

Number: WG36970

Welsh Government Consultation Document



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

How do we assist Welsh Ministers in measuring a nation's progress?

Proposals for developing a set of national milestones for Wales, and seeking views on the national indicators.

Date of issue: 28 January 2019

Action required: Responses by 19 April 2019

Overview

The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on a small set of national indicators against which national milestones for Wales will be developed. National milestones for Wales are intended to assist Ministers in assessing progress towards achieving a prosperous, resilient, more equal and healthier Wales, with cohesive communities, a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language and a globally responsible Wales. These are the seven well-being goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

The consultation will also ask whether any revisions need to be made to the existing national indicators.

This document sets out the proposed criteria for selecting a small set of national milestones, our proposals for the small set of national indicators against which national milestones will be developed and provides the opportunity for incremental changes to the national indicators.

You can submit your comments by using our online form, by email or by sending a completed copy of the consultation response form to the address below.

How to respond

The deadline for consultation responses is 19 April 2019.

National Milestones for Wales
Cabinet Office
Welsh Government
Crown Buildings
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

Further information and related documents

Large print, braille, and alternative language versions of this document are available on request.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:
www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/2/contents/enacted

Welsh Government's webpages on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/future-generations-bill/?lang=en

National Assembly for Wales webpages on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015:
www.senedd.assembly.wales/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Ild=10103

Contact details

For further information:

email: cabinetoffice@gov.wales

telephone: 0300 025 1781/ 0300 025 5776

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

The Welsh Government will be data controller for any personal data you provide as part of your response to the consultation. Welsh Ministers have statutory powers they will rely on to process this personal data which will enable them to make informed decisions about how they exercise their public functions. Any response you send us will be seen in full by Welsh Government staff dealing with the issues which this consultation is about or planning future consultations. Where the Welsh Government undertakes further analysis of consultation responses then this work may be commissioned to be carried out by an accredited third party (e.g. a research organisation or a consultancy company). Any such work will only be undertaken under contract. Welsh Government's standard terms and conditions for such contracts set out strict requirements for the processing and safekeeping of personal data.

In order to show that the consultation was carried out properly, the Welsh Government intends to publish a summary of the responses to this document. We may also publish responses in full. Normally, the name and address (or part of the address) of the person or organisation who sent the response are published with the response. If you do not want your name or address published, please tell us this in writing when you send your response. We will then redact them before publishing.

You should also be aware of our responsibilities under Freedom of Information legislation. If your details are published as part of the consultation response then these published reports will be retained indefinitely. Any of your data held otherwise by Welsh Government will be kept for no more than three years.

Your rights

Under the data protection legislation, you have the right:

- to be informed of the personal data held about you and to access it
- to require us to rectify inaccuracies in that data
- to (in certain circumstances) object to or restrict processing
- for (in certain circumstances) your data to be 'erased'
- to (in certain circumstances) data portability
- to lodge a complaint with the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) who is our independent regulator for data protection.

For further details about the information the Welsh Government holds and its use, or if you want to exercise your rights under the GDPR, please see contact details below:

Data Protection Officer:

Welsh Government
Cathays Park
CARDIFF
CF10 3NQ
e-mail: Data.ProtectionOfficer@gov.wales

The contact details for the Information Commissioner's Office are:

Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF
Tel: 01625 545 745 or 0303 123 1113

Website: <https://ico.org.uk/>

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What is this consultation about?

We are consulting on our proposals to set national milestones for Wales which will help us and our partners make progress towards the well-being goals.

In 2015 the National Assembly for Wales passed the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the Act'). The Act is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act was made law in April 2015 and puts in place seven well-being goals for Wales. These are as follows:

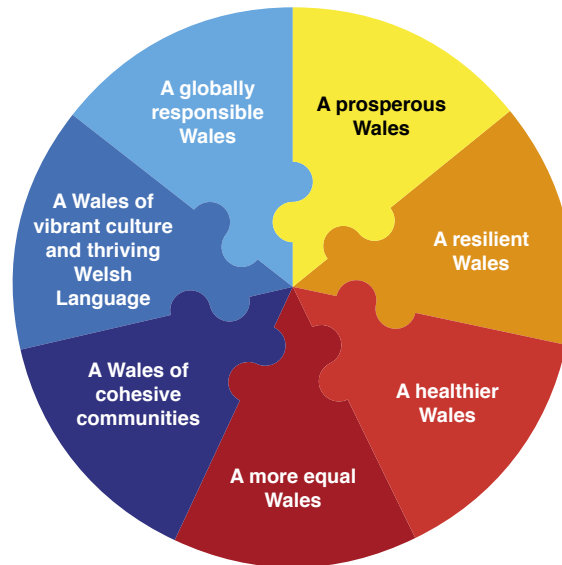


Figure 1 – The seven well-being goals for Wales

We set national indicators as a way of measuring progress against these well-being goals, so that we can all see if, for Wales as a whole, things are getting better.

