

OUTCOMES DELIVERY PLAN

2018-19 Mid-Year Report

Improving wellbeing for all -
by tackling disadvantage
and driving economic growth

December 2018

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INTRODUCTION

The Outcomes Delivery Plan, published in June 2018, sets out the programme of work the Northern Ireland Civil Service (NICS) is taking forward during 2018-19 to contribute to the objective of *Improving wellbeing for all – by tackling disadvantage and driving economic growth*. Produced in the absence of a Programme for Government agreed by locally elected ministers, the Plan provides direction for those who deliver public services, helping to ensure that the operational business of government is discharged as effectively as possible and in a coordinated manner.

When the Plan was launched in June, there was a commitment to publish a report on progress at the mid-year and end-year points to provide for transparency around the business of government and the performance of the NICS in its delivery.

The mid-year review has now been completed and an assessment of progress is contained in the report that follows. Like the Plan, the report has been prepared around 12 outcomes in key areas of economic and societal well-being. In reporting on the mid-year position, each outcome owner has provided a statement of overall progress towards the outcome, highlighting successes, challenges and any obstacles.

Progress is assessed on the basis of the latest data for the population level indicators relevant to each outcome – i.e. the statistics we are using to measure the quality of life conditions we are seeking to change or improve. Achieving real and lasting success will take time as it involves tackling some of the biggest and most intractable problems facing our society. It cannot be done by the NICS working alone, and long-term success at a population level is going to need collaboration and partnership working with others, for example, in local government, the voluntary and community sector, and with the private sector. However, it is important that we also monitor the effectiveness of individual programmes of work, to protect the public purse and ensure that actions and interventions are having the desired impact. A progress update for this purpose is included in each outcome chapter in the report.

Whilst progress has been made in many areas, there is still much to do and many challenges remain to be overcome. The absence of ministers places considerable constraints on the NICS, restricting its operational capacity and ability to respond as effectively as it would like to current issues and events.

The NICS has been to the fore in steering the business of government during the last two years, carefully following the direction set by ministers in policy commitments that

were agreed in 2016 under the last functioning Executive. However, threats and opportunities change with time, and policy needs to evolve accordingly for public services, actions and interventions to remain responsive to the needs of local people and communities. The NICS is delivering to the best of its ability in the prevailing circumstances, continuing to work with partners across the public sector and wider society, but it cannot take the place of ministers when it comes to strategic policy development or in taking the transformative decisions that are urgently needed in the key areas of health, education, justice and housing.

Advancing the outcomes of societal wellbeing by tackling disadvantage and driving economic growth involves dealing both with deep rooted social and economic problems which we have struggled with locally for a generation or more, as well as responding to the impact of matters that are beyond our control, such as the implications of globalisation, international politics and world trading conditions.

We are facing significant challenges in relation to tackling disadvantage. Whilst recent figures on absolute poverty show some welcome improvement, there is still much to do and we need to become much more effective in addressing long-standing fundamental issues and problems such as those associated with health inequality, educational achievement and housing stress.

A Social Strategy to tackle poverty, social exclusion and patterns of deprivation based on objective need was under development by the former Executive but it has not been possible to bring this forward for consultation in the absence of Executive agreement. Similarly, decisions on taking forward a revised Child Poverty Strategy (2019-21) cannot be made.

Much has been achieved under the former Executive's Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) Strategy but we are still some way from achieving its aim of creating a community which promotes mutual respect, is strengthened by its diversity and where cultural expression is celebrated and embraced. Significant challenges remain in addressing the legacy of the past and in creating much needed space for sharing between our communities, and we need to progress the recommendations of the Hart report on historical institutional abuse.

We are facing substantial economic challenges too, including the immediate risk and uncertainties in respect of Brexit, stubborn levels of economic inactivity and continued low levels of productivity. The overall economic landscape is mixed. Northern Ireland has seen a decline in output but continued growth in jobs. The private sector has driven growth and employee jobs are now at a record high. However, despite a strong labour market, the economy has experienced no significant increase in living standards and productivity, real wages are only marginally higher than 10 years ago and economic

growth is lagging. Local growth forecasts are predicting only modest growth in 2019 with high levels of uncertainty, above-target inflation and real income being squeezed. The Industrial Strategy, which was consulted on in early 2017 was developed to drive productivity by putting a focus on innovation, skills, enterprise, competition, trade and economic infrastructure, but it can only be implemented once it has been agreed by a returning Executive.

These are challenging and complex areas, and the NICS is doing what it can in the absence of ministers to make meaningful progress, and it will continue to do so for as long as the current situation prevails. However, civil servants cannot take decisions that properly fall to locally elected and accountable ministers. That is why, as an organisation, the NICS wants to see the return of devolved decision-making and full restoration of the local institutions.

Whilst progress has been made across many of the outcomes, it is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain momentum and there is a clear need for fresh thinking and renewed policy impetus in almost every area. This progress report provides an overview of what is being achieved and, if the current situation continues, it is intended to publish a further report on the position at the end-year point.

OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK*

Improving wellbeing for all—
by tackling disadvantage and driving economic growth

OUTCOMES	INDICATORS
<p>1</p> <p>We prosper through a strong, competitive, regionally balanced economy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private sector NI Composite Economic Index • External sales • Rate of innovation activity • Employment rate by council area • % change in energy security of supply margin
<p>2</p> <p>We live and work sustainably – protecting the environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % all journeys which are made by walking/cycling/public transport • Greenhouse gas emissions • % household waste that is reused, recycled or composted • Annual mean nitrogen dioxide concentration at monitored urban roadside locations • Levels of soluble reactive phosphorus in our rivers and levels of Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen in our marine waters • Biodiversity (% of protected area under favourable management)
<p>3</p> <p>We have a more equal society</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gap between highest and lowest deprivation quintile in healthy life expectancy at birth • Gap between % non-FSME school leavers and % FSME school leavers achieving at Level 2 or above including English & Maths • % population living in absolute and relative poverty • Employment rate of 16-64 year olds by deprivation quintile • Economic inactivity rate excluding students • Employment rate by council area
<p>4</p> <p>We enjoy long, healthy, active lives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy life expectancy at birth • Preventable mortality • % population with GHQ12 scores ≥ 4 (signifying possible mental health problem) • Satisfaction with health and social care • Gap between highest and lowest deprivation quintile in healthy life expectancy at birth • Confidence of the population aged 60 years or older (as measured by self-efficacy)

* The outcomes in this framework remain subject to final political agreement.

OUTCOMES	INDICATORS
<p>5</p> <p>We are an innovative, creative society, where people can fulfil their potential</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rate of innovation activity • Proportion of premises with access to broadband services at speeds at or above 30Mbps • % engaging in arts/cultural activities • Confidence (as measured by self-efficacy) • % school leavers achieving at least level 2 or above including English and Maths
<p>6</p> <p>We have more people working in better jobs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic inactivity rate excluding students • Proportion of the workforce in employment qualified to level 1 and above, level 2 and above, level 3 and above, and level 4 and above • Seasonally adjusted employment rate (16-64) • A Better Jobs Index • % people working part time who would like to work more hours • Employment rate by council area • Proportion of local graduates from local institutions in professional or management occupations or in further study six months after graduation
<p>7</p> <p>We have a safe community where we respect the law, and each other</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevalence rate (% of the population who were victims of any NI Crime Survey crime) • A Respect Index • % the population who believe their cultural identity is respected by society • Average time taken to complete criminal cases • Reoffending rate
<p>8</p> <p>We care for others and we help those in need</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % population with GHQ12 scores ≥ 4 (signifying possible mental health problem) • Number of adults receiving social care services at home or self directed support for social care as a % of the total number of adults needing care • % population living in absolute and relative poverty • Average life satisfaction score of people with disabilities • Number of households in housing stress • Confidence of the population aged 60 years or older (as measured by self-efficacy)

OUTCOMES

INDICATORS

9

We are a shared, welcoming and confident society that respects diversity

- A Respect Index
- % who think all leisure centres, parks, libraries and shopping centres in their areas are “shared and open” to both Protestants and Catholics
- % of the population who believe their cultural identity is respected by society
- Average life satisfaction score of people with disabilities
- Confidence (as measured by self-efficacy)

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We have created a place where people want to live and work, to visit and invest

- Prevalence rate (% of the population who were victims of any NI Crime Survey crime)
- Total spend by external visitors
- % of the population who believe their cultural identity is respected by society
- Nation Brands Index
- A Better Jobs Index

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We connect people and opportunities through our infrastructure

- Average journey time on key economic corridors
- Proportion of premises with access to broadband services at speeds at or above 30Mbps
- Usage of online channels to access public services
- % of all journeys which are made by walking/cycling/public transport
- Overall Performance Assessment (NI Water)
- Gap between the number of houses we need, and the number of houses we have

