UN Sustainable Development Goal Delivery in Scotland: Call for Evidence

What this survey is

This survey is one of a number of ways in which we are engaging with people across Scotland on Scotland's National Outcomes, the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and how best to approach achieving them.

Your views will inform development of our overall approach to implementing the National Outcomes and SDGs in Scotland as well as how we will report on this within the UK Government Voluntary National Review (VNR).

You can read more about the SDGs and VNR on the SDG Network Scotland website.

How to respond

You can respond to this survey by **Wednesday 27 February** if you would like to inform development of the UK Government Voluntary National Review (VNR).

Most of this survey take the form of open text responses to prompt questions. This allows flexibility in how you respond. However we would be grateful if you could address your responses to the prompt questions as much as possible.

This survey will remain open after that point until **Friday 29 March** if you are not interested in or unable to contribute to the UK VNR deadline but would like to inform longer term considerations around SDG implementation in Scotland, including a potential Scottish Supplementary Review.

You can either complete the questions in this document and return it by email to nationalperformance@gov.scot or complete the online version of the survey. The questions are the same in both.

Confidentiality

Responses from individuals will be treated confidentially and the data held securely. You will be asked during the survey if you consent for your response to the call to be published on https://globalgoals.scot once the exercise is complete.

Organisational responses providing potential content for the VNR may necessarily involve identifying specific organisations or sectors for Scotland's VNR contribution (for example, in terms of describing networks and partnerships working to realise the Goals).

1. Your details

Please indicate if you are responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation:

☐ I am responding as an individual

☑ I am responding on behalf of an organisation

Your name

Maria Doyle

Your organisation (if responding on behalf of an organisation)

Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights)

Email address

maria@togetherscotland.org.uk

Phone number

0131 337 9015

Are you a member of the SDG Network Scotland?

☐ Yes

☑ No

Please indicate if you are happy to be contacted by the SDG Network Scotland about further opportunities to participate in the SDG agenda

☑ I am happy to be contacted by the SDG Network Scotland

☐ I do not want to be contacted by the SDG Network Scotland

2. Scotland's approach to the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030

Through the VNR we are expected to report on the national policy and delivery infrastructure we currently have in place to progress the SDGs.

In this section we would like to seek your views on the effectiveness of this and what improvements you think need to be made.

What are you doing?

Please tell us what actions or projects you are currently undertaking to encourage others to be involved with meeting the SDGs.

These can be small or large. Local, national or international.

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **Name** of the project (and a web address if available)
- The project's **purpose**
- The **SDG Goals or targets it contributes to**
- Your observations **on its results, learning, or challenges**

Together's vision is to ensure that all children and young people in Scotland have their human rights respected, protected and fulfilled. We work to ensure that law in Scotland fully complies with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and other international standards, including the SDGs, and that children and young people's voices are at the heart of decision-making. By furthering UNCRC implementation, Scotland can achieve progress towards achieving its SDG targets. The following projects and actions all contribute towards Together's goals and are relevant to furthering the SDGs in Scotland:

Annual State of Children's Rights Reports: Together produces an annual assessment of UNCRC implementation in Scotland. This report addresses issues which highlight links between the UNCRC and SDGs. In particular, the report addresses child poverty (Goal 1), nutrition (Goal 2), health and wellbeing (Goal 3), education (Goal 4), gender equality (Goal 5) and the overarching legislative, policy and institutional frameworks (Goal 16). The report highlights progress in these areas within Scotland, identifies challenges and makes recommendations for further action. The report also highlights examples of good practice in promoting and protecting children's rights, encouraging their broader uptake. In turn, this helps further the SDGs within Scotland.

UNCRC Incorporation: Together is working alongside the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland to convene a short-term Advisory Group to support the full incorporation of the UNCRC into Scots law. The Group comprises a range of world-leading experts on children's human rights and incorporation. The Group published a Draft Bill for incorporation in late 2018. Incorporation would bring the UNCRC into domestic law by making it part of national legislation. It would make children's human rights binding on governments and public bodies, and would enable children and young people to rely on their rights before national tribunals or courts. In this way, incorporating the UNCRC would ensure progress towards achieving many SDGs in Scotland (particularly Goals 1, 2, 3, 5 and 16) by ensuring that the related rights under the UNCRC are taken into account from the beginning of policy-making and legislative processes and that these rights are fully protected, respected, fulfilled and enforceable.

