

Financial Scrutiny Unit Briefing

Scotland Performs – September 2012 update

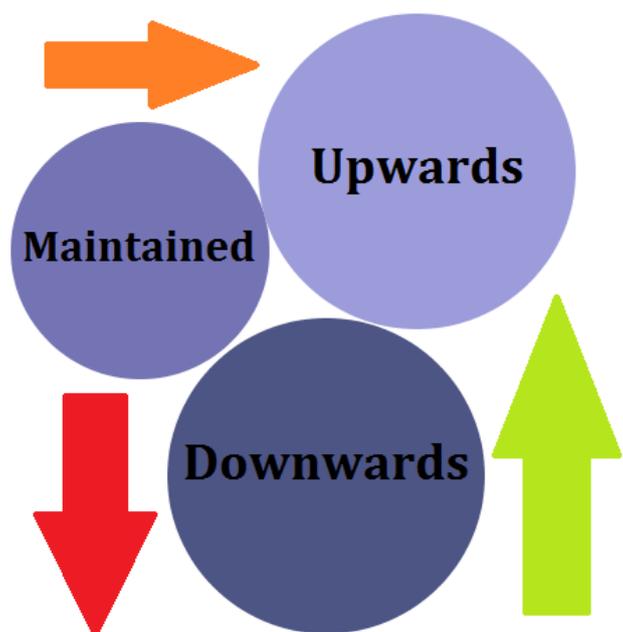
21 September 2012

12/60

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This briefing provides the second update on the Scottish Government's progress against the Purpose Targets and National Indicators, set out in its National Performance Framework and the Scotland Performs website.

The National Performance Framework is explained in detail in SPICe Briefing 12/12, published in February 2012.



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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

At the start of the third Session of the Scottish Parliament, as part of the 2007 Spending Review, the Scottish Government introduced a new outcomes-based National Performance Framework (NPF) to underpin the delivery of its agenda. In June 2008, the Scottish Government launched [Scotland Performs](#), a website designed to present information on how Scotland is performing against the range of indicators outlined in the National Performance Framework.

In December 2011, the Government published its first “refresh” of the NPF, which mainly changed the National Indicator set and added a new National Outcome but retained the Strategic Objectives, Purpose and the remaining Outcomes.

The refreshed NPF is analysed in detail in the SPICe Briefing, [The National Performance Framework and Scotland Performs](#) (Campbell 2012). The briefing also contained a “snapshot” of the Scotland Performs information as at 3 February 2012, and a commitment to providing regular, quarterly updates of this information. The first such update was published in June 2012, and this briefing provides the second of these updates, produced to aid committees’ scrutiny of the 2013-14 Draft Budget.

In all of the tables used in this briefing, targets and indicators have been re-ordered and colour-coded in terms of their overall performance assessment for ease of comprehension.

In Scotland Performs, and the tables throughout this briefing, the performance assessment arrows for both Purpose Targets and National Indicators are as follows—

 - “performance improving”

 - “performance maintaining”

 - “performance worsening”

 - “data being collected”

PURPOSE TARGETS

PURPOSE TARGETS – UPDATED SINCE JUNE 2012

Following the June 2012 snapshot, eight Purpose Targets have been updated. The targets that have been updated are shown in Table 1 below. Of these eight updated targets four are improving, one is maintaining and three are worsening.

Figure 1 below shows the change in status between June and September 2012. Overall, in terms of the performance of the updated targets, between June 2012 and September 2012 —

- **3 are trending downwards** from “performance improving” to “performance worsening”;
- **2 have maintained** at “performance improving”, and **one has maintained** at “performance maintaining”;
- **2 are trending upwards** from “performance maintaining” to “performance improving”.