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We give our children and young people the best start in life

- % babies born at low birth weight
- % children at appropriate stage of development in their immediate pre-school year
- % schools found to be good or better
- Gap between % non-FSME school leavers and % FSME school leavers achieving at Level 2 or above including English and Maths
- % school leavers achieving at Level 2 or above including English and Maths
- % care leavers who, aged 19, were in education, training or employment

These Outcomes will be delivered through collaborative working across Departments and beyond government and through the provision of high quality public services

OUTCOME 1

We prosper through a strong, competitive, regionally balanced economy

Outcome Team:

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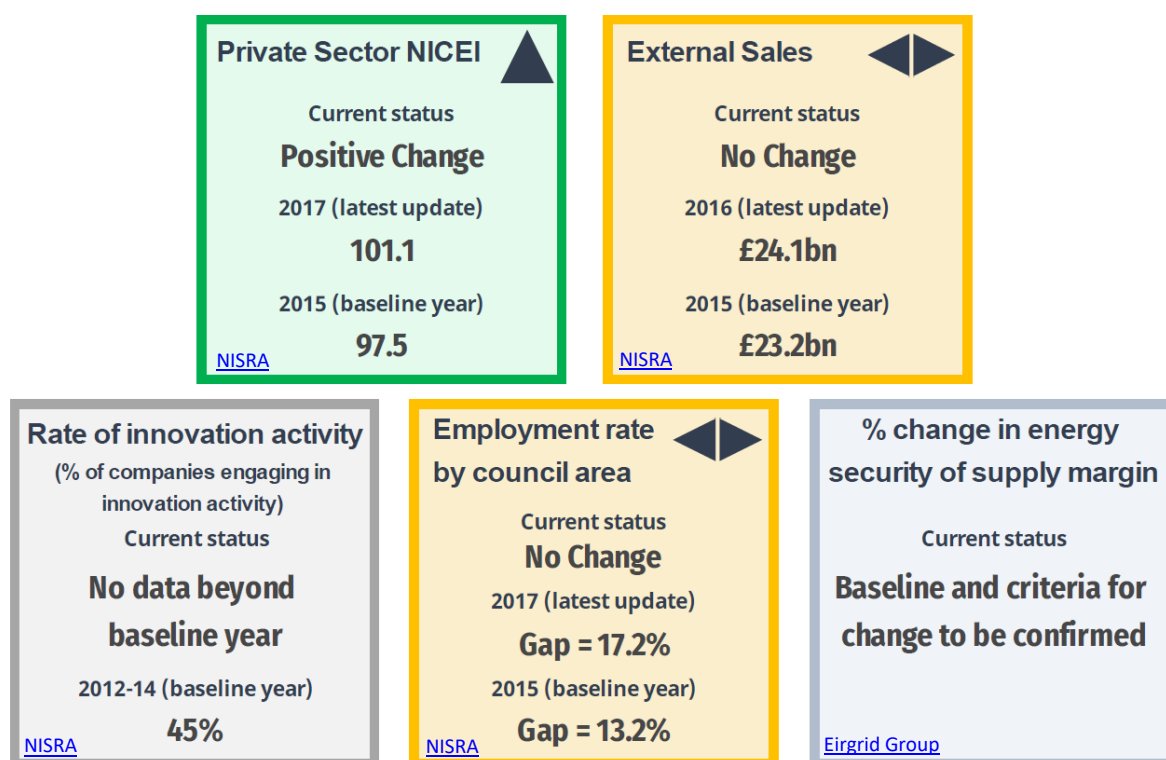
Outcome Update

This outcome focuses on efforts in the public, private and third sectors to create conditions that will transform our economy and provide growth for the benefit of everyone. The aim is to build a thriving, competitive, regionally balanced economy based on having more companies with an international outlook, increasing numbers of businesses recording high growth, greater levels of innovation and entrepreneurship, and with industries backed by locally-based, world-class research.

Five population indicators are used to quantify progress against this outcome:

- private sector NI composite economic index (NICEI);
- external sales;
- rate of innovation activity;
- employment rate by council area; and
- percentage change in energy security of supply margin.

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Progress towards Outcome

Progress against this Outcome has generally been slower than we would like. Our employment rate remains well below the UK average with considerable regional imbalances; our rate of innovation activity lags behind the rest of the UK; our Energy security of supply margin is projecting a deficit by the year 2021 without a second North South Interconnector. On the other hand, our economic activity as per the Private Sector Composite Economic Index (NICEI) has been improving since 2013 and, although progress on external sales is not enough to constitute positive change, we are encouraged that the 2017 figure is the highest on survey record.

We know that to bring about the desired improvements against this Outcome and its indicators we need to do more to stimulate job creation in the private sector, through the encouragement of new business start-ups and the attraction of larger firms and foreign direct investment. We need to do more to encourage businesses to innovate and engage with external markets; we need to strengthen linkages between industry and the education sector; and we need to support increased investment in research and development. That is why so many of the actions identified in the 2018/19 Delivery Plan for this Outcome revolve around stimulating innovation activities in the private sector, up-skilling our people to make them more employable, improving entrepreneurial activity and stimulating investment in research and development.

Some highlights of the work we have undertaken in this regard during the first half of 2018-19 include:

- An investment of £23 million has been secured by SMEs as a result of Invest NI's Access to Finance funds, and ten new High Potential Start Ups have been supported alongside six companies supported through 'Scaling' activity.
- The further education sector has engaged with just under 5,000 businesses during the year to date to help them innovate, compete and grow through programmes such as InnovateUs, Skills Focus and Assured Skills.
- We have supported 196 companies to enter a new market to exploit trade opportunities, and 97 companies have been supported to sell outside NI for the first time.

While we are pleased with the progress we have made, it is clear that significant challenges remain. Ongoing uncertainties over the construction of a second North South Interconnector present a major risk to our Energy Security of Supply Margin. Funding availability for innovation and research and development activities will prove a major determinant in our ability to close the innovation gap with other UK regions. And the final terms of the UK's withdrawal from the EU could have considerable implications for efforts towards this outcome.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

Action	Progress Update
Develop and introduce a new Innovation Accreditation Scheme	New Accreditation Scheme on course to go live during Q4 2018/19
Support 250-400 companies to engage in innovation activities for the first time.	158 companies supported to engage in innovation activities for the First Time
Run at least 6 Small Business Research Initiatives including at least 1 cross border project.	7 SBRI projects launched, with up to 5 more to launch before the end of the financial year. 1 cross border project on last mile deliveries has been run, with another being developed.
Fund and manage 6 FE Colleges to deliver in excess of 350 projects in 2018/19 through the InnovateUs programme.	At 31st August 2018, the six FE colleges have collectively delivered 169 InnovateUs projects in 2018/19. The programme is on target to achieve in excess of 350 by the end of March 2019.
Promote 833 jobs through the Assured Skills programme of academies and lead and manage the Skills Focus programme to deliver 1,700 Level 2 and above qualifications.	As at 31 August 2018, 1,346 jobs have been promoted through the Assured Skills programme - target for 2018/19 achieved. 852 level 2 (and above) qualifications have been offered through the Skills Focus programme - on target.
Engage with over 6,000 businesses to help them innovate, compete and grow.	At least 4,976 (83%) planned business engagements have been achieved across the sector. This covers a range of programmes and includes employers whom the sector reskills and upskills as well as TFS, Apprenticeships and HLAs.
Develop a localised approach to employability by better matching supply and demand.	The Community Planning process has been utilised to drive forward our engagement and by the end of September 2018, the Department for Communities, (alongside colleagues from the Department for the Economy and Invest NI) is now a key partner on four Councils Employability and Skills forums. We have also been able to bring our combined resources together collaboratively to establish sector specific academies to help create employment and skills pipelines such as Hospitality and Construction. Partnership working has also allowed other activities such