National milestones for Wales will set out expectations of progress, including the scale and pace of change required allowing us to assess whether we are on track. This is a legal requirement of the Act¹ and makes an important contribution to supporting public bodies in Wales to achieve the well-being goals.

Our national indicators also support us in measuring progress in Wales towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Setting milestones will also help demonstrate the progress we want to see towards those goals².

This document sets out the criteria we have used to identify potential milestones, the small set of national indicators against which milestones will be developed, and how we will set and use the milestones.

It is now over two years since the national indicators³ were published and many lessons will have been learned, over this time organisations and individuals will have developed experience of using them in practice. Based on this we would like to know whether the indicators could be improved.

The deadline for consultation responses is 19 April 2019.

¹ This requirement is set out in Section 10 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

See <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2015/2/contents>

² <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

³ <https://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/future-generations-act/national-indicators/?lang=en>

What do we mean by a national milestone?

The Act states that milestones must be set that "...the Welsh Ministers consider would assist in measuring whether progress is being made towards the achievement of the well-being goals." In doing so Welsh Ministers must specify how we know that a milestone has been achieved and the time by which it is to be achieved.

In broad terms this means that we need to set a series of measures against national indicators that will help us understand that they are moving in the right direction and moving us as a nation towards achieving the well-being goals.

A national milestone could be a specific target, or it could be a range or another way of helping us understand that we are on the right track.

The criteria for choosing national milestones

We propose five essential criteria for selecting the national milestones.

The five criteria for selecting national milestones

1

A small number so we can focus our energy

Why this criterion?

The seven well-being goals were designed to be interconnected and to reflect the complex interplay of factors that will determine Wales' success. We initially set 46 national indicators to capture how Wales as a whole was progressing against these well-being goals. We believe that a small set of national milestones will help public bodies and Welsh Ministers to focus their energies on making the key changes that make it more likely that we will meet these goals. We will report on progress against all of the indicators, but it is this small set of milestones where we believe we can make the biggest difference and which we will use to drive performance across the public bodies in Wales.

Setting a small number of milestones resonates with the advice of the Public Policy for Wales⁴ that there should be a limited number of headline national indicators. A small set will help ensure we are focussed on the most important issues and make the set useable for public bodies. This will reflect the integrated nature of the well-being goals, in the context of a prolonged period of austerity and the uncertainties of Brexit.

Milestones set using this criterion will contribute towards **integration**, helping us to assess progress towards more than one well-being goal and ensuring the milestones continue the policy journey started at commencement of the Act.

⁴ Public Policy Institute for Wales (2015) Measuring Progress on Well-being: The Development of national indicators
<http://ppi.w.org.uk/files/2015/10/Measuring-Progress-on-Well-being-The-Development-of-National-Indicators.pdf>

2

Capable of being influenced significantly by our devolved Government

Why this criterion?

The well-being goals set the ambition for the whole of Wales. The Welsh Government can influence many of the actions that contribute to the seven well-being goals, but they are also influenced significantly by the actions of individuals, the UK Government and events on the global stage. All of these will be reflected in the national indicators, but in the milestones we want to capture the things that we can change most through our decisions, funding, programmes and the actions of our partners. They should not be used as performance measures for any individual public body or service, nor should they be measures of individual policies or programmes, but they should give us the scope to act collectively to change the trajectory.

Milestones set using this criterion will contribute towards **involvement**, generating discussion through our democratic processes at all levels towards achieving the milestone using the powers we have.

3

Achieving this milestone will unlock progress in a range of areas

Why this criterion?

The best milestones will support us to make progress in a number of areas. They will reflect the actions of a range of people and organisations and will demonstrate that we are making progress towards more than one of the well-being goals. The world that we live in is complex, and our milestones need to reflect the multiple benefits that we can achieve from our actions – for example, the link between education and health, the link between the environment and healthy, resilient communities, the link between education and employment and the link between a skilled workforce and a sustainable, thriving economy.

Milestones set using this criterion will contribute towards **prevention**, ensuring the effort made in one area benefits other areas rather than competing.

4

Achieving this milestone will have a generational effect by preventing poor outcomes that would have a knock on effect for future generations

Why this criterion?

The milestones should measure outcomes that resonate with and matter to the public in Wales. They should tell a clear story of our progress towards a Wales that is prosperous, resilient, more equal and healthier, with cohesive communities, a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language, and globally responsive. They should reflect the actions that we can take now to ensure a brighter future for the generations to come, planning to avoid preventable problems.

Milestones set using this criterion contribute towards a **long-term** approach, achieving outcomes in the medium term that will have a lasting positive legacy.

5 Will require action by a number of partners

Why this criterion?

The well-being goals cannot be delivered by any organisation working in isolation. National milestones are therefore not performance targets for any individual public body, but the right set can support a range of partners to work collaboratively to deliver against the well-being goals. We want this small set to have the widest possible relevance to delivery partners across Wales, so that progress against them can help public bodies make decisions about what they do and what they might change as a result.