Figure 1: Change in 8 Purpose Targets June 12 to Sept 12

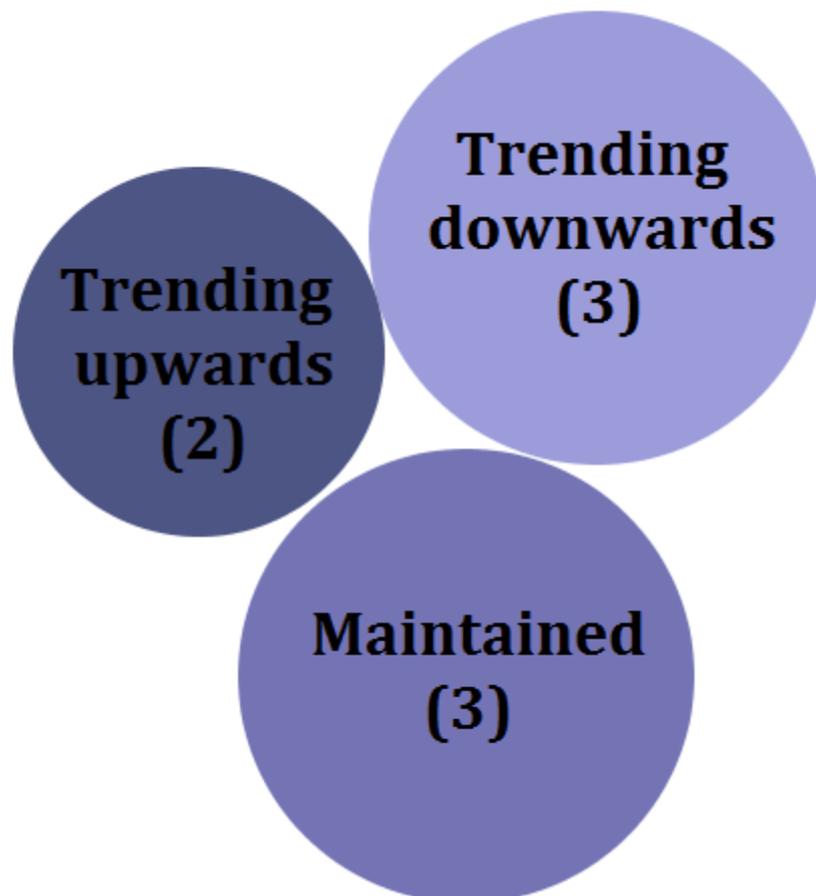


Table 1: Purpose Targets updated since June 2012

Purpose target	Performance Assessment as at		
	3 February 2012	1 June 2012	11 September 2012
To raise the GDP growth rate to the UK level by 2011	▲	▲	▲
To match the GDP growth rate of the small independent EU countries by 2017	↔	▲	▲
To increase overall income and the proportion of income earned by the three lowest income deciles as a group by 2017	↔	↔	▲
To narrow the gap in participation between Scotland's best and worst performing regions by 2017	↔	↔	▲
To maintain our position on labour market participation as the top performing country in the UK	▲	↔	↔
To close the gap with the top five OECD economies by 2017	▲	▲	▼
To reduce emissions over the period to 2011	▲	▲	▼
To reduce emissions by 80 percent by 2050	▲	▲	▼

PURPOSE TARGETS – OVERALL PERFORMANCE

There has been significant change to the performance assessment of the 11 Purpose Targets since June 2012. At 3 June—

- 5 were showing “performance improving” arrows; and
- 6 were showing “performance maintaining” arrows.

At 11 September 2012—

- 4 are showing “performance improving” arrows;
- 4 are showing “performance maintaining” arrows; and
- 3 are showing “performance worsening” arrows.

Figure 2: Net Change in the number of Purpose Targets in each category June 12 to September 12