Consultation Responses: Together regularly responds to national consultations on topics relevant to the SDGs. Recent responses have been on the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill (relevant to Goal 16, in particular Target 16.2 on ending all forms of violence against children); and in relation to the Consultation on Scottish Hate Crime Legislation (particularly relevant to Goal 5 on gender equality and Goal 10 on reduced inequalities). Our consultation responses inform local and national

government as to how to take a child rights-based approach to decision-making and implementation. A rights-based approach contributes to progress towards related SDGs.

International Treaty Reporting: Together works to raise awareness and understanding of wider UN treaty implementation by engaging with their monitoring processes. Our work highlights links between international human rights treaties and the SDGs. Together's latest submission contributed to the review under the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) (particularly relevant to Goal 5 on gender equality and Goal 10 on reduced inequalities). Together is currently preparing a shadow report for the Committee against Torture's review of the UK (relevant to Goal 3 on health and wellbeing and Goal 16, particularly target 16.2 on ending all forms of violence against children)

Promotion of engagement with the SDGs

Can you suggest ways in which we could promote engagement in the SDGs more widely across Scotland? In particular how can we ensure no one is left behind with SDG implementation?

Wider engagement with the SDGs across Scotland should be promoted through a human rights-focused approach. In particular, goals relevant to children and young people should be promoted in the context of the UNCRC. In this context, Unicef has mapped the SDGs against related UNCRC rights. We note the Scottish Government's Action Plan for Progressing the Human Rights of Children 2018-2021 and recognise that this may provide a framework for promoting engagement with the SDGs amongst children and young people. Part of the action plan is the development of a Strategic Participation Framework which aims to mainstream the participation of children and young people in decision-making across Scotland. The SDGs should form an integral part of the development of this framework. In line with Goal 10 (reduced inequalities, in particular target 10.2 on the political inclusion of al regardless of age or other status), children and young people from under-represented and seldom heard groups should have an active role in informing the development of the participation framework to ensure that the broader outcomes and aims of the Action Plan reflect their needs.

Who are you working with?

What are the key organisations working to deliver the SDGs you are involved with and what function do they provide?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **Name** of the organisation
- The organisation's **function**
- The **Sustainable Development Goal(s) it contributes to**
- **Who they work with** (e.g. social groups and/or partner organisations)

Together is an alliance of over 380 members. These members range from large international and national non-governmental organisations (NGOs) through to small volunteer-led after school clubs, academics, professionals and individuals with an interest in children's rights. Details of our member organisations can be found here.

Together consults with its entire membership when preparing our annual State of Children's Rights report, national consultation responses and reports to UN treaty bodies. This ensures that the views of our members are reflected in our work. We also ensure that learning is shared between our members.

At a Scottish level, our key partners include the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland, Scottish Human Rights Commission, the Scottish Youth Parliament and Children's Parliament. We also work closely with our sister child rights alliances in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (Child Rights Alliance for England, the Wales UNCRC Monitoring Group and the Child Law Centre Northern Ireland). At an international level, we are active members of Eurochild and Child Rights Connect and use our

connections through these networks to learn from international best practice and showcase pioneering work in Scotland at a European and international level.

In what ways could Scotland improve its SDG delivery internationally and what would this involve (e.g. possible partnerships, policy, resources, practices)?

3. How is Scotland doing in relation to each SDG?

This section asks you to focus on Scotland's performance and delivery of each of the 17 UN SDGs and their related targets.

There will be one page for each of the SDGs with the same question prompts on each.

Please draw on both your own experience and evidence you are aware of, and the evidence contained in the discussion paper published alongside this survey.

You can respond to as many or as few SDG sections as you like.

You can use the index of SDGs below to jump to ones you are interested in responding on.