Milestones set using this criterion will contribute towards **collaboration**, generating discussion between partners and addressing underlying issues.

The national indicators against which we will set national milestones

It is essential that setting a small set of national milestones allows Welsh Ministers to assess progress against all seven well-being goals (prosperity, resilience, health, equality, cohesive communities, global responsibility and a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language). This cannot be done effectively by setting a milestone per goal, and so the set must be taken collectively and considered as a whole.

We propose the following national indicators from the current set⁵ of 46 are those against which milestones will be set.

National Indicator 2

Healthy life expectancy at birth including the gap between the least and most deprived

National Indicators 3 and 5

Percentage of adults/children who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours

Note: We would develop separate milestones for adults and children, due to the different sources and definitions used for these national indicators.

⁵ <https://gov.wales/docs/desh/publications/160316-national-indicators-to-be-laid-before-nafw-en.pdf>

National Indicator 7

Average capped 9 points score of pupils, including the gap between those who are eligible or are not eligible for free school meals

Note: Given the importance of our national education system in unlocking the potential of our future generations, there is a strong argument that a milestone around the outcome of secondary school performance would meet our proposed criteria. However, the current national indicator is based on the current measure of secondary school performance, which we know is likely to change in future years as Ministers finalise a new accountability framework for schools, and is subject to the regular changes in measurement of school performance.

For example the definition of the Capped 9 measure used for the current national indicator has undergone a number of significant changes in recent years. Therefore whilst it is a valid indicator for current accountability measures, this also demonstrates that it may not be an appropriate measure to consider for long term milestones.

There may also be concerns in terms of how a measure such as this would resonate with the public because of its complexity and the variety of ways qualifications can be included within the measure.

If respondents consider it important to include a national milestone on school performance, the national indicator will need to be refined in collaboration with stakeholders. For example, we may wish to set a national milestone on the performance in individual subjects at the end of secondary school, which might be more likely to survive the test of time, or to focus more on the distribution of performance across groups of pupils.

National Indicator 8

Percentage of adults with qualifications at the different levels of the National Qualifications Framework.

National Indicator 10

Gross Disposable Household Income per head

Note: This indicator has been included as a proposed milestone but we also know that progress against this indicator can be influenced significantly by decisions made by the UK government and the wider economic conditions.

Therefore rather than setting an absolute 'point' target as the milestone for this indicator we will look at using an alternative approach that focuses on our position relative to the rest of the UK, a 'range' target or something different (see also page 13).

National Indicator 17

Gender pay difference

Note: In line with our aim to make the national indicators available for different population groups as far as possible, we intend to undertake some feasibility work to consider how we could develop this indicator for disability and ethnicity pay differences. This will consider what data sources are available and how robust any indicator would be. Any consideration of setting a national milestone for disability or ethnicity pay differences would depend on the outcome of that work.

National Indicator 18

Percentage of people living in households in income poverty relative to the UK median: measured for children, working age and those of pension age

Note: This indicator has been included as a proposed milestone due to the importance we place on reducing poverty in Wales, but we also know that many of the levers needed to do this are not within our devolved competence and can be influenced significantly by decisions made by the UK government and the wider economic conditions.

A number of other indicators included in this set measure areas that can influence poverty, areas such as health, education, skills and employment. These are areas where more of the levers are devolved and therefore we have more ability to influence their outcome.

If respondents consider it important to set a milestone against this indicator we will use an alternative approach and not an absolute 'point' target. This would be an approach that focuses on our position relative to the rest of the UK, a 'range' target or something different (see also page 13).

National Indicator 21

Percentage of people in employment

Note: This indicator has been included as a proposed milestone but we also know that progress against this indicator can be influenced significantly by decisions made by the UK government and the wider economic conditions.

Therefore rather than setting an absolute 'point' target as the milestone for this indicator we will look at using an alternative approach that focuses on our position relative to the rest of the UK, a 'range' target or something different (see also page 13).

National Indicator 22

Percentage of people in education, employment or training, measured for different age groups

National Indicator 23

Percentage who feel able to influence decisions affecting their local area

Note: Setting a milestone against this measure will be conceptually difficult given its subjective nature, the small number of years for which data are available, and the potential difficulty in understanding what impact interventions could have on the rate of progress, and therefore where a realistic milestone could be set. Nevertheless we wanted to ensure that we captured the importance of involvement and the contribution citizens perceive they can make to society.

National Indicator 29

Mean mental well-being score for people

Note: We would develop separate milestones for adults and children, due to the different sources and definitions used within this national indicator.

National Indicator 37

Percentage of people who can speak Welsh

Note: Given that there already exists a national ambition to reach a million Welsh speakers by 2050 this would be our proposed national milestone on the topic of the Welsh language. In which case, the national indicator would be amended to reflect the number rather than the percentage of Welsh speakers.