Action	Progress Update
	as job fairs to be targeted on a more local basis.
Increase the number of businesses by Council area – 1,631 jobs to be promoted.	704 jobs promoted year to date versus a target of 685. Project ahead of target to promote the annual target of 1631 jobs for the Year.
Encourage increased entrepreneurial activity by: 1. Supporting 10-15 “High Potential Start-ups (HPSUs)” with the potential to grow significant sales in global markets. 2. Work with 10-12 “Pre-Scaling” companies to accelerate their development. 3. Work with 4-6 “Scaling” companies to accelerate their development. 4. Securing £25m-£35m investment in SMEs in their growth and development through Access to Finance funds.	Invest NI has encouraged entrepreneurial activity by: • 10 new HPSUs supported. • 6 companies supported through 'Scaling' activity and on course to achieve target to support companies through 'Pre-scaling' activity. • £23m investment secured by SMEs as a result of Invest NI Access to Finance funds.
Secure 1,750-2,600 new assisted jobs through interventions with “Externally Owned” companies (of which 1250-1800 secured with “New to NI” companies).	1,608 new Assisted Jobs have been secured through our interventions with 'Externally-Owned' Companies (of which 588 secured with 'New to NI' companies). Invest NI is on course to achieve this target.
Support 17-25 “Externally Owned” companies that are “New to NI” to invest in NI for the first time.	10 Externally-Owned Companies that are 'New to NI' supported to invest in NI for the 'first time'. Invest NI is on course to achieve this target.
Support 150-200 companies to enter a “New Market”.	196 companies supported to enter a 'New Market' to exploit Trade opportunities. Target achieved.
Deliver Business Development Value of £86m through Intertrade Ireland’s suite of programmes.	Companies that have previously completed ITI programmes have reported a total value of £65m achieved through additional turnover, R&D investment, capital investment and equity investment.
Support 75 - 100 companies to engage in Selling outside of NI for the ‘First Time’ and achieve 55 First Time Exporters through delivery of InterTradeIreland programmes.	ITI has engaged with a total of 73 companies under this Action which exceeds the original target.
Develop and publish a draft Tourism	Work is ongoing to help inform the

Action	Progress Update
Strategy to 2030.	development of the Strategy. Timelines around publication of a draft Strategy for consultation has been impacted by the absence of ministers.
Support Northern Ireland participation in Horizon 2020.	848 successful participations in Horizon 2020 by Northern Ireland participants, drawing down a total of €66.9 million from the programme (as of June 2018).
Deliver £3.96m through the NI Higher Education Innovation Fund.	This knowledge exchange element of the formula-driven HE Block Grant has been confirmed to the universities for Academic Year 18/19 in the annual Provisional HE Grant Letters which issued on 31 August 2018.
Invest up to £2m in NI Universities to engage in the US-Ireland R&D partnership.	On schedule, in 2018-19 £0.3m has been paid to NI Universities to support 17 active US-Ireland partnership projects.

OUTCOME 2

We live and work sustainably
– protecting the
environment

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Chief Executive, NIEA

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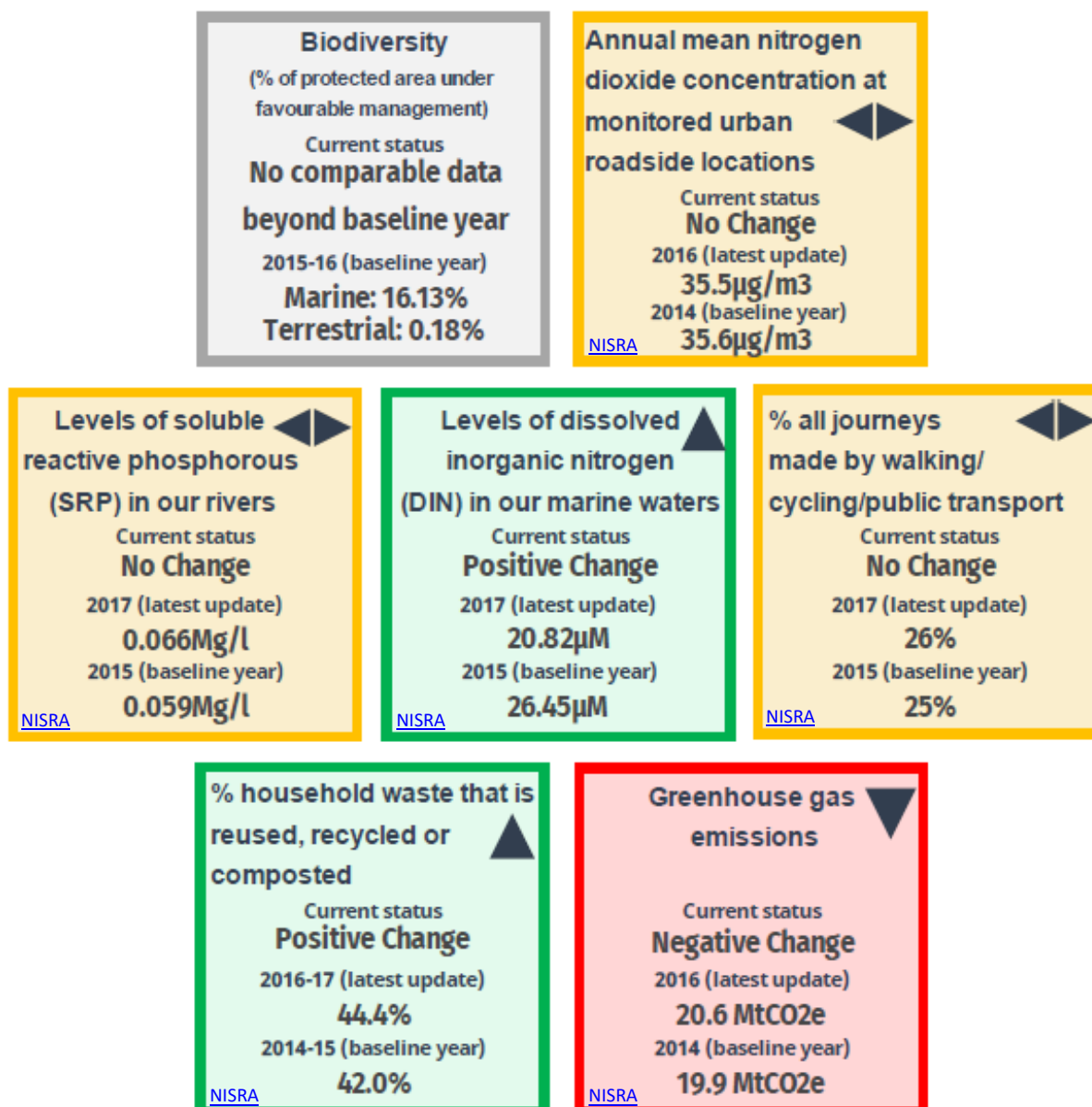
Outcome Update

Our health and wellbeing are directly affected by the quality of the environment around us. Achieving economic growth at the expense of the environment, through degradation of finite resources by overuse, or pollution, is not sustainable.

Having access to green spaces and sites of outstanding natural beauty can have positive impacts on physical and mental health. Our aim is to live and work sustainably, protecting the environment. Six population indicators are used to quantify progress against this outcome:

- Percentage of all journeys made by walking/cycling/ public transport;
- Greenhouse gas emissions;
- Percentage of household waste that is reused, recycled or composted;
- Annual mean nitrogen dioxide concentration at monitored urban roadside locations;
- Levels of soluble reactive phosphorus in our rivers and levels of Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen in our marine waters; and
- Biodiversity (percentage of protected areas under favourable management).

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Overall progress against Outcome

Progress towards this outcome is mixed.

Our campaigns to encourage more re-cycling of household waste are having a positive effect with an increase in recycling in 2016/17. Household waste recycling has increased by approximately 2 percentage points in 2016/17. Actions over the past 18 months have primarily focussed on communications and behavioural change projects relating to the recycling of food and waste at the kerbside.

The indicator on annual mean nitrogen dioxide concentration shows no change since the baseline year. Air pollution levels can fluctuate from year to year, depending on weather conditions, and it is important to monitor long-term as well as short-term trends. DfI, in cooperation with district councils, are implementing a range of measures aimed at promoting modal shift away from car use to walking cycling and public transport, and it is expected that these actions and interventions will play an important contribution in lowering of air pollution levels in future.

Greenhouse Gas emissions (GHG) from Agriculture, Energy and Transport are all on the rise, and we have commissioned the Committee on Climate Change to complete a report on the options, strategies, measures and schemes that can be considered for us to reduce GHG emissions in the future.

Progress on water quality is mixed. For marine waters we are seeing a positive change: levels of dissolved inorganic nitrogen have decreased since the baseline year (down 5.6µM since 2015). This is encouraging, however, many years of data are required to assess whether this is a positive trend. In 2017, for river water, levels of soluble reactive phosphorus at 93 surveillance sites indicate no change beyond the baseline (0.066 Mg/l compared with 0.059 in 2015). However, the Water Framework Directive status statistics, published in September 2018, identified that almost 8% of river water bodies were showing early indications of deterioration due to increased levels of phosphorous. These early signs are a cause for concern and come in spite of measures being deployed to reduce pollution from agricultural sources. It is highly likely that pressures on the indicator will increase in 2018 due to low grass yields experienced this year as consequence of the late spring and dry summer which led to an increase in the use of concentrate feeds, and we will continue to monitor this closely.