GOAL 1: No Poverty

We would encourage you to **consider your response in light of the SDG targets** for this indicator - see End poverty in all its forms everywhere - and also the **initial assessment of Scotland's performance in the** discussion paper published alongside this call for evidence.

Please tell us how well you think Scotland is progressing towards achieving this goal and related targets: What is your view of the evidence we have on this Goal, and what does your experience tell us about progress on this Goal?

Together's key concerns around Goal 2 (no hunger), Goal 3 (health and wellbeing), and Goal 4 (education) are all linked to the impact of poverty on the realisation of children and young people's rights. Accordingly, we have elected to include our comments on these issues under Goal 1 (no poverty).

Poverty (Goal 1)
Together believes that Scotland is not on track to achieve Goal 1. Poverty remains the biggest human rights issue facing children in Scotland and was raised as a serious concern by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child in 2016[1] and condemned by the UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and

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[1] CRC/C/GBR/CO/5: Para: 70(a)

Human Rights when he visited the UK in November 2018.[2] Poverty impacts on a broad range of children's rights under the UNCRC, including the right to an adequate standard of living, the right to food, health, education and housing.

Children are disproportionately likely to be affected by poverty, with around 24% of children in Scotland living in relative poverty after housing costs (the figure is around 19% for adults).[3] There has been no significant reduction in this figure in recent years and figures remain relatively high and stable, with one in five children living in low income households.[4] The impact of welfare reforms and a decade of austerity has compounded existing problems, with a further 200'000 children and young people projected to be pushed into poverty across the UK by the end of 2020.[5] The rate of in-work poverty is also increasing with 59% of adults experiencing poverty between 2014-17 also being in work (compared to 48% in 1996-1999).[6] This raises serious concerns for children living in these families, with 66% of children in poverty across Scotland living in families where someone is working.[7] SDG Target 1.2 is to reduce child poverty by half by 2030. Scotland is not on track to meet this target, indeed it is moving further from it.

Certain groups of children and young people are disproportionately impacted by poverty. Younger children are at particularly high risk, with almost half of all families experiencing poverty in Scotland having a child under 5 years-old.[8] Children living with a disabled parent/carer and children with a disability are also at higher risk of experiencing poverty,[9] as are children from minority ethnic backgrounds. Actions to alleviate child poverty must be responsive to these issues.

Poverty & Hunger (Goal 2)
Together notes improvements around data collection for child nutrition[10] and (from 2017) on food insecurity.[11] However, Scotland is not on track to meet targets around child nutrition and food security. These issues are closely linked to child poverty and actions to address them must focus on this root cause.

Food poverty is a significant concern. In 2016, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child made a call to 'regularly monitor and assess the effectiveness of policies and programmes on child food security and nutrition'[12]. This has been monitored in Scotland to an extent since 2017 as part of the Good Food Nation work. However, more comprehensive and regular monitoring and assessment is required to meet the UN Committee's recommendation in full. There has been an increase in the number of families with children accessing food banks,[13] with the three primary reasons that families cite being benefit delays, benefit changes, and low incomes.[14] Between 2017-18, the Trussell Trust issued 170'625 emergency three day supplies in Scotland, of which 55'038 were for children.[15] This represents a steady increase on 2016-17 and 2015-16 figures.[16] Children's organisations and schools share widespread concerns around children's access to food during school holiday periods, when free school meal initiatives do not run.[17] Children from families with low incomes are more likely to experience malnourishment and damage to their health during school holidays owing to a range of issues including poverty and unavailable childcare provision.[18]

Together notes that Scotland is falling behind England in relation to nutrition, healthy diets and obesity. In particular, we note that 5-a-day consumption is 6% higher in England for all age groups compared to