National Indicator 41

Emissions of greenhouse gases within Wales

Note: We propose that this indicator will be amended to bring it in line with Part 2 (35) of the Environment Act (Wales) 2016. The main change being to include Wales' share of international aviation and international shipping. The milestone set against this indicator will also need to align to the Environment Act with formal reporting being on a 5 year cycle. Trends will be monitored more frequently using published emissions data.

National Indicator 44

Status of Biological diversity in Wales

Note: It is important that our set of national milestones allow us to assess performance against the collective goals. This must include the need to ensure that the Welsh natural environment is healthy and sustainable. We think it is important to include a national milestone that helps us understand progress in this area, for example one option might be to use the national indicator on the status of Biological diversity in Wales.

However there are practical challenges in doing so. For example, whilst work has been commissioned to explore the potential of the available Welsh data on biodiversity to develop an appropriate national indicator, this remains in development. Furthermore, given the range of data and trends that might be involved in developing a composite indicator around biodiversity, we may conclude that it is not feasible to set a national milestone.

Therefore if, as a result of the consultation, it is considered important to have a national milestone in this area, we would want to involve and collaborate with scientific and policy experts to consider the options for setting an appropriate milestone.

How do we assist Welsh Ministers in measuring a nation's progress?

A summary of how national milestones will collectively assist in providing a balanced assessment of progress towards the seven well-being goals is shown below.

The Wales We Want								
Our common purpose – the seven well-being goals for Wales								
A prosperous Wales (1)	A Resilient Wales (2)	A Healthier Wales (3)	A More Equal Wales (4)	A Wales of Cohesive Communities (5)	A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language (6)	Globally Responsible Wales (7)		
The way in which we will indicate the scale and pace of change								
Proposed national indicators against which we will set national milestones		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
02	Healthy life expectancy at birth including the gap between the least and most deprived							
03	Percentage of adults who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours							
05	Percentage of children who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours							
07	Average capped 9 points score of pupils, including the gap between those who are eligible or are not eligible for free school meals							
08	Percentage of adults with qualifications at the different levels of the National Qualifications Framework							
10	Gross Domestic Household Income per head							
17	Gender pay difference							
18	Percentage of people living in households in income poverty relative to the UK median: measured for children, working age and those of pension age							
21	Percentage of people in employment							
22	Percentage of people in education, employment or training, measured for different age groups							
23	Percentage who feel able to influence decisions affecting their local area							
29	Mean mental well-being score for people							
37	Percentage of people who can speak Welsh							
41	Emissions of greenhouse gases within Wales							
44	Status of Biological diversity in Wales							

Using the national milestones

Throughout our implementation of the Act, we have sought to embed the requirements in our everyday work – using the opportunity of the Act to better focus our efforts on the differences that we want to make today and for future generations. We have taken this same approach in setting the milestones.

We have produced a small set of criteria that reflect the well-being goals, but that also reflect the areas where we can have the greatest impact, in line with our priorities and where positive progress can make a contribution to a number of well-being goals. Through this approach, we plan to use the milestones to help focus our activity and that of our partners to improve performance over time.

Therefore, in addition to assessing milestones against the well-being goals, we have considered how we can use them to support progress with our well-being objectives, set out in Prosperity for All: the national strategy.

Prosperous and Secure

Well-being Objectives

- Support people and businesses to drive prosperity
- Tackle regional inequality and promote fair work
- Drive sustainable growth and combat climate change

Proposed Milestones

The focus of these well-being objectives is on supporting businesses to grow and prosper sustainably, whilst ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to benefit from economic growth.

We are proposing milestones that monitor the levels of employment in Wales and that demonstrate how we are redressing inequalities in the work place and in income levels. We also want to capture the contribution that improving our skills levels makes to economic growth and productivity, but also reflect the conditions needed for individuals to benefit from work opportunities. We are clear that we want to encourage sustainable economic growth and that this can make a significant contribution to decarbonising Wales.

- Average capped 9 points score of pupils, including the gap between those who are eligible or are not eligible for free school meals.
- Percentage of adults with qualifications at the different levels of the National Qualifications Framework.
- Gross Disposable Household Income per head.
- Gender pay difference.
- Percentage of people living in households in income poverty relative to the UK median: measured for children, working age and those of pension age.
- Percentage of people in employment.
- Percentage of people in education, employment or training, measured for different age groups.
- Emissions of greenhouse gases within Wales.
- Status of Biological diversity in Wales.

Healthy and Active

Well-being Objectives

- Deliver quality health and care services fit for the future
- Promote good health and well-being for everyone
- Build healthier communities and better environments

Proposed Milestones

The focus of our healthy and active objectives is on supporting individuals to take lifestyle decisions to prevent ill-health occurring wherever possible, supporting the right environment to facilitate healthy living and to provide sustainable health services when the need arises.