To improve the quality of water bodies, we will continue to review and if necessary augment the actions needed to address this and include them in our 'River Basin Management Plans' (RBMP) work. We are reviewing the current Nitrates Action Programme measures and will continue to raise awareness of diffuse pollution from agricultural sources. DAERA continue to take forward a number of the recommendations from the 2016 Sustainable Agricultural Land Management Strategy for NI and is engaging with NI Water and DfI to ensure investment is targeted to achieve optimum results for the environment.

Our Biodiversity continues to come under threat despite ongoing efforts to conserve and protect our most important and vulnerable species and habitats. Work is ongoing to develop the data required to monitor biodiversity. A number of management plans are being developed for Special Areas of Conservation to identify issues affecting the condition of each site and relevant actions required to improve their conservation condition. It is intended that the majority (95%) of the management plans will be completed or well advanced by 2020.

Over the course of the last year, there has been a five-fold increase in the protected marine area, which is a real positive and will greatly help with efforts to improve the overall state of our marine biodiversity. We are currently looking at the implications of this for how we measure biodiversity and the indicator will need to be recalibrated for us to take account of the new expanded area.

In summary, our progress in Household Waste recycling is proving very effective and every effort is being made to build on that. Recent data on GHG suggest we have some significant challenges. We will continue our work on Air and Biodiversity with a continued focus on key elements that should deliver improvements. Our water indicator will be monitored more closely and options considered for making improvements.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

An update on the progress of each action contained in the Outcomes Delivery Plan for this outcome is provided in the table below.

Action	Progress Update
Deliver a Northern Ireland household waste recycling communications campaign.	Grants are being provided to councils to promote food waste recycling at the kerbside. From January 2019 the campaign will promote reuse and recycling at Household Waste Recycling Centres. The campaign is on course to conclude in March 2019, with provisional results available in October 2019.
Deliver focused household waste recycling behaviour change initiatives with four District Councils in 2018-19.	Four projects have commenced that will promote dry recycling and food waste recycling at the kerbside. The projects are due to conclude in March 2019, with initial provisional results available in October 2019.
Deliver a food waste prevention and recycling awareness initiative within schools.	Completed in June 2018. An estimated 57,200 school children received food waste recycling awareness information. A subsequent survey showed that 85% of respondents were 'confident in recycling in school', and 90% were 'confident in recycling at home'.
Improve local government recycling infrastructure and services.	Four council project plans are currently being assessed with work starting by the end of December 2018. Upwards of £2M will be available for these projects, with provisional results will be available from July 2020.

Action	Progress Update
<p>Implement a new Knowledge Advisory Service for the farming industry in Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>A new Knowledge Advisory Service has now been established in DAERA with a strong focus on environmental sustainability which aims to deliver knowledge transfer programmes to assist the agri-food industry achieve sustainable outcomes.</p>
<p>Develop 54 (Favourable*) management plans for marine and terrestrial Special Areas of Conservation through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring progress on 233 Tranche 1 (Higher Level) Environmental Farming Schemes (EFS) which commenced in early 2018. • Determining 538 Tranche 2 (Higher Level) schemes for delivery in 2019/20 • Implementing agreements under the Management of Sensitive Sites (MOSS) scheme, and • Continuing to utilise opportunities through the Environment Fund to undertake actions that contribute to favourable management of protected sites. • Increasing terrestrial protected sites from under 1% in 2017/18 to almost 10% (14,500 hectares), in 2018/19, and further intended that this figure will increase to over 16% (24,500 hectares) by 2019/20. 	<p>Now, over 13,000ha of land is under EFS Tranche 1 Higher Level agreement, with a projected spend of some £8.6m. As the Knowledge Advisory Service develops, it will drive business practices and behaviours that will lead to improved productivity and profitability as well as enhanced environmental performance. Evidence of impact not yet available.</p> <p>21 land owners (agreements) are being given assistance in managing their lands for conservation benefit, as well as enhanced ecosystems services for the local population. This is helping remove invasive species particularly in the Upper Bann Special Area of Conservation.</p> <p>Progress is reliant on the launch of the latest EFS Scheme in early 2019 whereupon data may become available.</p>
<p>Further implement the 2015 – 21 River Basin Management Plan</p>	<p>The second cycle of our River Basin Management Plans set out 136 existing and new measures that are needed to improve water status. For all 136 measures, 85% are achieved or on track.</p> <p>All 275 water catchment actions for 18/19 are on track. The percentage of individual assessments at 'good or better' status has improved marginally from 81.3% for 2015 to</p>

Action	Progress Update
	82.0% for 2018. NIEA are reviewing their measures and actions for opportunities to improve.
<p>Under the 'Gas to the West Project', Dungannon, Coalisland, Cookstown, Omagh, Enniskillen and Derrylin are to be connected during 2018/19, with Magherafelt to be connected in April 2019 to the natural gas network.</p>	<p>Department for the Economy (DfE) invested £250m to provide gas to a potential 40,000 business and domestic customers in the west of Northern Ireland.</p> <p>Over 70% of the total 220km new gas pipelines planned for the West now laid by July 2018 and all major inter-town infrastructure on track to be operational in Quarter 2 of 2019.</p>
<p>Increase journeys made by walking, cycling and public transport by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introducing the Belfast Rapid Transit (BRT) service, connecting East Belfast, West Belfast and Titanic Quarter via the city centre using new eco-friendly Glider vehicles carrying on average an additional 5,800 passengers per day (or circa 8m total passengers per annum by 2022). • Progressing the development of the Belfast Multi-Modal Transport Hub known as Weavers Cross (catering for 8-13m passenger journeys) and North West Multi-Modal Transport Hub incorporating a new train terminus, bus stands, 'park and ride' facility, bicycle parking and services • Developing the greenways programme including upgrading the Comber Greenway to include a pedestrian/cyclist bridge to Dundonald Ice Bowl along with new and upgraded walking and cycling linkages across Northern Ireland. • Completing local transport 	<p>The new £90m Belfast Rapid Transit System was delivered with the successful launch of the Glider service in September. Early reports indicate an increase of around 30,000 passengers per week. Work on the Belfast Transport Hub is progressing and early stage construction work begun on-site on the North West Multi—Modal Transport Hub in September.</p> <p>This programme is underway and it is anticipated that the application will be at planning decision stage before end of 2018.</p> <p>A 2km widening scheme is now complete. There has also been partnership working with local government, including plans to construct a pedestrian/cycle bridge connecting the Greenway to Dundonald Entertainment Complex , and with the Public Health Agency in developing detailed designs for a further eight Council Greenway schemes.</p> <p>This is under development. Technical tasks</p>

Action	Progress Update
strategies, integrated with the Councils' Local Development Plan processes, focusing on modal shift to public transport and active travel, for all Council areas during 2018/19.	relating to the evidence base for the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Strategy for Fermanagh and Omagh have been developed while work programmes for the remaining Local Transport Strategies have been agreed.

OUTCOME 3

We have a more equal society

Outcome Team:

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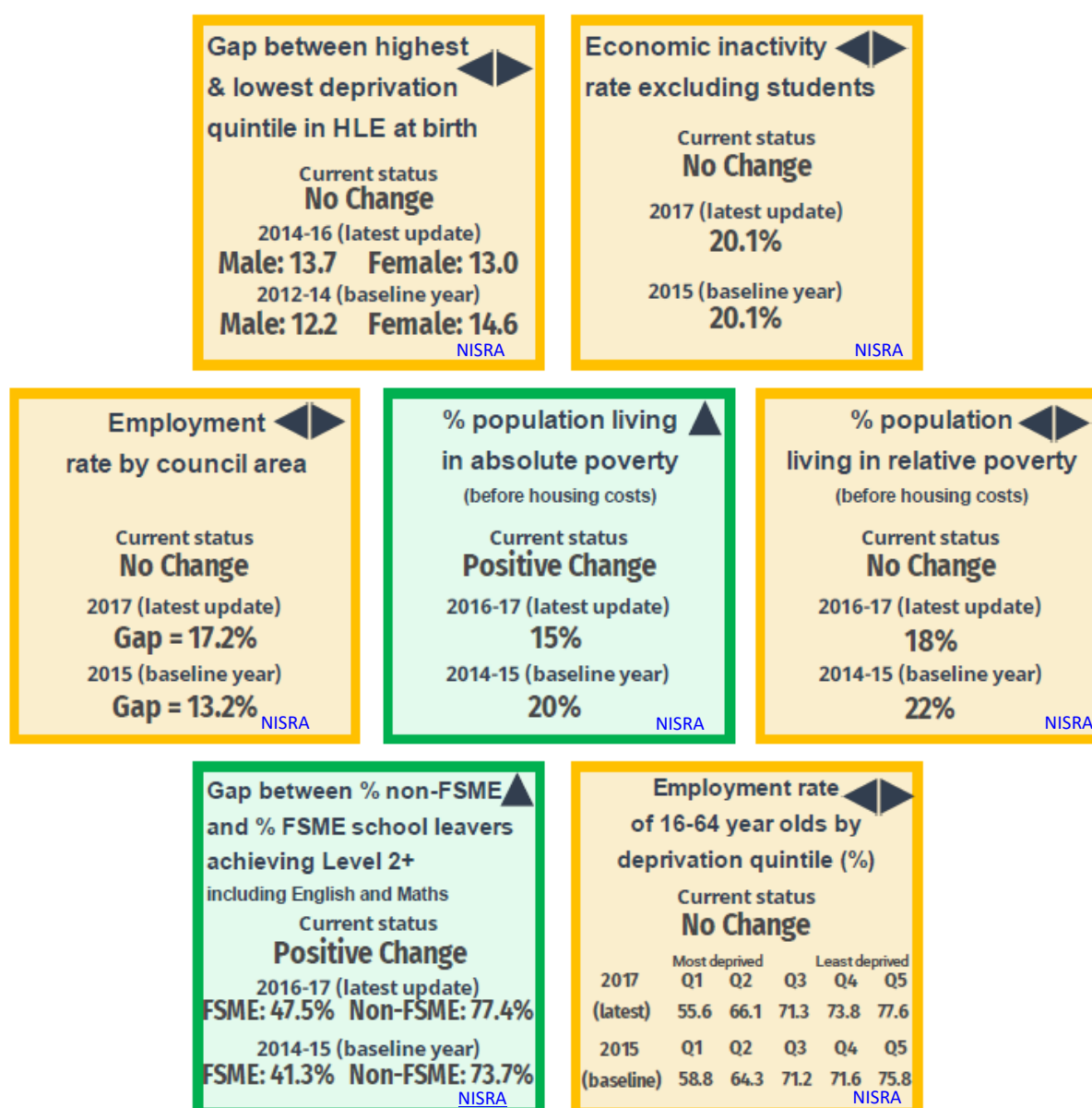
Outcome Update

It is important that a person's background, identity or ability should not be a barrier to playing a full and constructive role in society, that inequality is eliminated wherever it might be found and that support is given to those who face serious issues as a consequence of it.

Six population indicators have been identified to determine progress on meeting this objective. These are:

- Gap between highest and lowest deprivation quintile in healthy life expectancy at birth;
- Gap between the percentage of non-FSME school leavers and percentage of FSME school leavers achieving at Level 2 or above including English & Maths;
- Percentage of the population living in absolute and relative poverty;
- Employment rate of 16-64 year olds by deprivation quintile;
- Economic inactivity rate excluding students;
- Employment rate by council area.

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Progress towards Outcome

Progress towards the outcome of achieving a more equal society has been mixed. The gap in educational achievement between those entitled to free school meals and those who are not entitled is closing. The percentage of people living in absolute poverty (before housing costs) has reduced from 20% in 2014/15 to 15% in 2016/17, but it remains a concern that there is no change in the percentage of people living in relative poverty (before housing costs). The latest data in relation to regional imbalance in employment rates and economic inactivity rates suggest no improvement, and there is no change in the gap between the highest and lowest deprivation quintiles when looking at healthy life expectancy at birth.

Driving further improvements to achieve positive change in tackling the more difficult issues associated with poverty and disadvantage are being taken forward in a number of ways.

Through the social welfare system we are supporting those most in need. From April to August the Make the Call Wraparound Service reached nearly 26,000 people and identified more than 11,000 individuals potentially entitled to additional benefits or services. We are continually evolving the scope of this service so it can provide the highest level of support to those in poverty, older people, and those experiencing illness or disability.

Work is one of the best routes out of poverty and the ongoing rollout of Universal Credit is making work pay and encouraging more people to move into work. We are helping those not participating in the labour market due to health conditions. For the first time, those making a new claim to benefit with a health condition or disability are being invited to have a Health & Work Conversation to identify any support that might help them plan for a return to work.

A number of community based Work & Wellbeing programmes are being delivered to assist people who are unemployed, economically inactive, or have a disability. These include Steps to Success, Workable, Access to Work and European Social Fund projects aimed at helping people to find and stay in work. Another critical factor in helping economically inactive groups re-engage with the labour market is the integration of employability and skills through the concept of Local Works, which is putting localised approaches in place to better match supply and demand.

The Public Health Agency and the Health and Social Care Board are engaging with local councils to help improve healthy life expectancy rates and close the gap between the highest and lowest deprivation in this area. A consistent regional approach to improving health and wellbeing is being developed with some scope for some localised flexibility with a focus on four aspects - improvements to the early years of life; increased opportunities for physical activity; improved mental health and wellbeing; and older people maintaining healthy, active lives and the promotion of age friendly communities.

Within the education sector, programmes are in place to support a wide range of interventions including: breakfast clubs; literacy and numeracy support; after school clubs; emotional health advice and support; Easter school revision clubs; support at transition; and improving engagement with parents and the community.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

Action	Progress Update
Development of a “Healthy Places” programme.	Four common areas of focus for health improvement have been agreed for inclusion in Community Plans across 11 Councils. A process is underway to expand community development approaches. Three Healthy Places demonstration sites have been agreed and project staff recruited.
Increase the scale and spread of the Self-Harm intervention programme.	3017 people were referred to the service in 2017/18. Approximately 65% of referrals take up the service. Annual data are not yet available but based on a single quarter there was good evidence of improvement, with 60% of those who completed pre- and post-questionnaires demonstrating reliable improvement in psychological wellbeing scores.
Expand smoke-free public spaces	440 (or 50.7%) of primary and special schools have adopted the “Smoke-free Schools Gates” approach. All HSC Trusts have adopted Smoke-free grounds policy.
Increase participation on the Family Nurse Partnership.	This is a rolling programme for first time teenage mothers. In 2017, 131 teenagers enrolled on the programme and 343 remained active within the programme. 42.8% of clients have demonstrated higher mastery at 24 months on the programme (Sense of mastery is a form of perceived personal control, a sense of control over the events of one’s life).
Continue to deliver a range of actions and interventions aimed at improving the life choices of children and young people including under the following 6 actions:	
1. Targeting Social Need;	£77.7m of Targeting Social Need (TSN) funding was provided in 2018/19 to help pupils from socially deprived backgrounds, or those at risk of underachievement, reach their full potential. DE launched a new online tool in October 2018 to capture information relating to the use and

Action	Progress Update
	impact of TSN resources.
2. Extended Schools Programme;	£9.1m of Extended Schools funding supported additional services and activities for the most disadvantaged pupils before, during and beyond the end of the normal school day (in 2016/17 the programme delivered 3,455 activities, reaching 43% of schools in NI, 41% of pupils and 63% of FSME pupils). 99% of schools reported evidence of reductions in underachievement and 95% reported evidence of improved health and well-being.
3. Full Service programmes;	Two Full Service programmes enable a wide range of additional interventions aimed at enhancing attainment in areas of acute deprivation (in North Belfast and West Belfast). Schools reported significant successes in 2016/17 including 100% of pupils receiving counselling moving from clinical distress at the outset to the normal range; improved pupil performance in English and Maths; improved attendance, and improvements in the development of pupils academically, socially and emotionally.
4. West Belfast Community Project;	The West Belfast Community Project is a community based wraparound service designed to address educational underachievement. 14 workshops were delivered across pre-school, nursery and primary settings; 172 Parents accessed workshops (pre-school, nursery and primary) and 111 children accessing transition programmes (post-primary). As a result 92% (158) of parents felt they and their child are better prepared for pre-school / nursery / primary and feel more confident to support their child through the transition between early years and primary settings.
5. Sharing the Learning Programme;	The Sharing the Learning Programme provided 1,046 children of nursery age with additional support, including transition support; 233 children moving from Year 7 to Year 8 received support to