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[2] UNSR, Statement on Visit to the United Kingdom (2018).
[3] Scottish Government (2017) Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland 2014-17
[4] Scottish Government (2016). Poverty in Scotland.
[5] Child Poverty Action Group (2017). Social Security Changes – April 2017.
[6] Scottish Government (2019). What do we know about in-work poverty in Scotland? Interim Findings.
[7] Scottish Government (2017). Poverty and Income Inequality in Scotland 2014-17, supplementary tables: characteristics of poverty
[8] Save the Children (2014). A Fair Start for Every Child: Why we must act now to tackle child poverty in Scotland.
[9] Barnardo's (2016). What causes child poverty?; Contact a Family (2014). Counting the Costs.
[10] For more detail see: Together (2016). State of Children's Rights in Scotland 2016, p.105.
[11] Scottish Health Survey (2017), see Discussion Paper (2019), p.25.
[12] CRC/C/GBR/CO/5, para 67.
[13] Nourish Scotland (2016). Report to UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights – On Right to Food.
[14] Trussel Trust (2017), End of Year Stats.
[15] Trussel Trust (2018), End of Year Stats.
[16] Trussel Trust (2017), End of Year Stats.
[17] Children in Scotland (2016). Glasgow primaries open in summer to join fight against holiday hunger.
[18] What Works Scotland (2015). The Cost of the School Holidays.

Scotland.[19] Once more, poverty is a key factor with children from deprived backgrounds less likely to get their 5-a-day and more likely to be an unhealthy weight.[20]

Poverty & Health (Goal 3)
Together notes that whilst Scotland's health outcomes are generally improving overall, inequalities persist resulting in stark differences for various health outcomes. Poverty and deprivation remain the key determinants of health inequalities. Those from lower socioeconomic groups have poorer nutrition, lower life expectancy, increased rates of smoking and substance misuse, increased risk of suicide, and worse mental health.[21] Issues of poor mental health are further compounded by the barriers young people can face when trying to access CAMH services, including a lack of information and guidance on how to access services, and difficulties in authorising absences from school to attend appointments without parent's knowledge.[22] Further data suggests that girls and boys have different experiences of mental health, with girls reporting worse mental health and wellbeing than boys[23] but the number of suicides remaining higher for boys.[24]

Together is particularly concerned that the health gap between the wealthiest and poorest groups appears to be widening.[25] We have further concerns around the mental health provision for children and young people in detention settings, following recent suicides at Polmont HMYOI. Children and young people in these settings must not be 'left behind'.

Poverty & Education (Goal 4)
The Discussion Paper notes that Scotland is generally performing well in education compared to the rest of the UK.[26] However, Together considers that urgent progress is needed to address the poverty-related attainment gap and issues around equality of access.

Poverty is the leading cause of inequalities in children's early development, including in their educational attainment.[27] Children living in poverty are more likely to start school at a disadvantage compared to children from families on higher incomes.[28] The gap between the poorest 20% of pupils and the wealthiest 20% widened sharply during 2015[29] and Together remains gravely concerned by reports this gap is continuing to grow.[30]

The Discussion Paper notes that rates of poverty (by national definition) are lower in Scotland than the rest of the UK. However, this does not appear to translate into positive education outcomes for children and young people, with evidence showing that Scotland falls behind the rest of the UK regarding the poorest children going straight into higher education.[31]

Together notes that other groups of children and young people are also at risk of being left behind, with children with disabilities, Gypsy/Traveller children and children from ethnic minority backgrounds facing additional barriers to accessing education. These factors may be additional to poverty.

What do you think are the significant programmes, actions, strategies, and policies currently in place to help deliver this Goal in Scotland (of any scale) and what have they achieved?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

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[19] Discussion Paper (2019), p.26.
[20] NHS Scotland (2017). Index of Primary 1 Children in Scotland
[21] Together (2016). State of Children's Rights in Scotland 2016, p.95
[22] Together (2016). State of Children's Rights in Scotland 2016, p. 97
[23] Together (2016). State of Children's Rights in Scotland 2016, p.96
[24] Together (2016). State of Children's Rights in Scotland 2016, p.96
[25] Together (2016). State of Children's Rights in Scotland 2016, p.95
[26] Discussion Paper (2019), p.30
[27] Joseph Rowntree Foundation (2014). Closing the attainment gap in Scottish education.
[28] Treanor, M. (2012). Impacts of poverty on children and young people. Scottish Child Care and Protection Network (SCCPN),
[29] Scottish Conservatives (2015). New research shows attainment gap in Scotland is now widening.
[30] Discussion Paper (2019), p.30.
[31] Weedon, E., Kadar-Satat, G., Blackburn, L.H. & Riddell, S. (2016). Access in Scotland: Access to higher education for people from less advantaged backgrounds in Scotland. The University of Edinburgh

- **Name** of the programme, policy or action
- **Partners** involved in it
- **SDG target(s)** it contributes to
- **Links with other Sustainable Development Goals** that it also contributes to
- **Outcomes** and evidence on what is being achieved as a result

What do you think are the key issues, challenges and opportunities we have in achieving this Goal and the related UN targets and what evidence is there to support your view?

