

Draft Programme for Government – Outcome Consultation: Belfast City Council Response

Consultation Deadline: 22nd March 2021.

NI Executive Overview

The NI Executive is developing a new strategic, Outcomes-based Programme for Government (PfG). It aims to deliver real, lasting and positive change in people's lives. This consultation is seeking opinions on the draft framework of nine Outcomes upon which the PfG will be built. Together these Outcomes create a picture of the kind of society we all want to live in.

Government cannot work in isolation to solve the wide ranging and long-term issues that face all of us as a society. We need to work with citizens, organisations and representatives from across Northern Ireland and use their knowledge and expertise to help guide and develop a PfG that benefits everyone.

To reach this stage of public consultation, many conversations have already taken place. We've taken on board these views and produced this draft Framework, along with some early thinking around Key Priority Areas and associated strategies that will help deliver the PfG.

We want to continue to co-design the PfG and you now have the opportunity to influence it further; tell us what you think, as getting it right is key to everything that follows. You can do this by completing this online consultation. Links to alternative formats can be found at the end of this page.



Key BCC Comments

Belfast City Council welcomes the opportunity to respond to the draft PfG Outcomes Framework. As the elected representative body for Belfast, we believe that the ambitions we have for the city must complement the outcomes of the Programme for Government, and vice versa.

The Covid-19 pandemic has tested the public sector like nothing before it. It has tested our resilience, our ability to mobilise at pace, to transgress silos and to deliver for citizens. It has shown how partnership working can overcome almost any problem. Whilst we are still navigating through the pandemic, it is essential that this collective approach continues through to the health, economic and social recovery from covid-19.

The strategic challenges of covid-19 that we must address are accelerating transition to a different future economy, confronting us with a choice: deal with persistent challenges and grow, or risk entrenching inequality and low productivity. We believe the Programme for Government should lead this strategic challenge and encourage the NI Executive to be brave in addressing these strategic challenges. As a city, we have produced a recovery plan that identifies a framework for recovery focused on:

- **Our city.** Safe, vibrant, connected spaces and places. We will provide leadership to future proof and ensure the safe use of public spaces, and seek to sustain Belfast's social and cultural infrastructure.
- **Our services.** The city, and how we work in it, is changing dramatically because of COVID-19. We will consider and adapt our services accordingly in the short and longer term.
- **Our communities.** Strengthened and resilient. We will understand community needs and strengths and support collective local action.

- **Our economy.** Resilient and inclusive. We will invest and work with city partners to protect and create jobs and support Belfast residents to access much needed employment.
- **Our environment.** Sustainable and climate-resilient. We will decarbonise our economy; creating jobs, protecting our communities, improving health and well-being and enhancing the liveability of our city.
- **Our digital innovation.** Transformative and leading edge. We will invest in our digital infrastructure to facilitate job creation and attract talent, entrepreneurs and investors to the city.

We are pleased to see that this closely resembles your draft framework and will enable us to work positively in the future towards achieving the best possible outcome for the people of Belfast and the wider region. We note, however, that there is no recognition in your draft framework of the importance of place and, more specifically, the importance of Belfast as the regional capital. We believe that Belfast must play a specific role as a driver for the regional economy as has been acknowledged in the Regional Development Strategy. Investment in Belfast is needed to sustain development in the city which will support growth in the region as a whole. As Northern Ireland's first and largest city, its development still lags some way behind contemporary European cities. **We not only encourage you to recognise the important benefits a place based approach can bring, but to specifically recognise the importance of investing in the regional capital as a driver for economic regeneration for the entire region.**

Partnership working is key to the successful delivery of public services. Whilst a significant portion of the aspirations contained within the Framework can be delivered on a regional basis, there are elements which we believe can only be designed and delivered at a more local level. To make the right decisions at the local level, we strongly believe the Phase 2 of Devolution to local government should be progressed during this Programme for Government. The devolution of neighbourhood services will allow for a more responsive approach to communities' needs and aspirations - Councils have a greater understanding and engagement with their local communities enabling the tailoring of services, improved decision-making and the delivery of local outcomes.

