

Five steps to put wellbeing at the centre of policymaking in Scotland

At Carnegie UK, we'd like to see the National Performance Framework become **Scotland's Wellbeing Framework**. This change would help policymakers make better decisions, leading to a healthier, more prosperous, successful and sustainable Scotland.

1

Let people have their say

The people of Scotland must shape how and what the Framework measures, whether that's our quality of work or levels of poverty. That means raising the profile of the tool and providing financial resources to get the views of citizens.



Problems evidenced by Scotland's Wellbeing Framework should guide funding decisions. For example, if the Framework identifies a drop in the measures that relate to the National Outcome on communities that should lead to action and funding to address this problem.

Following the model set by Government in New Zealand, Scotland's Wellbeing Framework should be used to identify who is falling behind and how public funds could support them.

2

Funnel funding toward problems

3

Deliver new laws to protect wellbeing

Current laws to make public bodies respond to the goals (National Outcomes) in the National Performance Framework aren't working. That's why Ministers must deliver on their commitment for a Wellbeing and Sustainable Development Bill.

The Bill should be used to provide a clear vision for public bodies by bringing together and strengthening a range of duties to put democratic, economic, environmental and social wellbeing at the centre of decision-making. This new law should create a Future Generations' Commissioner to push this agenda forward, following the Welsh Government's example.



We can't create a more successful Scotland without everyone playing their part. But there's evidence that many public bodies in Scotland don't put agreed National Outcomes identified by the National Performance Framework at the centre of their activities.

That's why the Scottish Government should help everyone involved in delivering public services to rise to the challenge through clear guidance, meaningful incentives and formal evaluation, before the revised National Outcomes are issued in September 2023.

4

Provide clarity for the public sector

5

Make wellbeing everyone's business

The National Performance Framework started life as a tool to measure how government was delivering. While elected politicians should be held accountable for the performance of public services, delivering a more successful Scotland will require the efforts of the state, business and charities.

The Scottish Government must lead new ways of working that bring partners together to make improving wellbeing everyone's business, starting with an open and honest conversation about how we are doing and what needs to change to make life better for us all.