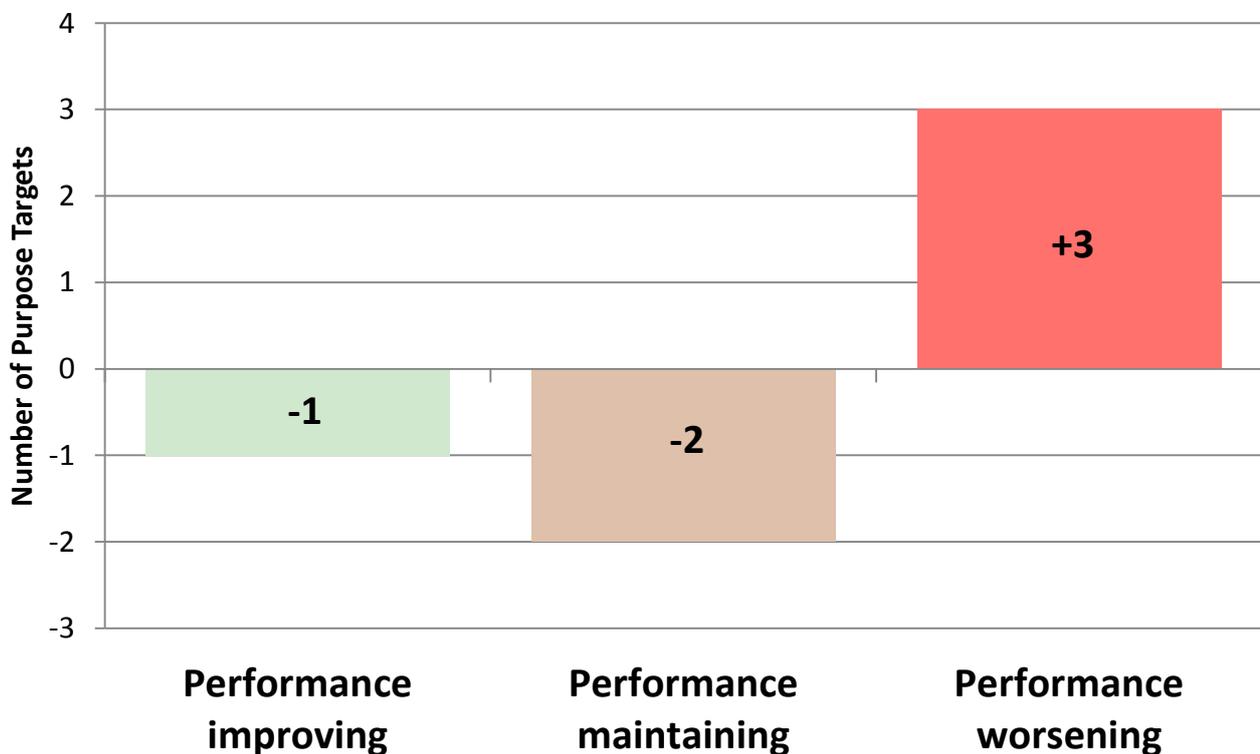


Table 2 below shows the overall performance assessment of the Purpose Targets at 3 February 2012, 1 June 2012 and 11 September 2012. **Those that have been updated since 1 June are in bold.**

Table 2: Purpose Targets – overall assessment at September 2012

Purpose target	Performance Assessment as at		
	3 February 2012	1 June 2012	11 September 2012
To raise the GDP growth rate to the UK level by 2011	▲	▲	▲
To match the GDP growth rate of the small independent EU countries by 2017	↔	▲	▲
To increase overall income and the proportion of income earned by the three lowest income deciles as a group by 2017	↔	↔	▲
To narrow the gap in participation between Scotland's best and worst performing regions by 2017	↔	↔	▲
To rank in the top quartile for productivity against our key trading partners in the OECD by 2017	↔	↔	↔
To match average European (EU15) population growth over the period from 2007 to 2017	▲	↔	↔
Supported by increased healthy life expectancy in Scotland over the period from 2007 to 2017	↔	↔	↔
To maintain our position on labour market participation as the top performing country in the UK	▲	↔	↔
To close the gap with the top five OECD economies by 2017	▲	▲	▼
To reduce emissions over the period to 2011	▲	▲	▼
To reduce emissions by 80 percent by 2050	▲	▲	▼

NATIONAL INDICATORS

NATIONAL INDICATORS – UPDATED SINCE JUNE 2012

Following the 1 June snapshot, 22 indicators have been updated. The indicators that have been updated are shown in Table 3 below. Overall, in terms of the performance of the updated indicators—

- **8 are trending upwards** from “performance maintaining” to “performance improving”, **1 is trending upwards** from “performance worsening” to “performance improving” and **1 is trending upwards** from “performance worsening to “performance maintaining”;
- **4 have maintained** at “performance improving”, **5 have maintained** at “performance maintaining” and **1 has maintained** at “performance worsening”;
- **1 is trending downwards** from “performance improving” to “performance maintaining”; and
- **1 has moved** from “data being collected” to “performance maintaining”.