Action	Progress Update
	consolidate learning through the Summer Transition Programme; 375 students attended the GCSE Easter School; 83 young people also received GCSE support during the reporting period in a community setting. As a result, 67% of students involved in the programme achieved 5+ GCSEs (A*-C) or equivalent including either English OR Maths.
6. Pupil attendance strategy / policy.	DE's Attendance Strategy was published in March 2016 under the title of: Miss School = Miss Out. This strategy focuses on strengthening four key areas to improving attendance as a key element of school development planning. Over the last 12 months, work has been carried out in conjunction with QUB and approximately 20 (mostly post-primary) schools culminating in the publication of a good practice document including 10 case studies which set-out the interventions in place to improve attendance at school.
Implement a parental engagement campaign aimed at developing parents' role in education.	The 'Give your child a helping hand' campaign was launched in Jan 2018 with follow-ups in Sept 2018 (and Jan 2019). Its key aim is to inform and empower parents / carers to support their children and help tackle educational underachievement as a result of social disadvantage. As a result, 98% of parents interviewed agreed that it was important to talk to their children about their day at school; 94% realised that they could make a real difference to their child's / grandchild's education; 75% claimed their behaviour toward education changed as a result of the campaign.
Reach 55,000 people through the Make the Call Wraparound Service to ensure that individuals and families are receiving all of the social security benefits they are entitled to.	25,959 people spoken to or visited by the Make the Call team with 11,349 of those having a potential entitlement to additional benefits or services.
Provide assistance (approx. £6bn in 2018/19) through social security benefits to individuals and families in	From April to June 2018 £1,476m of financial support provided to people, families and communities through the

Action	Progress Update
our society that require financial support.	social welfare system.
Support 17,600 people to participate in employability programmes, including programmes for people with health conditions and/or disabilities.	From April 2018 to August 2018 13,777 people supported through five employability programmes to remain in work or to progress into work. Latest figures from the Steps to Success programme indicate that 30% of participants are moving into employment.
Through the 'Local Works' approach, we will work with all 11 councils, and their community partners, to develop a localised approach to employability by better matching supply and demand, creating pathways for those who need additional support to find and sustain a good job.	Employability Forums now established in 5 Council areas, discussions ongoing with the other 6. Employability Forum also established to support the Belfast Regional City Deal.
Complete the roll out of Universal Credit.	The rollout of Universal Credit across Northern Ireland will be completed on 5 December 2018 with the go-live of Universal Credit in the postcode areas served by the Antrim and Ballymena Jobs & Benefits offices.
Implement the Work and Wellbeing Service.	The Work and Wellbeing Service and the Health & Work Conversation has been rolled out to all Jobs & Benefits offices.
Transform our Service to Employers to deliver employability and skills solutions.	Employer Services provides a range of services for employers across Northern Ireland, including an online job vacancy service and employer engagement with outreach officers in each council area offering tailored recruitment solutions. The introduction of Universal Credit has allowed for increased, more focused employer engagement - offering a more bespoke, local and joined up service. During this change, employer and participant satisfaction ratings with the service have maintained high levels at 99% and 95% respectively - with 453 employment outcomes achieved directly through employer services.
Support the development of Employability Forums with 11 Councils and with other stakeholders.	Employability Forums now established in 5 Council areas, discussions ongoing with the other 6. Employability Forum also established to support the Belfast Regional City Deal.

Action	Progress Update
Increase the number of new businesses by Council area – 1,631 new jobs to be promoted.	In the year to 30 September 704 jobs have been promoted. This is against a target of 685. This project is therefore ahead of target to promote 1,631 jobs in the 2018/19 year.

OUTCOME 4

We enjoy long, healthy,
active lives

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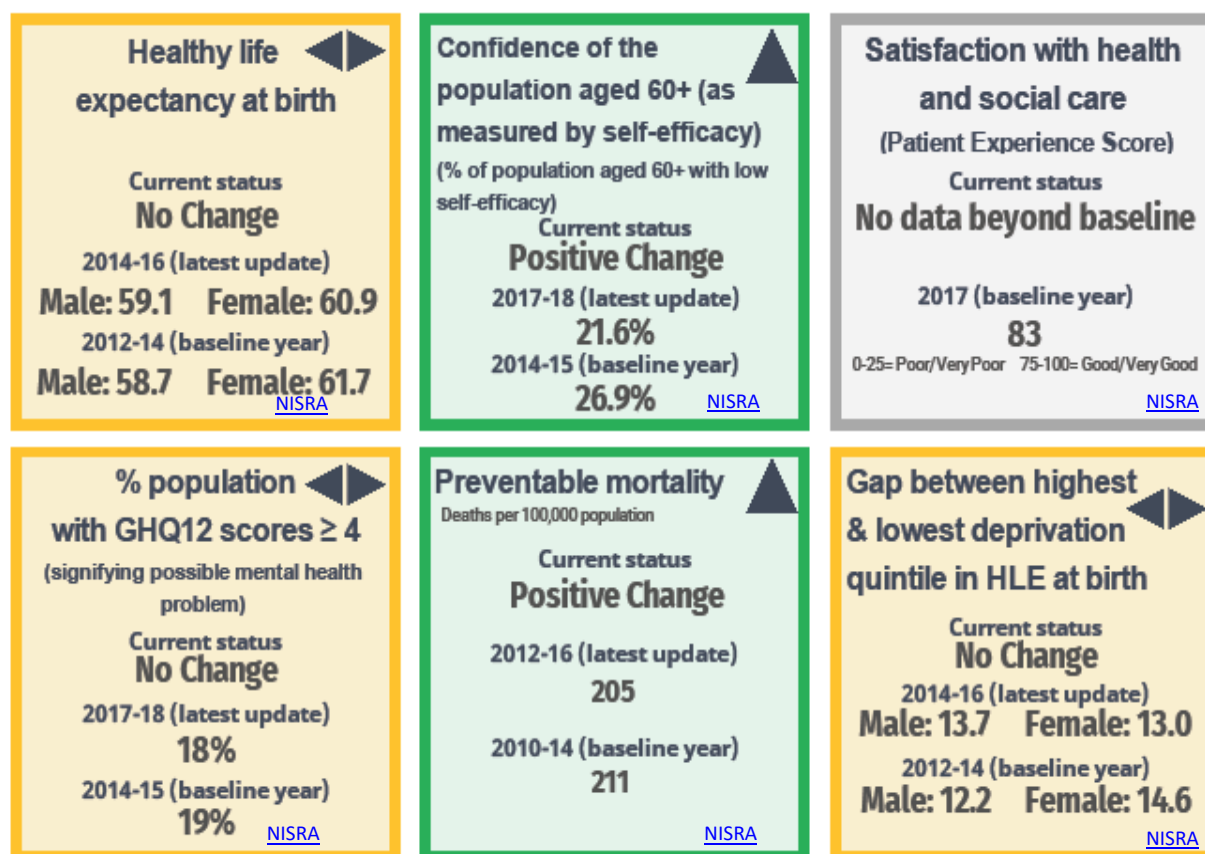
Outcome Update

Whilst the Health and Social Care (HSC) system has a vital role to ensure that all citizens have good access to high quality care when necessary, it is clear that people want and need to be supported to maintain their own health, insofar as they are able. For individuals, families and communities to take greater control over their lives and be enabled and supported to lead healthy, active lives; collaboration is needed across government and with local government, the community and voluntary sector, private businesses and other organisations and delivery partners to address the factors which impact on health and wellbeing. Our focus is to improve healthy life expectancy and reduce preventable deaths; to reduce health inequalities; to improve the quality of the healthcare experience and to improve mental health. Supporting this, our **“Health and Wellbeing 2026: Delivering Together”** sets out a clear vision for the transformation of Health and Social Care by putting citizens at the centre, both in terms of their access to care and the quality of the care they receive.

Six population indicators are used to quantify progress against this update:

- Healthy life expectancy at birth;
- Preventable mortality;
- Percentage of the population with GHQ12 scores ≥ 4 (signifying possible mental health problem);
- Satisfaction with health and social care;
- Gap between highest and lowest deprivation quintile in healthy life expectancy at birth;
- Confidence of the population aged 60 years or older (as measured by self-efficacy).

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Progress towards Outcome

While it is encouraging to see positive change in preventable mortality and confidence of our older population (measured using self-efficacy), progress is slower on lowering the proportion of our population with possible mental health problems and on healthy life expectancy, including narrowing the deprivation gap.

The Department of Health continues to manage a challenging financial position and is working closely with stakeholders to maximise available resources. The Health and Social Care Workforce Strategy 2026: Delivering for Our People also addresses the need to tackle serious challenges with supply, recruitment and retention of staff.

Progress towards the overall Outcome (*We enjoy long, healthy, active lives*) reflects the fact that many of the influences on health and wellbeing are inter-dependent and require significant focus over an extended period of time to deliver clear, positive and measurable change. Just as changes in Healthy Life Expectancy at birth are expected to be gradual, reducing the Healthy Life Expectancy gap between the most and least deprived is a significant challenge which requires sustained collaboration both at regional and local levels. A wide range of programmes, information and support mechanisms are already in place to underpin delivery of health and wellbeing

outcomes. In addition departments, agencies and local government are working together with local communities to create the conditions to support improved health and encourage healthier choices, for example, to provide increased opportunities for physical activity.