We also believe that the transfer of key regeneration functions would potentially be transformative for Belfast and other areas in the region. It would provide the Council with the ability to:

- ensure an integrated and outcome-based approach to regeneration that meets the regional outcomes articulated in the draft Framework, but also the localised outcomes articulated in the community plan;
- take a targeted approach to addressing blighted areas across the city including the City Centre;
- ensure greater alignment of physical regeneration with the emerging Local Development Plan; and
- enhance the vitality of the City Centre and further develop the rates base which is good for both Belfast and the wider region as it enables/supports further investment in front-line services.

The Council would also recommend that responsibility for the delivery of employability and skills initiatives may be further devolved from Departments to local government. While there is a range of activity taking place across Belfast, the pervasive challenges of long-term unemployment and economic inactivity have not been addressed in any real way.

We therefore recommend that the devolution of these powers becomes an enabling priority that will greatly help the public sector as a whole deliver on the aspirations articulated in the PfG Outcomes Framework. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with you.

In line with further devolution, **the Council would encourage greater collaboration between local government and government departments, in the planning, development, delivery and monitoring of interventions in order to increase their effectiveness for Belfast residents and, in turn, create a more cohesive society.** As the planning authority, the city council is now in receipt of significant intelligence regarding future employment opportunities at key developments.

We believe the framework is broadly in line with our ambitions, as articulated in the Belfast Agenda, our city's community plan. A maintained focus on priorities aimed at achieving long term outcomes with population and performance indicators attached to these outcomes is in line with our approach to community planning. Our Community Planning partnership is aiming to prepare a new community plan for our city by March 2022 and **we strongly encourage the coordination of local community plans with the completion of the Programme for Government.** We believe it essential that these plans are not seen in isolation – our new community plan for Belfast in March 2022 and the Programme for Government should complement one another, the population measures, performance indicators and priorities should also work together, enabling a collective focus on the needs of our citizens. We therefore strongly encourage you to work in partnership with us, and the local government representative bodies, to jointly plan and develop our statutory plans. **Likewise, we strongly encourage you to consider establishing a coalesced implementation body that can help coordinate and oversee the implementation of the Programme for Government and the 11 community plans for Northern Ireland.**

We welcome the commitment to keeping the PfG as a live document – it is a pragmatic approach given the changing landscape of Covid 19 and the NI Protocol. **We would welcome further detail on the timeframes for regular review and a commitment to involve key stakeholders in the review, including Belfast City Council.**

We note that a list of government strategies are noted as supporting the Programme for Government. **We would strongly encourage that these strategies are reviewed in light of the agreed PfG to ensure they are still fit for purpose in the post Covid landscape.**

Whilst the PfG is the opportunity for a fresh start to governance of NI following the New Decade New Approach, it must be recognised that there was a previous PfG and we would emphasise the importance of formally reviewing the previous PfG to learn, collectively, what worked well and what did not. If this review has been undertaken, we would welcome the publication of the findings.

Outcome 1:

Our children and young people have the best start in life

We know there is a strong relationship between what happens in the earliest years of life and future health and wellbeing. It is our responsibility to ensure our young people get the best start in life and grow up safe, healthy and happy.

This Outcome is about ensuring all our children and young people grow up in a society which provides the support they need to achieve their potential.

We want to ensure all our children and young people have access to the high quality education they all deserve and are equipped with the skills to help them make the best life choices. We also recognise the importance of ensuring our children and young people have good health, quality physical environments with space to play, opportunities for cultural and artistic expression and to make a positive contribution to society, and protection from violence and harm.

We want to make sure that families, childcare and education providers and those responsible for meeting the needs of more vulnerable children and young people are equipped to provide the high quality level of care and support required of them, so that all our children and young people enjoy their childhood and adolescence and grow to become resilient, confident and well equipped to take on the challenges and opportunities that adulthood brings.