Figure 3: Change in 22 National Indicators June 12 to September 12

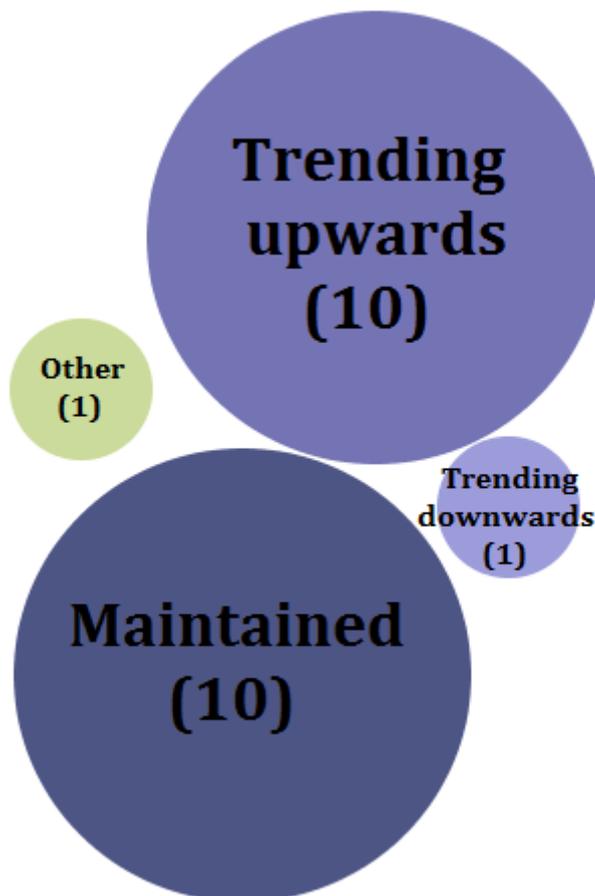


Table 3: National Indicators updated since June 2012

National Indicator	Performance assessment at		
	3 February 2012	1 June 2012	11 September 2012
Improve the skill profile of the population	▲	▲	▲
Reduce premature mortality	▲	▲	▲
Reduce deaths on Scotland's roads	▲	▲	▲
Improve access to suitable housing options for those in housing need	▲	▲	▲
Increase cultural engagement	●	↔	▲
Increase the proportion of young people in learning, training or work	↔	↔	▲
Improve the quality of healthcare experience	↔	↔	▲
Reduce the percentage of adults who smoke	↔	↔	▲
Improve people's perceptions of the quality of public services	↔	↔	▲
Improve the responsiveness of public services	↔	↔	▲
Reduce the proportion of individuals living in poverty	↔	↔	▲
Improve people's perceptions of their neighbourhood	↔	↔	▲
Increase renewable electricity production	▼	▼	▲
Widen use of the Internet	▲	▲	↔
Increase the proportion of pre-school centres receiving positive inspection reports	↔	↔	↔
Increase the proportion of schools receiving positive inspection reports	↔	↔	↔
Improve end of life care	↔	↔	↔
Reduce children's deprivation	↔	↔	↔
Increase the proportion of journeys to work made by public or active transport	↔	↔	↔
Increase the number of new homes	▼	▼	↔
Increase the proportion of babies with a healthy birth weight	●	●	↔
Increase the number of businesses	▼	▼	▼

NATIONAL INDICATORS – OVERALL PERFORMANCE

In terms of overall performance, at 1 June 2012, of the 50 indicators—

- 15 were listed as “performance improving”;
- 24 were listed as “performance maintaining”;
- 9 were listed as “performance worsening”; and
- 2 were listed as “data being collected”.

At 11 September 2012, of the 50 indicators—

- 23 are listed as “performance improving”;
- 19 are listed as “performance maintaining”;
- 7 are listed as “performance worsening”; and
- 1 is listed as “data being collected”.

Figures 4 and 5 and Table 4 below present the overall picture at 11 September 2012 and 1 June 2012. **In table 4, those indicators that have been updated since 1 June are in bold.**

Figure 4: National Indicators: Percentage of indicators in each category at 11 September 2012