We are proposing milestones that capture the preventative element of this agenda – reflecting the impact of healthy lifestyle choices on good health and the continuing inequalities of health between those from advantaged and less advantaged backgrounds. We are also proposing to set a milestone for greenhouse gases, as a proxy for clean air measures. Although we remain committed to delivering effective health services and will monitor performance against existing targets, we did not consider that these are appropriate long term, outcome-based milestones that reflect the wide range of contributions that public sector bodies and individuals have to the health of Wales.

- Healthy life expectancy at birth including the gap between the least and most deprived.
- Percentage of adults who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours.
- Percentage of children who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours.
- Percentage of adults with qualifications at the different levels of the National Qualifications Framework.
- Percentage of people living in households in income poverty relative to the UK median: measured for children, working age and those of pension age.
- Percentage of people in employment.
- Percentage of people in education, employment or training, measured for different age groups.
- Mean mental well-being score for people.
- Emissions of greenhouse gases within Wales.

Ambitious and Learning

Well-being Objectives

- Support young people to make the most of their potential
- Build ambition and encourage learning for life
- Equip everyone with the right skills for a changing world

Proposed Milestones

Our well-being objectives capture our commitment to laying the foundations for successful learning from an early age and embedding opportunities to continue learning throughout an individual's life.

Our proposed milestones reflect educational attainment at key points in an individual's life – when they leave compulsory education, their onward journey into work and training and the skills levels of the adult population. Our proposed milestones also reflect the link between poverty and educational attainment, and our commitment to breaking that link. We are keen to capture the wider benefits of education in terms of health and well-being and reflect the role of the education system in meeting our objectives of a flourishing Welsh language.

- Percentage of adults who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours.
- Percentage of children who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours.
- Average capped 9 points score of pupils, including the gap between those who are eligible or are not eligible for free school meals.
- Percentage of adults with qualifications at the different levels of the National Qualifications Framework.
- Percentage of people living in households in income poverty relative to the UK median: measured for children, working age and those of pension age.
- Percentage of people in education, employment or training, measured for different age groups.
- Mean mental well-being score for people.
- Percentage of people who can speak Welsh.

United and Connected

Well-being Objectives

- Build resilient communities, culture, and language
- Deliver modern and connected infrastructure
- Promote and protect Wales' place in the world

Proposed Milestones

The well-being objectives in this chapter are enabling. They are not outcomes in themselves, but are the supporting conditions that affect how we are able to live our lives – to work, rest and play. It is challenging to articulate these in a small number of outcome-based milestones.

We are proposing a group of milestones that capture what it takes and what it means to live in a supportive and sustainable community that reflects our Welsh identity. We have concluded that there are not milestones that will helpfully capture our objectives for a modern and connected infrastructure and an internationally proud nation, other than output measures, but would welcome views on this through the consultation.

- Healthy life expectancy at birth including the gap between the least and most deprived.
- Percentage of adults who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours.
- Percentage of children who have fewer than two healthy lifestyle behaviours.
- Percentage of people living in households in income poverty relative to the UK median: measured for children, working age and those of pension age.
- Percentage who feel able to influence decisions affecting their local area.
- Percentage of people who can speak Welsh.
- Emissions of greenhouse gases within Wales.
- Status of Biological diversity in Wales.

How the national milestones will be set

Following the close of the consultation, the Welsh Government will publish a consultation response summary. The Welsh Government will also confirm the criteria to be used to set national milestones, the set of national indicators against which national milestones will be set, and any revisions to the national indicators.

The national milestones will indicate the scale and pace of change required if we are to meet the seven well-being goals, and, as with the national indicators, will measure outcomes and not service delivery targets. Once we have agreed the indicators against which milestones will be set, we will work with public bodies and experts to consider the approach for each specific milestone.

A range of analytical techniques might be used to develop milestones. When looking at generational impacts and well into the future, it is incredibly difficult to understand what impact we might hope to have and by when. These national indicators measure the outcome of a range of complex and interdependent factors. As such, we need a considered approach to setting national milestones that is sensitive to the context in which we are working.

There may be indicators when a **“point to point” milestone** is appropriate – that is specifying a figure now that we want to achieve by a certain year in the future. Alternatively, we may want to use “turning the curve” methodology and **propose a range for the potential outcome** that we want see for any particular indicator.

Where an indicator is heavily dependent on other parts of the UK or global factors it may be more appropriate to look at our **position relative to other countries**.

We may consider that the most important issue in seeing progress against the well-being goals is to **shift the distribution across the population**. For example rather than focusing on an average that could be improved by focusing on one group of the population, we may want to look at the gap between different groups of the population and set a milestone accordingly.

The ‘Annual Well-being Report’ (published as the Well-being of Wales report⁶) reports on the progress made in Wales in achieving the seven well-being goals using the national indicators. In future this will also make reference to the milestones.