The Key Priority Areas under this Outcome are:

- Access to Education
- Capability and Resilience
- Care
- Early Years
- Skills and Attainment

Do you feel this outcome is worth including in the Programme for Government framework?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response We look forward to the findings from the work of the Expert Panel on Educational Underachievement and believe this should help develop the priority areas that support this outcome. Many of the practical outworkings of this outcome are at a local community level. We therefore encourage the NI Executive to include local government in the further development of this outcome and the implementation of the priorities. We are pleased that you recognise the importance of childcare in this outcome. We consider that priority should be given to creating a childcare strategy for the region that will encourage greater maternal employment, redress gender inequalities in the workplace, increase GVA and, most importantly, improve educational and social outcomes for our children.	

Do you agree with the Key Priority Areas that have been included under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas missing under this Outcome?	No
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas included under this Outcome that are not relevant?	No
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	
<p>Whilst the impact of the pandemic has been felt by all, it has been recognised that the long term impact on children and young people, particularly those living in poverty, will be severe. We encourage you to ensure this is a significant priority, with appropriate resources, in the implementation of the Programme for Government.</p>	

Outcome 2:

We live and work sustainably – protecting the environment

Our health and wellbeing are directly affected by the quality of the environment around us. We have a collective responsibility to tackle climate change to ensure that our children and future generations can draw benefit and enjoyment from our environment, and each of us must play a part in ensuring that happens.

By taking a Green Growth approach we will manage our resources efficiently and effectively, reducing our carbon emissions to ensure our environment is protected and enhanced while achieving sustainable economic growth to create a living and working active landscape that can be enjoyed and valued by everyone.

We need to ensure our infrastructure is integrated, efficient and sustainable and people are encouraged to make environmentally responsible choices.

The Key Priority Areas under this Outcome are:

- Natural Environment
- Green Economy
- Built Environment
- Housing
- Active and Sustainable Transport
- Waste Management
- Water and Wastewater Management

Do you feel this outcome is worth including in the Programme for Government framework?	Yes
<p>Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response</p> <p>This outcome has been carried over from the previous framework and we believe it is an essential element of the new PfG framework.</p> <p>We believe the inclusion of a Green Growth approach is a positive development with an emphasis on achieving sustainable economic growth. This is particularly in relation to cross departmental outcomes which should enable collaborative working across government acting as an enabler for BCC. It is worth distinguishing between green jobs and sustainable green infrastructure – we would welcome the opportunity to work with you on this.</p> <p>Many of the practical outworkings of this outcome are at a local community level. We therefore encourage the NI Executive to include local government in the further development of this outcome and the implementation of the priorities. This crucially includes the importance of developing measurements at regional level that align with and inform local measures.</p> <p>Working sustainably will require greater focus on skills for the new green economy, with relevant education programmes embedded. The creation of infrastructure and jobs that can utilise these skills is vital to future development.</p>	

Do you agree with the Key Priority Areas that have been included under this Outcome?	Yes
<p>Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response</p> <p>Housing We welcome the inclusion of housing under this outcome – maintaining and redeveloping our current housing stock and ensuring new houses are built in an energy efficient, sustainable way that protects our natural environment and built heritage.</p> <p>Active and Sustainable Transport Promotion of and access to safe, active and sustainable transport to encourage people to make environmentally responsible choices about transport. We encourage greater investment in more sustainable infrastructure towards public transport, walking, cycling and green vehicles.</p> <p>Waste Management Although the problem has been steadily growing for a number of years, the pandemic has brought sharply into focus the challenges that increased on-line shopping is presenting to Waste Management. Increased packaging waste, as a result of an increase in on-line shopping, has highlighted the need for effective recycling processes and facilities.</p>	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas missing under this Outcome?	Yes
<p>Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response</p> <p>Clean Air It is noted that the Northern Ireland Executive has identified a range of strategies that could help deliver the key priority areas. The air quality contribution to this priority area is to be via a future Clean Air Strategy. It is further noted that DAERA are presently consulting on the public discussion document in advance of developing the first Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland. It is considered that development and implementation of a Clean Air Strategy for Northern Ireland should be prioritised by the Department so that the necessary improvements in ambient air quality across Northern Ireland can be identified and realised in a timely manner and so that progress to improving ambient air quality is formally monitored via PfG indicator(s).</p>	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas included under this Outcome that are not relevant?	No
<p>Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response</p>	

Outcome 3:

We have an equal and inclusive society where everyone is valued and treated with respect

It is important that everyone in our society feels included and valued and that we can all respect and celebrate the diversity of our society.