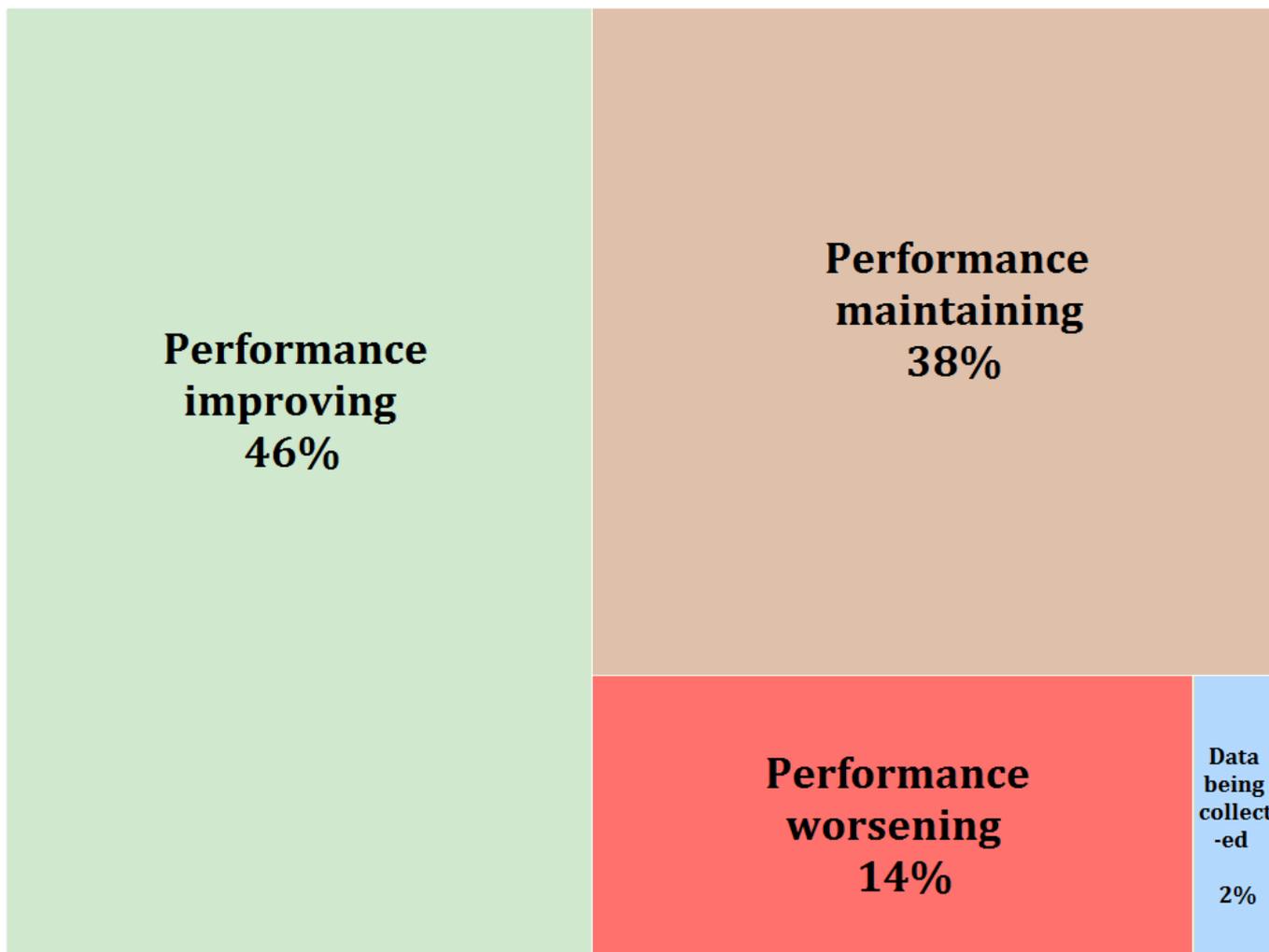


Figure 5: National Indicators: Net Change in number of indicators in each category since 1 June 2012