The Annual Well-being Report is taken into account by the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales when they prepare and publish their ‘Future Generations Report’ and by Public Service Boards in Wales and Public Bodies subject to the Act when they are analysing the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in their areas and setting objectives.

⁶ <https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/well-being-wales/?lang=en>

Changes to the existing national indicators

The Act required Welsh Ministers to set national indicators to assess progress towards achieving the well-being goals. From September 2015 to January 2016 Welsh Government undertook an extensive public consultation to identify what set of indicators should be developed to best measure progress against the well-being goals.

These national indicators were published in March 2016 and laid before the National Assembly for Wales. The annual Well-being of Wales report draws upon the national indicators and other data to present a picture of the progress we are making towards the goals.

The intention was always that these should be indicators for the long-term and the indicators have only been reported on for two years. We believe the indicators, in general, provide a rounded picture of progress against the goals. Therefore we do not believe this is the right time to open up a wide discussion on the national indicators and take focus away from the important issue of setting national milestones.

Nevertheless, we accept that there may need to be amendments to the indicator set to ensure the milestones are aligned fully. In considering proposals for new national milestones, stakeholders might also make a strong case for milestones that require new national indicators. Furthermore, after two years of reporting, stakeholders might make a compelling case for improvements to the set of national indicators.

There is also other work already underway that might mean it is timely to amend the national indicators. One such consideration will be the report from the Fair Work Commission which is due in March 2019. This Commission has been considering the development of indicators and measures of fair work. When published we will consider if this has implications for the national indicators and milestones.

We are seeking other proposals for incremental improvements to the set of national indicators that will support our aim of measuring the outcomes for Wales and the people of Wales. We are aiming for a small set of indicators that help us understand progress towards the well-being goals, not performance indicators for individual bodies.

Annex A – Response Templates

Please use this template if you want to change either the proposed criteria, the subset of national indicators against which we propose to set national milestones or make a revision to the national indicators.

A. Changes to the criteria to select national indicators against which national milestones will be developed

1. Do you propose any changes to the criteria?

Yes

No

2. If yes, is the proposed change an additional criterion or an improvement to one of the existing criterion? (Please tick one box)

Additional

Improvement

3. If an improvement, which existing criterion will be improved?

4. Please provide your new or improved criterion.

5. Please tell us why this new or improved criterion will fit with the other criteria and best support development of a small set of national milestones that will assist Ministers in assessing progress for the whole of Wales towards the seven well-being goals.

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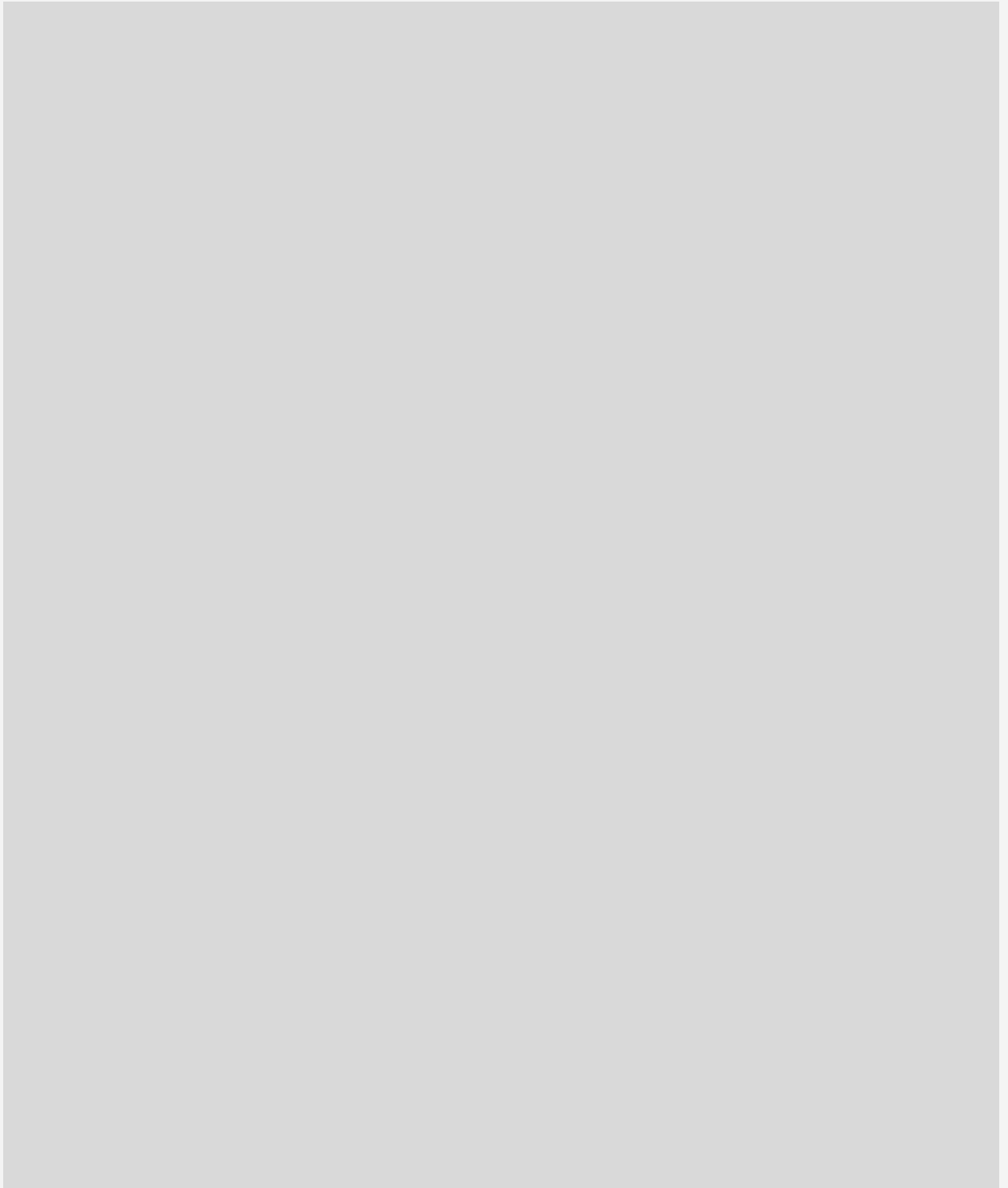
How do we assist Welsh Ministers in measuring a nation's progress?

