



Nourish Scotland Consultation Response

National Outcomes Review – 10 April 2017

Nourish Scotland is a food justice NGO advocating for a fairer, healthier and more sustainable food system.

Nourish welcomes the opportunity provided for in the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 to participate in the future of Scotland's National Outcomes.

Our response below follows the structure of the Scottish Government's facilitated conversation pack, though the reflections were not obtained using this method.

1. What kind of Scotland would people like to live in?

Nourish Scotland advocates for a rights-based approach to food in Scotland. We would like to live in a Scotland where everyone has access to adequate, nutritious, and culturally appropriate food with dignity and choice, and where our food system treats people and planet fairly, at home and abroad.

This includes people working in the food and drink industry, from production through to catering, to have well paid and secure jobs. For wildlife to thrive on farms, for animals to have a good life and death, and for production to respect environmental and climate limits.

2. How do we need to change the National Outcomes to reflect this?

The current National Outcomes are a good start, though will need refreshing to meet the First Minister's commitment to align the National Performance Framework with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SDGs are more comprehensive than our current Outcomes, and have the weight of international approval. Our preference is for the revision of the 16 Outcomes to explicitly cover all 17 SDGs.

Food justice issues in Scotland cut across every aspect of the SDGs – we believe that the omission of any of the Goals in the National Outcomes would weaken the strategic and framework nature of the Outcomes and Scotland's reputation as a leader in the SDGs.

3. Does the current NPF format successfully reflect, measure and report on ambitions for Scotland, and if not, how should it be changed to do so?

The current format of the National Performance Framework is clear and well structured, we can see how the Framework reads across the National Outcomes, Strategic Objectives, High Level Targets, and the Government's overall purpose.

We support the Framework's promotion of outcome-based policy, but believe it is still patchy – with a number of food and farming related indicators missing.

We would like to see the inclusion of the following indicators:

- **Reduce household food insecurity** – Scottish data will be available from September 2017 through the Scottish Health Survey, data from England, Wales and Northern Ireland through the FSA's Food and You Survey (2017) recently found that 21% of people were experiencing food insecurity.
- **Increase in the proportion of adults who are healthy weight** – building on the existing indicator for proportion of children who are healthy weight, and extending it to consider access to culturally appropriate food for adults as well as children – emphasising the importance of dignity and choice.
- **Reduce the incidence of undernourishment for people in care** – notably, the incidence of undernourishment in older people leaving hospital remains unacceptably higher than before admission.
- **Reduce the use of toxic chemicals** – particularly in food production: pesticide residues are present in 46% of fresh food sold, and the routine preventative use of antibiotics on livestock accounts for 45% of antibiotic use. Include air pollution in this indicator.
- **Increase in the number of people accessing land to grow food** – both urban and rural, with special emphasis placed on the number of new entrants in food production, and the security of the relationship.
- **Restore eroded soil and mitigate further degradation** – through proactive extension services, including organic conversion. Soil health is central to yield, profitability and nutrient density, reducing flood risk, and sequestering carbon.

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