation paragraph 1, sentence 2 change ‘was’ for ‘were’

Results section, case 2, Agenda setting paragraph 1, sentence 2 change ‘conservative’ for ‘Conservative’

Results section, case 2, Policy implementation section, implementation paragraph 1, sentence 4 ‘to inform about the policy’ might be better rephrased

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.