

Criminal Justice Committee
Wednesday 6 November 2024
33rd Meeting, 2024 (Session 6)

National outcomes

Note by the clerk

Introduction

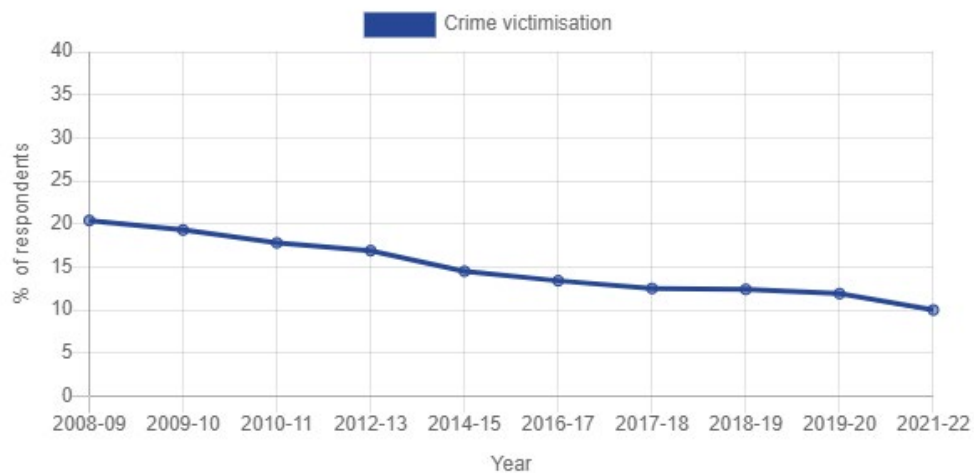
1. In 2007, the Scottish Government introduced the [National Performance Framework](#) (NPF). It sets out the government's ambitions for society and the values that guide its approach. The framework says it aims to get everyone in Scotland to work together. This includes:
 - national and local government
 - businesses
 - voluntary organisations
 - people living in Scotland
2. To help achieve its purpose, the framework sets out different **National Outcomes**.
3. The Scottish Government must review the National Outcomes every five years and has started its latest review. During the review, the Government must:
 - consult with the public and consider the feedback it receives
 - show how they are aiming to reduce inequalities caused by socio-economic disadvantages when setting the new Outcomes
 - seek views from the Scottish Parliament on the proposed new National Outcomes.
4. The government has completed its consultation and has published its [proposed 13 National Outcomes](#) for the next five years for the Scottish Parliament to consider. It is also proposing an updated purpose for the National Performance Framework.
5. The framework measures Scotland's progress against the National Outcomes. To do this, it uses 'National Indicators'. These indicators give a measure of national wellbeing. They include a range of economic, social and environmental indicators.
6. **The Finance and Public Administration Committee is leading in considering the proposed National Outcomes, although some other committees will wish to consider evidence in their areas of interest.**
7. To assist committees, SPICe has produced a [written summary](#) of the evidence received in the consultation. The only comment relating to the specific remit for criminal justice was the feedback from some groups highlighted the need for improved access to justice for women victims of sexually motivated crimes.

Proposed National Outcomes - Justice

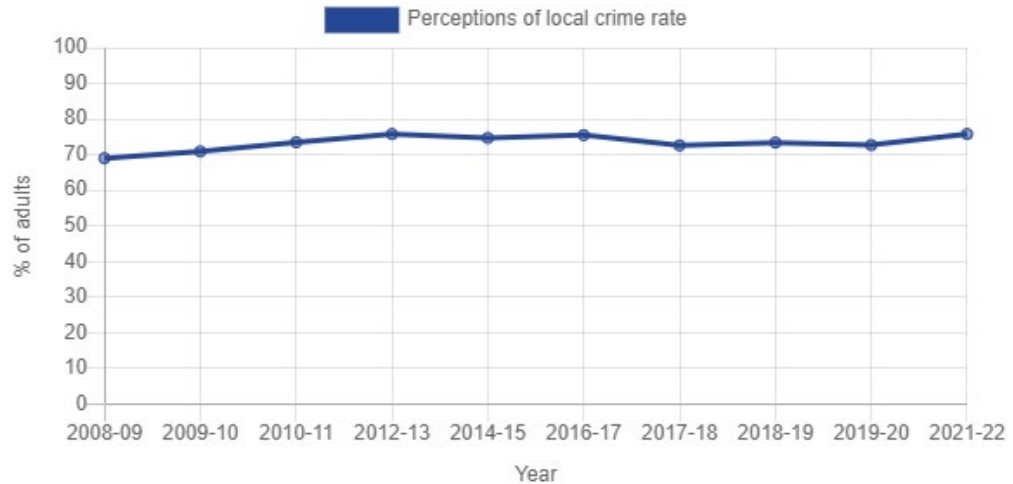
8. The Scottish Government's proposed new National Outcomes in relation to the criminal justice sector are woven throughout the NPF. There is no specific sub-section or Outcome for criminal justice in the same way as there is, for example, for environment or health.
9. The National Outcomes that could be considered to fall within this Committee's remit are as follows:
 - **Communities Outcome** – We live in communities that are connected, inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe.

Some of the relevant measures of progress are:

- [Crime victimisation](#) – specifically the proportion of adults who have been the victim of one or more crimes in the past year. The Scottish Government says the data in respect to this indicator is “Improving”.



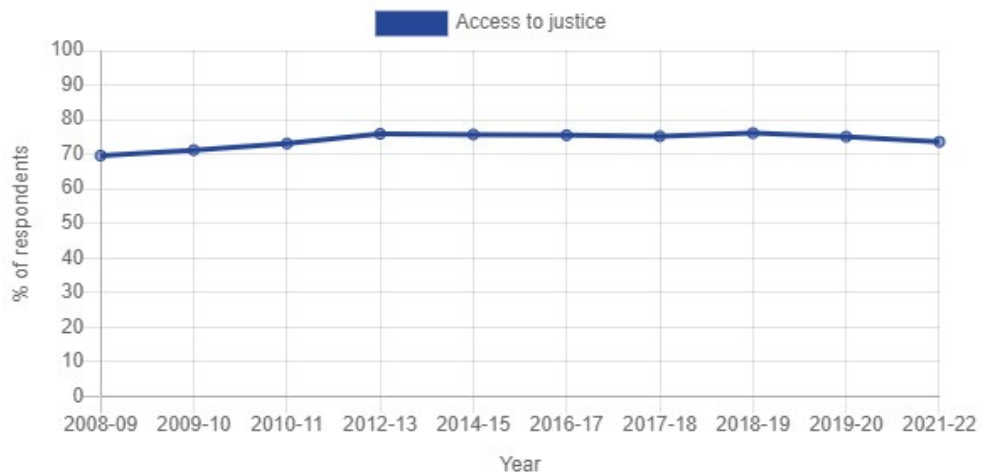
- [Perceptions of local crime rate](#) – specifically the percentage of respondents who think crime in their area has stayed the same or reduced in the past two years. The Scottish Government says the data in respect to this indicator is “Improving”.



- **Human Rights and Equality Outcome** – We respect, protect and fulfil human rights and live free from discrimination.

Some of the relevant measures of progress are:

- [Access to justice](#) - specifically the proportion of adults who are confident that the Scottish Criminal Justice System, as a whole, makes sure everyone has access to the justice system. The Scottish Government says the data in respect to this indicator is “Maintaining progress”.



Action

10. The Committee is asked if it has any specific comments it wishes to make to the Scottish Government and the Finance and Public Administration Committee on the choice of National Outcomes relating to criminal justice.

Clerks to the Committee
November 2024