6. Do you propose removing any of the existing criterion?

Yes

No

If yes, which criterion do you wish to see removed and why?



B. Changes to the small set of national indicators against which national milestones will be developed

7. Do you propose any changes to the small set of national indicators against which we propose to set national milestones?

Yes

No

8. Do you propose to remove or add national indicators from the small set against which we propose to set national milestones? (Please tick one box)

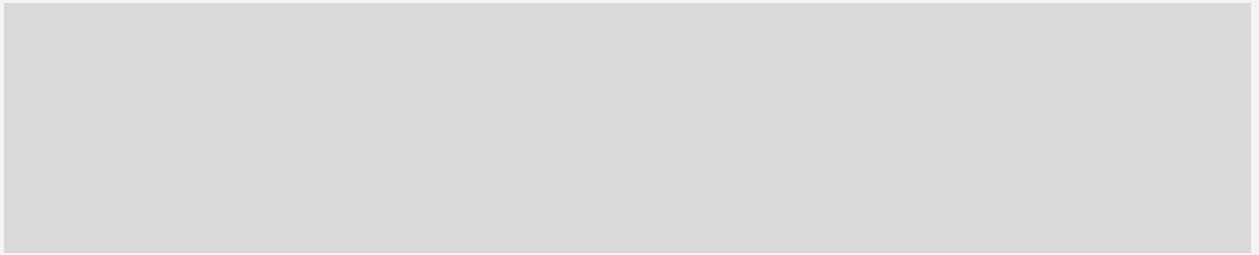
Remove

Add

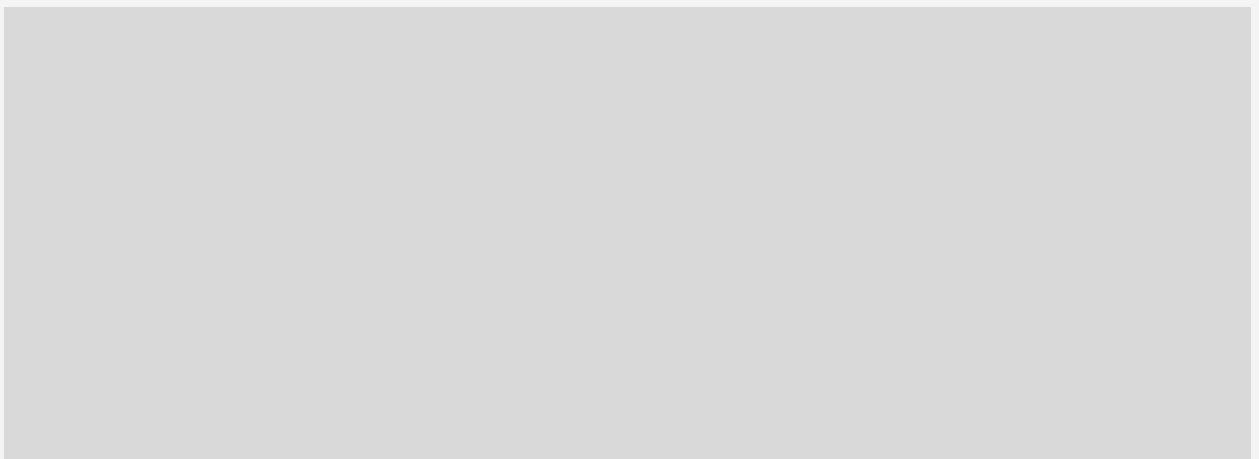
9. If you are proposing an additional national indicator against which a milestone should be set, which national indicator do you propose adding?