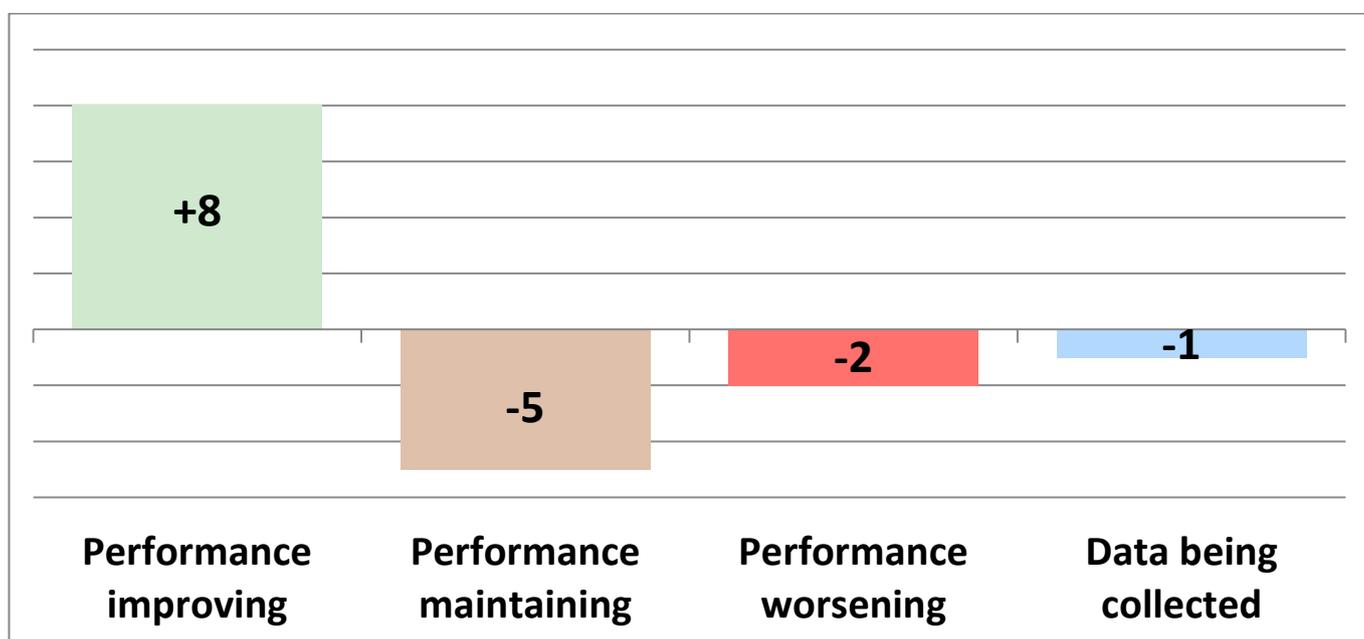


Table 4: National Indicators – overall assessment at 11 September 2012

National Indicator	Performance assessment at		
	3 February 2012	1 June 2012	11 September 2012
Reduce alcohol related hospital admissions	▲	▲	▲
Reduce Scotland's carbon footprint	↔	▲	▲
Improve the skill profile of the population	▲	▲	▲
Improve children's services	▲	▲	▲
Improve children's dental health	▲	▲	▲
Improve support for people with care needs	▲	▲	▲
Increase physical activity	▲	▲	▲
Reduce premature mortality	▲	▲	▲
Reduce crime victimisation rates	▲	▲	▲
Reduce deaths on Scotland's roads	▲	▲	▲
Improve people's perceptions about the crime rate in their area	▲	▲	▲
Improve access to suitable housing options for those in housing need	▲	▲	▲
Reduce waste generated	▲	▲	▲
Improve the state of Scotland's historic sites	▲	▲	▲
Increase cultural engagement	●	↔	▲
Increase the proportion of young people in learning, training or work	↔	↔	▲
Improve the quality of healthcare experience	↔	↔	▲
Reduce the percentage of adults who smoke	↔	↔	▲
Improve people's perceptions of the quality of public services	↔	↔	▲
Improve the responsiveness of public services	↔	↔	▲
Reduce the proportion of individuals living in poverty	↔	↔	▲
Improve people's perceptions of their neighbourhood	↔	↔	▲
Increase renewable electricity production	▼	▼	▲
Reduce emergency admissions to hospital	▲	↔	↔

Increase people's use of Scotland's outdoors	▲	↔	↔
Improve the condition of protected nature sites	↔	↔	↔
Improve the state of Scotland's marine environment	↔	↔	↔
Increase exports	↔	↔	↔
Reduce traffic congestion	↔	↔	↔
Improve Scotland's reputation	↔	↔	↔
Improve knowledge exchange from university research	↔	↔	↔
Widen use of the Internet	▲	▲	↔
Increase the proportion of pre-school centres receiving positive inspection reports	↔	↔	↔
Increase the proportion of schools receiving positive inspection reports	↔	↔	↔
Improve levels of educational attainment	↔	↔	↔
Improve mental wellbeing	↔	↔	↔
Improve end of life care	↔	↔	↔
Increase the proportion of babies with a healthy birth weight	●	●	↔
Reduce reconviction rates	↔	↔	↔
Reduce children's deprivation	↔	↔	↔
Increase the number of new homes	▼	▼	↔
Increase the proportion of journeys to work made by public or active transport	↔	↔	↔
Increase research and development spending	▲	▼	▼
Increase the abundance of terrestrial breeding birds: biodiversity	▼	▼	▼
Increase the number of businesses	▼	▼	▼
Increase the proportion of graduates in positive destinations	▼	▼	▼
Increase the proportion of healthy weight children	▼	▼	▼
Reduce the number of individuals with problem drug use	▼	▼	▼
Improve self-assessed general health	▼	▼	▼
Improve digital infrastructure	●	●	●

SOURCES

Campbell, A. (2012) The National Performance Framework and Scotland Performs. SPICe Briefing 12/12. Available at:
http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefingsAndFactsheets/S4/SB_12-12.pdf [Accessed 6 June 2012]

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RELATED BRIEFINGS

SB 12-12 [The National Performance Framework and Scotland Performs](#) – 7 February 2012

SB 12-40 [Scotland Performs – June 2012 Update](#) – 12 June 2012

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