Welfare Reforms and Austerity: Welfare reforms and austerity policies represent a significant challenge to achieving poverty-related SDGs (particularly Goals 1, 2, 3 and 4).

The UK Government has introduced several welfare reforms that have had a negative impact on children. The 'benefits cap' and two-child limit have both disproportionately affected children from larger families, pushing them deeper into poverty. These measures are predicted to push a further 200'000 children into poverty by the end of 2020.[32]

The Scottish Government does not have competence in areas covered by UK welfare reform. However, a significant number of policy areas that can help alleviate poverty are devolved (for example health, housing, education and family support). In this respect we welcome the poverty reduction targets set out in the Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017, and the actions included in the Scottish Government's Every Child, Every Chance: Child Poverty Delivery Plan.[33] We also welcome the recognition in law that social security is a human right. However, we remain disappointed that the Scottish Government did not take the opportunity to place a duty on Ministers to comply with the right to social security through the full incorporation of the right to social security as defined in international human rights law, as was recommended by the Scottish Human Rights Commission.[34]

UNCRC not incorporated: An overarching challenge is the lack of legal framework through which children's human rights can be protected, respected and fulfilled. Until the UNCRC is made binding in domestic law, local and national governments can continue to view rights as guiding, rather than binding. In the Benefits Cap case,[35] the UK Supreme Court established a breach of Article 3 UNCRC. However, the Court was unable to provide redress to the claimants because the UNCRC is not incorporated into UK law. In the absence of incorporation, rights under the UNCRC lack enforceability, a key tool through which progress relating to the SDGs could be advanced. Incorporation makes human rights relevant to all levels of government decision-making. It embeds human rights in the work of government now and in the future.

The lack of incorporation allows the absence of rights-based legislation and child-centred policymaking to continue. Unless and until this changes, children will continue to be disproportionately affected by poverty.

Brexit: The UK's departure from the EU also presents a series of potential challenges. The need to ensure children have additional protections through the incorporation of the UNCRC into Scots law is greater than ever. Brexit is going to result in a regression of children's legal rights protections through the loss of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, including its provisions on social security and housing assistance (Art.34) and children's rights (Art. 24). Further potential challenges include the uncertain short and long-term economic impact of Brexit; risks to EU funding for breakfast clubs, education, training and youth work projects; and the mental health impact on children and young people faced with prolonged uncertainty.

Together has been working alongside Children in Scotland to support the Children and Young People's Panel on Europe, a group of 19 children and young people aged 8-19 who have been sharing their

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[32] Child Poverty Action Group (2017). Social Security Changes – April 2017.
[33] Scottish Government, March 2018, Every Child, Every Chance – The Tackling Child Poverty Delivery Plan 2018-2022
[34] SHRC (2018), Commission calls for 'due regard duty' to advance right to social security
[35] *R (SG & Ors) v Secretary of State for Work and Pensions* [2015] UKSC 16

views on Brexit and working to build recommendations for UK and Scottish Government decision-makers. The Panel's full report and recommendations is available here.

What actions or next steps do you think Scotland should take in response to the key issues, challenges and opportunities you have highlighted?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **What action** you think is needed
- The **timeframe for the action** (e.g. immediate, medium or longer term)
- What possible **barriers exist** to taking effective action
- What will **help this action happen**

Incorporation of the UNCRC:

Action: A rights-based approach to policy-making across a broad range of issues - including housing, health, education, planning and family support - can help to alleviate the impact of poverty and help to ensure that the rights of children are protected, respected and fulfilled. As such, a systematic approach is needed to ensure that children's human rights are considered at the beginning of the policy-making process. The incorporation of the UNCRC into UK and Scots law would embed this approach - ensuring that children's human rights are given full consideration throughout the policymaking process, that resulting legislation and policy is in compliance with the UNCRC and that children have access to redress if their rights are violated.

