

**Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee**  
**Scottish Government's Revised National Outcomes for Scotland**  
**Written Submission from ClimateXChange**

We welcome the rigour with which the Scottish Government has approached this process of revising its National Outcomes.

**Climate Mitigation:** As set out, only a few of the National Outcomes are explicitly linked with climate mitigation indicators. Over the longer term, given the need to integrate climate change considerations across all areas of society to deliver Scotland's climate mitigation ambition, there is potential for other National Outcomes to have a climate related indicator associated with them too:

For example, the 'we are open, connected and making a positive contribution internationally' Outcome could have an indicator that related to Scotland's climate change leadership or demonstration of commitments internationally.

Similarly, for skills and innovation, securing a 'competitive, entrepreneurial, inclusive and sustainable economy' could have an indicator that better tracked the development of a sustainable economy. UK [BIS](#) have explored potential indicators for a sustainable economy.

The SG [2017-2018 Programme for Government](#) lists examples of where low carbon ambitions need to relate to these areas 'Scotland is uniquely placed to lead the way on decarbonising our economy; our human, natural and research resources are hard to match. The economic benefits of our climate change ambitions are clear, but it is time to fully realise the economic potential of world-leading low carbon innovation'.

The climate change indicators refer to greenhouse gases and carbon footprint (as per the previous NPF): presumably they will identify a target against which to track progress? Will this be revisited after the forthcoming Climate Change Bill?

**Adaptation:** The revised NPF includes several obvious outcomes that relate to climate adaptation. For example, protecting the environment and empowered, resilient and safe communities. Some of the proposed indicators pick up on specific aspects of adaptation e.g. biodiversity/condition of protected nature sites. However, these do not comprehensively track progress in building preparedness across sectors.

The indicators DO NOT reflect the more outcome focused approach being developed for the forthcoming Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme.

The outcome relating to resilient communities DOES NOT have indicators reflecting resilience from a climate change adaptation perspective.

We note that delivering the Scottish goals for delivering a low carbon society and for building resilience against climate change will depend on (and present opportunities across) most of the National Outcomes.

We also note that the forthcoming Climate Change Bill and the Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme (SCCAP) need to be linked to these NPF indicators.

Dan Barlow and Andy Kerr