This Outcome is about tackling inequality and discrimination, increasing trust and respect, promoting understanding, ensuring that a person's background or identity is not a barrier to their participation in society.

We want to address the legacy of the past and create space for sharing between traditionally divided and new communities.

The Key Priority Areas under this Outcome are:

- Inclusion and Tackling Disadvantage
- Rights and Equality
- Legacy
- Tackling Sectarianism, Building Respect and Identity

Do you feel this outcome is worth including in the Programme for Government framework?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you agree with the Key Priority Areas that have been included under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas missing under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	
Hate Crime	
We recognise the scourge of Hate Crime and Incidents in the City. In 2019/2020 there were 694 Hate Crimes and 758 Hate Incidents reported to Police in the Belfast District Area on the basis of sexual orientation, race and religion. We appreciate that there is a significant underreporting of hate crimes and incidents. There were 98 hate crimes and incidents on the basis of transgender status and 171 crimes and incidents on the basis of disability status across all of Northern Ireland.	

We recognise our statutory duty to address Good Relations but also recognise that this is on the limited basis of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion and racial group. This only covers some of the hate crime categories yet we understand that to tackle hate and intolerance we must promote good relations between those groups who experience hate but are not covered by the Good Relations duty. To enable us to do this, we recommend that Hate Crime becomes a priority under this Outcome and our Good Relations duties are extended to the hate crime categories.

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas included under this Outcome that are not relevant?

No

Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response

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Outcome 4:

We all enjoy long, healthy, active lives

Our physical and mental health impacts on every aspect of our lives.

This Outcome is about enabling and supporting people to maintain their health and lead healthy, active lives, addressing the factors which impact on mental and physical health.

We want to ensure everyone has access to high quality care when they need it throughout their lives.

The Key Priority Areas under this Outcome are:

- Access to Health
- Inclusion and Tackling Disadvantage
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Older People
- Physical Health and Wellbeing

Do you feel this outcome is worth including in the Programme for Government framework?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you agree with the Key Priority Areas that have been included under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas missing under this Outcome?	No
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	
We would suggest adding the environment to this outcome as a key priority for health and wellbeing.	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas included under this Outcome that are not relevant?	No
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Outcome 5:

Everyone can reach their potential

It is important that everyone in society is supported to help them realise and achieve their potential.

This Outcome is about giving people access to better jobs across different sectors by developing more opportunities, supporting personal development, addressing the issues that lead to underachievement and strengthening links between industry and academia.

We want to help people achieve their ambitions and to feel confident and empowered to pursue their goals and interests.

The Key Priority Areas under this Outcome are:

- Capability and Resilience
- Better Jobs
- Skills and Attainment
- Sports, Arts and Culture

Do you feel this outcome is worth including in the Programme for Government framework?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you agree with the Key Priority Areas that have been included under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas missing under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	
Inclusive Growth & Community Wealth Building	
Belfast City Council (BCC) is committed to inclusive growth. For us inclusive growth means ensuring the success of the city reaches every citizen, including those who have not traditionally benefitted from economic growth. We believe this will help create vibrant communities where everyone has the opportunity and aspiration to succeed.	

To ensure our growth sectors and new jobs are accessible for all residents, we need to better target the opportunities to all residents and ensure everyone has the right support to take these opportunities.

We encourage the NI Executive to consider introducing inclusive growth as a priority under this outcome. This would bring policies that, for example, address the barriers to employment, particularly those which prevent the most disadvantaged from entering the labour market, cover the whole working life experience, as well as offering improved job-related training and education.

The role of the public sector and large organisations in creating community wealth should also be included.

Community and Voluntary Sector

In addition to the key priority areas referenced (Better jobs, skills and attainment), the role of volunteering should be recognised as a valuable mechanism to support people to build capacity and reach their potential. The sports, arts and culture sector provides an opportunity to support people's empowerment and confidence.

