

**Economy and Fair Work Committee
Wednesday 9 October 2024
26th Meeting, 2024 (Session 6)**

Scottish Government priorities following the publication of the Programme for Government – Note by the Clerk

Introduction

1. The Committee held an [evidence session on 29 May](#) with the [Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic](#). This covered a range of issues, including the Scottish Government's National Strategy for Economic Transformation.
2. The Committee agreed to hold a further evidence session following the publication of the new Programme for Government.

Purpose

3. The purpose of this session is to hear from the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic on a range of issues, including—
 - The National Strategy for Economic Transformation;
 - The Programme for Government; and
 - The proposed revisions to the Scottish Government's National Outcomes.

National Strategy for Economic Transformation

4. The Scottish Government published its [National Strategy for Economic Transformation](#) (NSET) in 2022. This sets out the Scottish Government's priorities for Scotland's economy for the next decade.
5. The Committee [took evidence on the Strategy from the then Cabinet Secretary for Finance and the Economy on 16 March 2022](#).
6. On 31 October 2022, the Scottish Government [published its NSET delivery plans](#) which set out how it will work with partners to implement the Strategy.

Related correspondence

7. On 27 September 2024, the Convener of the Public Audit Committee [wrote to the Convener](#) highlighting the Committee's consideration of the [Auditor General for Scotland's briefing on NSET](#).

8. On 30 September 2024, the Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic [wrote to the Convener](#) providing an update on the refresh of NSET.

Programme for Government

9. The Scottish Government published its [Programme for Government 2024/25](#) on 4 September 2024.
10. The Programme for Government is published annually. It sets out the actions the Scottish Government intends to take in the coming year, along with its legislative programme.

National Outcomes

11. The [National Outcomes](#) are the Scottish Government's broad policy aims within the [National Performance Framework \(NPF\)](#). The Scottish Government is required, under the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015, to review its National Outcomes every five years.
12. A [report setting out the proposed changes to the National Outcomes](#), the consultation undertaken, and how proposed changes have taken account of the evidence gathered, was laid in Parliament on 1 May 2024.
13. The "[Wellbeing Economy and Fair Work](#)" is the main outcome which falls within the Committee's remit, although there are cross-cutting aspects to others.

Witnesses

14. The Committee will hear from—
 - Kate Forbes, Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Gaelic;
 - Aidan Grisewood, Director of Jobs and Wellbeing Economy;
 - Keith McDonald, Unit Head, Strategy Division; and
 - Richard Rollison, Director for International Trade and Investment, Scottish Government.

Clerks to the Committee
October 2024