Resources continue to be devoted to ensuring that initiatives and actions taken result in meaningful improvements for people in terms of their health and wellbeing, life expectancy and quality of their healthcare experience. It is pleasing to note the positive change in Preventable Mortality, supported by a broad range of population health interventions, for example in relation to smoking cessation, obesity prevention, early treatment of stroke etc. and also the improvement in self-efficacy for older people delivered through a range of “Age Friendly” initiatives. However, work remains to build on these successes and to address those indicators where no change is identified at present, or where measurement data is being developed.

A number of programmes continue to focus on these, with establishment of the Regional Trauma Network (RTN) underway and recruitment of therapists currently taking place. Full implementation of the network is planned for March 2021, but the positive impacts of the initial phase should begin to impact mental health services throughout 2019 and beyond. Supporting structures for the measurement of satisfaction levels for Health and Social Care also continue to be developed and work is ongoing to procure an appropriate system to capture statistically robust patient/client feedback. These programmes are providing a combination of direct support to those who may need help and the opportunity to better measure satisfaction levels for care provided. Whilst facing challenges in many areas, we remain committed to delivering the actions set out in the Outcomes Delivery Plan and provide an update on progress below.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

Action	Progress Update
<p>Support the development of the Health & Social Care elements of the Regional Trauma Network (RTN) including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruit a Network Manager to drive the development of and co-ordinate the RTN; 2. Recruit 10 additional therapists to begin to build the capacity of the HSC element of the RTN; 3. Train 10 therapists to a Masters level in Cognitive Behavioural 	<p>Network Manager recruited and in post 3 September 2018.</p> <p>Recruitment of therapists is underway with a target date of March 2019 for recruitment to be completed in each HSC Trust.</p> <p>21 therapists on target to be qualified by 31 March 2019.</p> <p>A Pathway Development Working Group has been established and the process of developing pathways is underway. The phased approach will allow for learning and data at each phase with full implementation</p>

Action	Progress Update
<p>Therapy (CBT); and</p> <p>4. Develop and implement a regional referral pathway which spans across statutory and non-statutory domains for all five Health & Social Care Trusts.</p>	<p>planned for March 2021.</p>
<p>Development of a “Healthy Places” programme.</p>	<p>Four common areas of focus for health improvement have been agreed for inclusion in Community Plans across 11 Councils.</p> <p>A process is underway to expand community development approaches.</p> <p>Three Healthy Places demonstration sites have been agreed and project staff recruited.</p>
<p>Increase percentage of patients with confirmed ischaemic stroke who receive thrombolysis treatment, where clinically appropriate.</p>	<p>71% of stroke patients received thrombolysis within 60 minutes of hospital arrival in 17/18 (compared to 65% in 16/17).</p> <p>65% of patients were independent on leaving hospital (1,404 people). In 17/18, compared to 16/17, 165 more people left hospital independent.</p>
<p>Increase the scale and spread of the Self – Harm Intervention Programme.</p>	<p>3,017 people were referred to the service in 17/18. Approximately 65% of referrals take up the service.</p> <p>Annual data is not yet available but based on a single quarter there was good evidence of improvement, with 60% of those who completed pre- and post- questionnaires demonstrating reliable improvement in psychological wellbeing scores.</p>
<p>Promote Active School Travel, and increase journeys made by walking, cycling and public transport.</p>	<p>In 17/18, 289 schools (15,903 people) participated in the programme (up from 229 schools the previous year). In 16/17 there was a 25% increase in the number of pupils who travel actively to schools at the end of the year, compared to the start – in 17/18 there was a 29% increase.</p>
<p>Implement an Eating Well Choosing</p>	<p>FSA and District Councils promote</p>

Action	Progress Update
Better Programme.	<p>Calorie Wise (a voluntary labelling scheme) and Menu Cal (a free online tool for food businesses to calculate the energy content of their recipes). 16 workshops were delivered to businesses between September 2017 and March 2018, with participants representing 149 food businesses. There has been a 66% increase in Menu Cal Users from May 2017- May 2018.</p> <p>Awareness of recommended daily calorie intake has improved in 2018, by both men and women surveyed (FSA tracker survey).</p>
Develop a Quality Health and Social Care Experience Framework, using input from the consultation on Delivering Together.	<p>The Co-Production guide was launched along with the Future Search Conference Report on 31 August 2018. Meetings have been planned to discuss the way forward in relation to co-production with key partners, including the 6 Trusts, and RQIA.</p>
Capture statistically robust patient/client feedback across the HSC sector as a base for identifying areas of best practice and/or concern.	<p>The Real Time User Feedback (RTUF) Project Group continues to meet and work is ongoing with the Public Health Agency to procure an appropriate system. The Group has a workshop in December which will further inform the procurement exercise.</p> <p>The results of the online “10,000 More Voices” surveys conducted by the PHA to gather experiences of care and the design of care services across the Health and Social Care Trusts are available.</p> <p>A Home Care Experience Survey has been commissioned from Departmental statisticians for 2018/19. This is a similar survey of Home Care Clients carried out by the department in 2008/09.</p>
Reach out to at least 55,000 people in poverty through ‘Make the Call’ Wraparound Service to ensure that individuals and families are receiving all the social security benefits to which they are entitled.	<p>From April to August 2018, Make the Call have spoken to or visited 25,959 people and have identified that 11,349 of those have a potential entitlement to additional benefits or services. The scope of the Service is continuously evolving to help those in</p>

Action	Progress Update
	poverty, older people, and those experiencing illness or disability.
<p>Make each council area “Age Friendly” – a place where organisations work together to enhance quality of life for people as they age.</p>	<p>5 of 11 councils are engaged in the formal World Health Organisation’s Age Friendly framework. Delegates from every council area helped design the Age Friendly Network. 10 of 11 councils have high level outcomes or actions concerning older people in their community plan. 900 older people and councillors attended local Pensioners’ Parliaments. Over 600 local groups participate in the Age Sector Networks. Across the region Age Friendly coordinators, Community Navigators and a range of signposting services are in place to support older people to access statutory and community services.</p>
<p>Reduce the length of time taken to complete major adaptations in social homes.</p>	<p>39 major adaptations were completed in 2018-19 to date (August 2018)</p> <p>Statistics in respect of the % of adaptations completed within the 100 week limit will be available from March 2019.</p>
<p>Working with Road Safety Partners DfI will continue to educate the Northern Ireland public about road safety issues with a view to reducing the number of road traffic fatalities and serious injuries.</p>	<p>DfI has delivered a number of road safety information campaigns addressing poor road user behaviours, which contribute to a reduction in the number of people killed and seriously injured on our roads. At 31 October 2018 there were 48 fatalities, a reduction of 5 when compared to 53 at the same date in 2017. At 31 August 2018, 490 people were seriously injured, compared to 527 for the same period in 2017, a reduction of 37 people.</p>

OUTCOME 5

We are an innovative, creative society, where people can fulfil their potential

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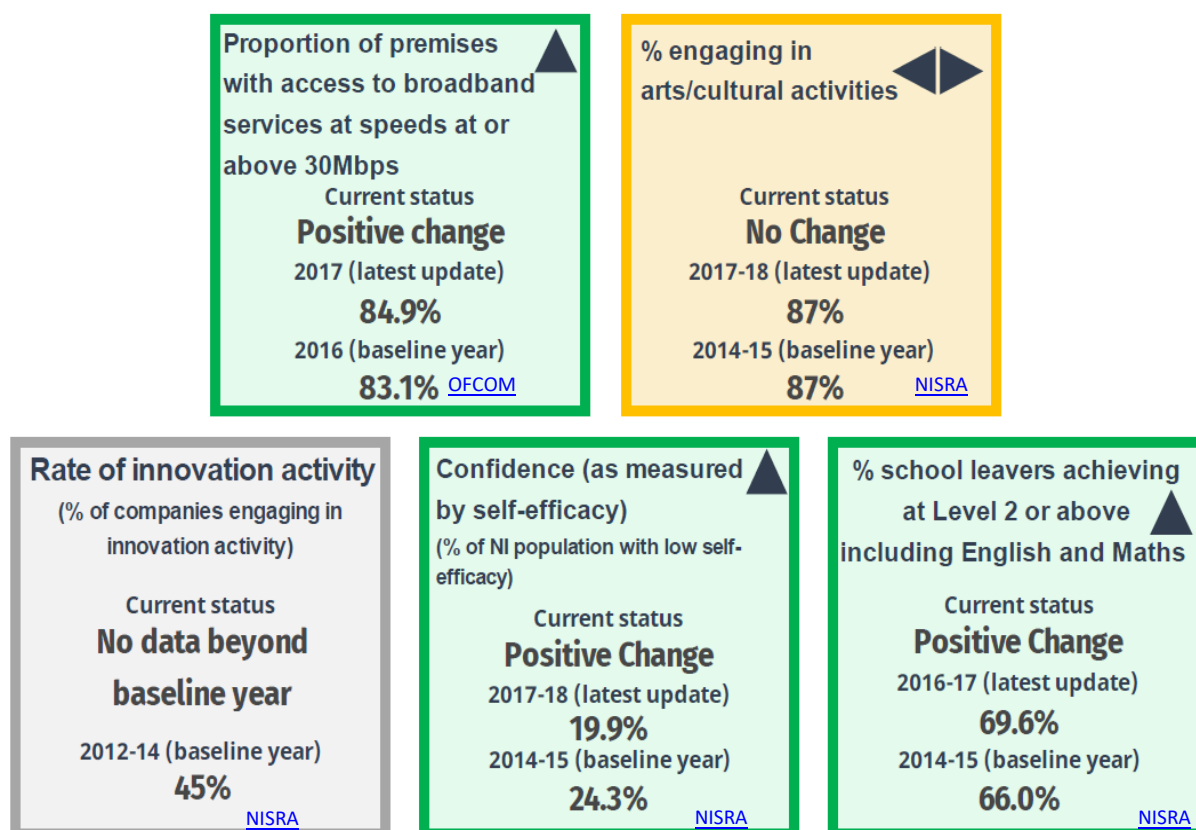
Outcome Update