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas included under this Outcome that are not relevant?	No
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Outcome 6:

Our economy is globally competitive, regionally balanced and carbon-neutral

A strong, regionally balanced, inclusive economy is essential if we are to tackle the social and economic challenges facing us. This will be very significant in terms of the impacts of exit from the EU and recovery from the COVID-19 crisis. It is also important that our economy grows in a sustainable way that supports and protects our environment.

It is internationally recognised that a sustainable development approach seeks to progress economic and social ambitions while protecting and enhancing the natural environment.

This Outcome is about creating the conditions required to achieve a strong, competitive economy that helps Northern Ireland compete on the global stage, attract investment and stimulate innovation and creativity.

The production of high quality, nutritious food is a crucially important factor for our economy. We want to provide the tools to enable the industry to pursue increased productivity in international terms. The intention is to grow an industry that is environmentally sustainable, supporting high quality air, water, and soil. An industry with a low carbon footprint which promotes biodiversity; is resilient to external shocks and operates within an integrated, efficient, sustainable, competitive and responsive supply chain.

We want to develop our infrastructure to enhance opportunities for growth and ensure growth in our economy is undertaken in an environmentally friendly way to help tackle climate change, striving for low-carbon/zero-carbon alternatives.

The Key Priority Areas under this Outcome are:

- Competing Globally
- Green Economy
- Growth
- Food, Farming and Fishing
- Infrastructure
- Innovation

Do you feel this outcome is worth including in the Programme for Government framework?	Yes
<p>Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response</p> <p>We would urge the adoption of a <i>place-based approach</i> at the core of achieving a strong, sustainable and inclusive regional economy. A place based approach is essential to support the regional recovery from COVID and to better connect and maximise the impact of the respective strengths of urban and rural places across the region.</p> <p>This is an opportunity to recognise the role of successful cities as a source of regional, national and global economic productivity and enable places across the region to all play a vital role in contributing to regional economic recovery and growth. A successful Belfast city-region is vital to the future wellbeing of everyone living in Northern Ireland. Belfast provides key networking and</p>	

connectivity functions for the region as a whole. As the regional employment hub, with over 30% of all jobs based in the city and with around 47% of the Belfast workforce commute to work in the city¹ and reside in areas outside the city; the economic growth created within Belfast is distributed across the region. There is a need for an urban policy focus in order to secure the recovery from COVID and drive the sustainable economic growth of the region.

Developing internationalisation and managing the outworkings of the NI Protocol to achieve this outcome will require a renewed focus on the unique selling points for NI with access to and inclusion in both EU and UK trade zones.

Do you agree with the Key Priority Areas that have been included under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas missing under this Outcome?	Yes
<p>Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response</p> <p>There is an emphasis on the agri-food industry to increase productivity, enhance environmental sustainability, improve resilience and supply chain integration. However, there is merit in strengthening the resilience in city centres/high streets, business etc; particularly as part of a sustained and integrated recovery effort.</p> <p>The only sector specifically referenced is agri-food. The impact of COVID will require a change in approach to support, sustain and recover many sectors including tourism and hospitality which are large employers. The value of these sectors to the NI and city economy should not be missed. We believe the PfG should also prioritise key growth sectors including Cyber Security, Financial Services, Artificial Intelligence, carbon reduction and clean energy. For a more resilient economy, the PfG should also prioritise the growth of more indigenous businesses as well as continuing to attract high value Foreign Direct Investment.</p>	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas included under this Outcome that are not relevant?	No
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

¹ Belfast Skills Barometer 2018

Outcome 7:

Everyone feels safe – we all respect the law and each other

This Outcome is about ensuring we all have a safe community and feel respected.

We need to tackle crime, reduce reoffending and divert people, especially young people, from entering the justice system by challenging and supporting people to change and assisting those in custody to make better life-choices when they are released.

It is important that we address the harm and vulnerability caused by crime and make the justice system more effective; the speed that cases progress through the system matters to victims and witnesses, their families and their communities and can help offenders to better understand the implications of their actions.