Timeframe: In September 2018, the First Minister pledged to enshrine "*children's rights by incorporating the principles of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child into law*".[36] Urgent action is needed to take this commitment forward. There is currently a Parliamentary majority in support of UNCRC incorporation and a pressing need to mitigate against the negative impact of Brexit on children's human rights. As such, the Scottish Government must commit to incorporate the UNCRC into domestic law before the next Scottish Parliamentary elections in 2021. There are real concerns among civil society that if progress is delayed, the opportunity to embed structural long-term protections of children's human rights into Scots law could be lost.

Barriers: potential barriers to incorporation may include political opposition and/or opposition from groups who believe that advancing children's rights poses a threat to parent's rights. An awareness and understanding campaign will be key to addressing these challenges and emphasising the role that parents play in supporting children to access their rights.

What will help this action happen? As mentioned in Section 1, Together is working alongside the Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland to convene a short-term Advisory Group on UNCRC incorporation. The Group published a Draft Bill for incorporation in late 2018. Scottish Government should consult on this Draft Bill as soon as possible, focusing on *how* the UNCRC should be incorporated (i.e. model/structure) rather than *if* we should incorporate (support for this from children and young people and civil society organisations is already clear). As mentioned above, an awareness and understanding campaign will help overcome barriers around knowledge and understanding of why incorporation is important and what it will mean in practice.

Full implementation of UN Concluding Observations:

In all circumstances, the Scottish Government should commit to fully implement the recommendations of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child where these fall within devolved competence. The Committee has made numerous recommendations relating to poverty in the past, including recommendations relating to assessing the impact of UK Welfare Reform on children, and monitoring the effectiveness of policies and programmes around food insecurity and nutrition. Commitment to these recommendations will ensure progress towards achieving the related SDGs.

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[36] Scottish Government (2018), Delivering for Today, Investing for Tomorrow The Government's Programme for Scotland 2018-19, p.5

What, if anything, should Scotland stop doing to improve delivery of this Goal? (For example, this could include specific approaches, policies, projects, funding streams, attitudes)

GOAL 2: Zero Hunger

We would encourage you to **consider your response in light of the SDG targets** for this indicator – see Zero Hunger - and also the **initial assessment of Scotland's performance in the** discussion paper published alongside this call for evidence.

Please tell us how well you think Scotland is progressing towards achieving this goal and related targets: What is your view of the evidence we have on this Goal, and what does your experience tell us about progress on this Goal?

Please see related comments for Goal 1, above.

What do you think are the significant programmes, actions, strategies, and policies currently in place to help deliver this Goal in Scotland (of any scale) and what have they achieved?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **Name** of the programme, policy or action
- **Partners** involved in it
- **SDG target(s)** it contributes to
- **Links with other Sustainable Development Goals** that it also contributes to
- **Outcomes** and evidence on what is being achieved as a result

What do you think are the key issues, challenges and opportunities we have in achieving this Goal and the related UN targets and what evidence is there to support your view?

What actions or next steps do you think Scotland should take in response to the key issues, challenges and opportunities you have highlighted?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **What action** you think is needed
- The **timeframe for the action** (e.g. immediate, medium or longer term)

- What possible **barriers exist** to taking effective action
- What will **help this action happen**

What, if anything, should Scotland stop doing to improve delivery of this Goal? (For example, this could include specific approaches, policies, projects, funding streams, attitudes)

GOAL 3: Good Health and Well-being

We would encourage you to **consider your response in light of the SDG targets** for this indicator – see Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages – and also the **initial assessment of Scotland's performance in** the discussion paper published alongside this call for evidence.

Please tell us how well you think Scotland is progressing towards achieving this goal and related targets: What is your view of the evidence we have on this Goal, and what does your experience tell us about progress on this Goal?

Please see related comments for Goal 1, above.