If you have answered the question above, please now consider which national indicators can be removed from having milestones, to keep a small set or to reduce the set further.

10. If you are proposing removing national indicators that we currently propose to set milestones against, which ones do you propose removing?

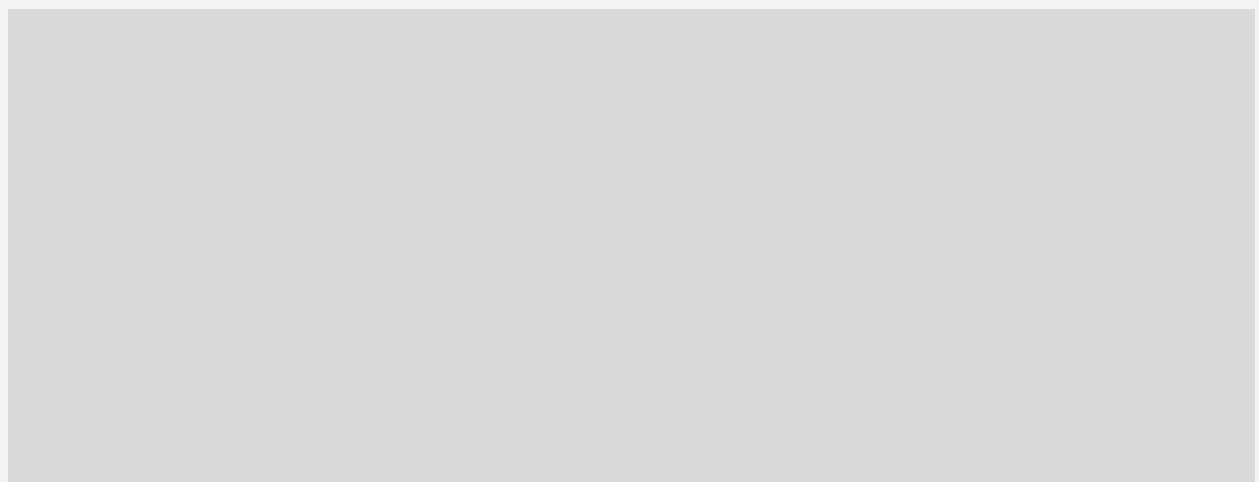


11. Please provide an explanation for your proposed changes and the contribution they make to a small, balanced set of milestones.



Indicators 10, 18 and 21 are heavily influenced by decisions made by the UK government and wider economic conditions. The national milestones need to be capable of being influenced significantly by our devolved Government and therefore for these indicators it will not be appropriate to base our national milestone on an absolute "point" target. Instead we suggest a more appropriate approach would be to use some of the other methods described on page 13.

12. Do you agree with the rationale for this, or have you any other views on how we should approach areas not entirely within devolved competence?



C. Changes to the existing 46 national indicators

13. Do you propose any changes to the existing 46 national indicators?

Yes

No

14. What type of change are you proposing to the existing 46 national indicators?
(Please tick one box)

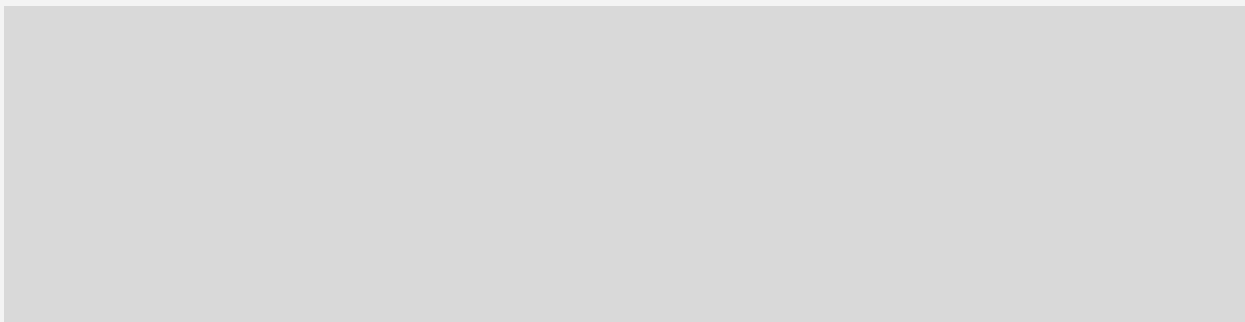
Removal of or change to an existing indicator

New

15. If you are proposing a change to an existing indicator/s or proposing a new indicator, please provide the version you propose.

16. If you have proposed a new indicator, please now consider which national indicators can be removed, to keep a small set or to reduce the set further.

17. If you are proposing removal of an existing national indicator, please identify that indicator.



18. Please tell us why your proposed change to the existing 46 national indicators will support us in measuring progress towards achieving the well-being goals.