We need to promote understanding of different cultural identities to help build respect for each other.

The Key Priority Areas under this Outcome are:

- Access to Justice
- Address Harm and Vulnerability
- Early Intervention and Rehabilitation
- Tackling Sectarianism, Building Respect and Identity

Do you feel this outcome is worth including in the Programme for Government framework?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you agree with the Key Priority Areas that have been included under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas missing under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	
Hate Crime	
We recognise the scourge of Hate Crime and Incidents in the City. In 2019/2020 there were 694 Hate Crimes and 758 Hate Incidents reported to Police in the Belfast District Area on the basis of sexual orientation, race and religion. We appreciate that there is a significant underreporting of	

hate crimes and incidents. There were 98 hate crimes and incidents on the basis of transgender status and 171 crimes and incidents on the basis of disability status across all of Northern Ireland.

We recognise our statutory duty to address Good Relations but also recognise that this is on the limited basis of promoting good relations between persons of different religious belief, political opinion and racial group. This only covers some of the hate crime categories yet we understand that to tackle hate and intolerance we must promote good relations between those groups who experience hate but are not covered by the Good Relations duty. To enable us to do this, we recommend that Hate Crime becomes a priority under this Outcome and our Good Relations duties are extended to the hate crime categories.

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas included under this Outcome that are not relevant?

No

Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response

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Outcome 8:

We have a caring society that supports people throughout their lives

It is important that we as a society care for those who need our support.

This Outcome is about enabling everyone to live their life in a fulfilling way as valued members of an inclusive society.

We need to tackle the issues that lead to disadvantage and provide the services and support people need, when they need it.

The Key Priority Areas under this Outcome are:

- Disability
- Housing
- Inclusion and Tackling Disadvantage
- Mental Health and Wellbeing
- Older People

Do you feel this outcome is worth including in the Programme for Government framework?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you agree with the Key Priority Areas that have been included under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	
Housing	
We welcome the inclusion of housing under this outcome – this is a critical area for Belfast with over 7,000 households in housing stress. Tackling homelessness, supporting housing associations, provision and maintenance of appropriate social housing, investment in new social and affordable homes and the supply of housing must all be addressed as a critical priority in the Programme for Government.	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas missing under this Outcome?	No
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas included under this Outcome that are not relevant?

No

Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response

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Outcome 9:

People want to live, work and visit here

This Outcome is about promoting Northern Ireland as a place where people want to live, work and visit.

We want to retain and attract people to live and work here by having attractive employment, a healthy and clean environment, recreation and housing opportunities where people feel respected and safe.

We want to build on international relations and enhance our reputation, deal with the impacts of EU Exit and the COVID-19 pandemic, attract investment and help grow our economy.

We want to promote our built and natural environment our sports, arts and culture sectors to encourage tourism and provide opportunities for people to take part in the things they enjoy.

The Key Priority Areas under this Outcome are:

- Competing Globally
- Better Jobs
- Growth
- Housing
- Tackling Sectarianism, Building Respect and Identity
- Sports, Arts and Culture
- Planning

Do you feel this outcome is worth including in the Programme for Government framework?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you agree with the Key Priority Areas that have been included under this Outcome?	Yes
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas missing under this Outcome?	No
Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response	

Whilst a clean environment is mentioned in the introduction, it is not reflected in the priorities. For people wanting to live, work and visit here, the connection to the natural environment is increasingly important – we believe this should be a priority that ensures as many people as possible have access to nature, green space and clean air.

Do you feel there are Key Priority Areas included under this Outcome that are not relevant?

No

Please provide any further comments you may have in relation to your response

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Additional Information

Do you have any further comments relevant to this consultation?

Please enter any additional comments in the box below

Disaggregation of Data

In order to effectively measure the effect of the Programme for Government on Section 75 groups, we strongly recommend that resources are put in to ensuring that all performance measures in the final Programme for Government can be disaggregated into Section 75 groups. At present, this is not possible across a key range of data in N Ireland, making it difficult to determine policy changes required to address the impact on these groups.

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