What do you think are the significant programmes, actions, strategies, and policies currently in place to help deliver this Goal in Scotland (of any scale) and what have they achieved?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **Name** of the programme, policy or action
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What do you think are the key issues, challenges and opportunities we have in achieving this Goal and the related UN targets and what evidence is there to support your view?

What actions or next steps do you think Scotland should take in response to the key issues, challenges and opportunities you have highlighted?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **What action** you think is needed
- The **timeframe for the action** (e.g. immediate, medium or longer term)
- What possible **barriers exist** to taking effective action
- What will **help this action happen**

What, if anything, should Scotland stop doing to improve delivery of this Goal? (For example, this could include specific approaches, policies, projects, funding streams, attitudes)

GOAL 4: Quality Education

 We would encourage you to **consider your response in light of the SDG targets** for this indicator – see Quality Education – and also the **initial assessment of Scotland's performance in** the discussion paper published alongside this call for evidence.

Please tell us how well you think Scotland is progressing towards achieving this goal and related targets: What is your view of the evidence we have on this Goal, and what does your experience tell us about progress on this Goal?

Please see related comments for Goal 1, above.

What do you think are the significant programmes, actions, strategies, and policies currently in place to help deliver this Goal in Scotland (of any scale) and what have they achieved?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **Name** of the programme, policy or action
- **Partners** involved in it
- **SDG target(s)** it contributes to
- **Links with other Sustainable Development Goals** that it also contributes to
- **Outcomes** and evidence on what is being achieved as a result

What do you think are the key issues, challenges and opportunities we have in achieving this Goal and the related UN targets and what evidence is there to support your view?

What actions or next steps do you think Scotland should take in response to the key issues, challenges and opportunities you have highlighted?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **What action** you think is needed
- The **timeframe for the action** (e.g. immediate, medium or longer term)
- What possible **barriers exist** to taking effective action
- What will **help this action happen**

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What, if anything, should Scotland stop doing to improve delivery of this Goal? (For example, this could include specific approaches, policies, projects, funding streams, attitudes)

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GOAL 16: Peace and Justice Strong Institutions

We would encourage you to **consider your response in light of the SDG targets** for this indicator – <u>Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies</u> – and also the **initial assessment of Scotland's performance in** <u>the discussion paper published alongside this call for evidence.</u>

Please tell us how well you think Scotland is progressing towards achieving this goal and related targets: What is your view of the evidence we have on this Goal, and what does your experience tell us about progress on this Goal?

What do you think are the significant programmes, actions, strategies, and policies currently in place to help deliver this Goal in Scotland (of any scale) and what have they achieved?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **Name** of the programme, policy or action
- **Partners** involved in it
- **SDG target(s)** it contributes to
- **Links with other Sustainable Development Goals** that it also contributes to
- **Outcomes** and evidence on what is being achieved as a result

Equal Protection: Together notes Target 16.2 on the elimination of all forms of violence against children, in particular indicator 16.2.1 on the percentage of children experiencing physical punishment by caregivers. The work around equal protection is key to the achievement of this target. For more details on this issue, see our response to the Children (Equal Protection from Assault) (Scotland) Bill [here.](here)

What do you think are the key issues, challenges and opportunities we have in achieving this Goal and the related UN targets and what evidence is there to support your view?

What actions or next steps do you think Scotland should take in response to the key issues, challenges and opportunities you have highlighted?

When responding, please include detail on (where possible):

- **What action** you think is needed
- The **timeframe for the action** (e.g. immediate, medium or longer term)
- What possible **barriers exist** to taking effective action
- What will **help this action happen**

What, if anything, should Scotland stop doing to improve delivery of this Goal? (For example, this could include specific approaches, policies, projects, funding streams, attitudes)

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Consent for publication

Scotland's SDG network would like to publish responses to this exercise (excluding personal contact information you may have provided) on https://globalgoals.scot/ upon completion.

Please indicate if you consent to publication of your response in full, in part (please specify) or not at all.

If you have any questions regarding the handling of your data or publication of responses, please contact nationalperformance@gov.scot

☑   I consent to publication of my response IN FULL (excluding contact details)

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