This outcome is about building a society and an economy which is renowned for its innovation and creativity and admired for the opportunities afforded to people of all backgrounds to fulfil their potential. It places a focus on creating a society where entrepreneurship and creativity is endemic and where innovation is embedded in the culture of every company. We will seek to develop world class sectors and strengthen linkages between industry and academia. This outcome will also focus on the attainment of educational qualifications of our young people in order to support them to succeed.

Five population indicators are used to quantify progress against this outcome:

- rate of innovation activity;
- percentage engaging in arts/cultural activities;
- confidence (as measured by self-efficacy);
- proportion of premises with access to broadband services at speeds at or above 30Mbps; and
- percentage school leavers achieving at Level 2 or above including English and Maths.

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Progress towards Outcome

Good progress has been made towards this outcome.

The percentage of our population with low self-efficacy remains low and has actually decreased in recent years, and we are encouraged by the positive change in the percentage of school leavers achieving Level 2 or above qualifications. Other indicators have also shown improvement although progress has generally been slower than we would like. For example, the proportion of premises with access to broadband services at 30Mbps or above increased to 85% in 2017, but this still falls short of coverage in the rest of the UK, which is over 90%. Unfortunately Northern Ireland's rate of innovation activity lags behind the rest of the UK.

We know that to bring about the desired improvements against this Outcome we need to do more to encourage businesses to innovate; we need to strengthen linkages between industry and the education sector; and we need to support increased investment in research and development. That is why so many of the actions in this Outcome's 2018/19 Delivery Plan revolve around these kinds of activities. Broader efforts to increase cultural and sporting participation and raise the

confidence of our people, especially through the provision of digital skills, also feature heavily, as do our efforts to reduce the internet connectivity gap.

Some highlights of the work we have undertaken in this regard during the first half of 2018-19 include:

- We have awarded 9 new contracts for Small Business Research Initiative projects, 2 of which are cross-border projects. These initiatives procure research and development for public sector organisations which is necessary when there are often no suitable products or services currently available on the market. The programme is very flexible and allows public sector organisations to work with highly innovative companies to solve problems.
- Through Invest NI we have supported 158 companies to engage in innovation activities for the first time.
- We have commenced the procurement process to reduce the gap of 12% of premises currently unable to access a broadband service of at least 30 Mbps. Central Procurement Directorate has been appointed to manage the procurement process and an Open Market Review with industry suppliers has been undertaken to assess the number of premises unable to access a service of 30 Mbps or better.

While we are pleased with the progress we have made, it is clear that significant challenges remain. Funding availability for innovation and research and development activities will prove a major determinant in our ability to close the innovation gap with other UK regions, and in turn help improve the self-efficacy of our population. Closing the internet connectivity gap will be a significant undertaking, as will sustaining recent improvements in the performance of our school leavers. And the final terms of the UK's withdrawal from the EU could have considerable implications for efforts to progress this outcome.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

Action	Progress Update
Develop and introduce a new Innovation Accreditation Scheme	New Accreditation Scheme on course to go live during Q4 2018/19
Support 250 to 400 companies to engage in innovation activities for the first time	158 companies supported to engage in innovation activities for the First Time
Secure total investment in innovation activity of £15m to £20m	382 total companies engaging in Innovation activities • £7m investment secured in Innovation activity
Secure total investment in Research and Development activity of £195 to £260m	£27m investment secured in Research and Development activity • 58 companies engaging in R&D activities
Run at least 6 new Small Business Research Initiatives (SBRI) including at least one cross border project	7 SBRI projects launched, with up to 5 more to launch before the end of the financial year. 1 cross border project on last mile deliveries has been run, with another being developed.
Develop new initiatives for sharing knowledge and best practice across public sector, private sector, academia and 3rd sector such as Govcampconnect	Discussions held between Digital Shared Services & Department for the Economy around holding a Gov Camp Unconference in Spring/Summer 2019. Review of the Open Data Strategy for Northern Ireland will also examine new initiatives to promote knowledge sharing with direct engagement with stakeholders from public and private sectors, academia and 3rd sector open data and open government proponents. The Open Government Action Plan for 2018-20 is also under review.
Support the growth of up to three clusters in new and emerging tech, including Artificial Intelligence and Immersive Technologies	Two clusters (in AI, Immersive Technologies) are being supported. Application for support for Cybersecurity cluster being processed by Invest NI.
Run a Tourism NI Immersive Technologies scheme	Projects being developed, but have not gone live.
Roll out Uniting Communities through Sport and Creativity in at least three urban villages and three rural areas	Phase 1 of programme delivery is underway in Ardoyne/Greater Ballysillan and Rasharkin /Kilrea areas. Phase 3 is ongoing in Colin/Eastside area of Belfast and Phase 4 is coming to an end in the Erne East area of Co Fermanagh.

Action	Progress Update
	<p>Supporting the core programme delivery, the Young Leaders Training and Ambassadors programme has commenced delivery in Falls/Village pilot area, and Colin/Eastside area; it will be commencing in Ardoyne/and Erne East in Quarter 3 and in Rasharkin/Kilrea in Quarter 4. The Uniting Opportunities grant programme has commenced supporting projects to enable young people, with complex barriers to engagement, to access the Uniting Communities Programme.</p>
<p>Deliver more opportunities to participate in and enjoy physical activity and sport, with a particular emphasis on female participation and those with disabilities or learning and sensory impairments</p>	<p>The “Women in Sport: Active, Fit & Sporty” programme is being implemented and to date this year has delivered 71 enabling projects/programmes and engaged 2,468 inactive female participants in sport/physical activity.</p> <p>The Department through the Active Living No Limits Action Plan continues to ensure that those with disabilities can take part in sport and physical activity opportunities by further investment in specialist equipment for the 11 Disability Sports Hubs (NI wide), the 4 water-based Disability Hubs, an outdoor recreation hub and through the installation of 6 new pool pods.</p>
<p>Deliver the Libraries NI Digital Literacy Project, providing 2,500 additional basic level IT learning opportunities for adults in group and one-to-one settings across the public libraries network with particular focus on people from deprived areas, people from rural areas, people with disabilities and older people</p>	<p>The first Life Opportunities supported intervention commenced delivery in October 2018 providing series of free digital learning opportunities for the public in libraries across NI. The intervention is targeted at people living in poverty, people from rural areas, older people and people with disabilities.</p> <p>It is expected that this intervention - and others under development - will contribute towards raising levels of confidence in individuals and communities.</p>
<p>Produce an initial system evaluation framework for (statutory) education</p>	<p>A second phase of stakeholder engagement on the system evaluation framework has been completed and a consultation on a</p>

Action	Progress Update
	<p>prototype “evaluation dashboard” is underway. Based on this a prototype dashboard is being developed for consultation. Piloting of the prototype and consultation documentation commenced in September with wider consultation and stakeholder events scheduled to start later in 208/19.</p>
<p>Commence a procurement process to reduce the gap of 12% of premises currently unable to access a broadband service of at least 30 Mbps using the Confidence and Supply agreement.</p>	<p>Open Market Review with industry suppliers to assess the number of premises unable to access a service of 30 Mbps or better has been completed. Pre-market engagement with industry suppliers to assess interest in project commenced.</p>
<p>Take forward the development of a Digital Infrastructure Strategy for Northern Ireland</p>	<p>Commenced engagement with MATRIX Panel to consider incorporating Digital Infrastructure Strategy into Digital ICT Report implementation.</p>

OUTCOME 6

We have more people
working in better jobs

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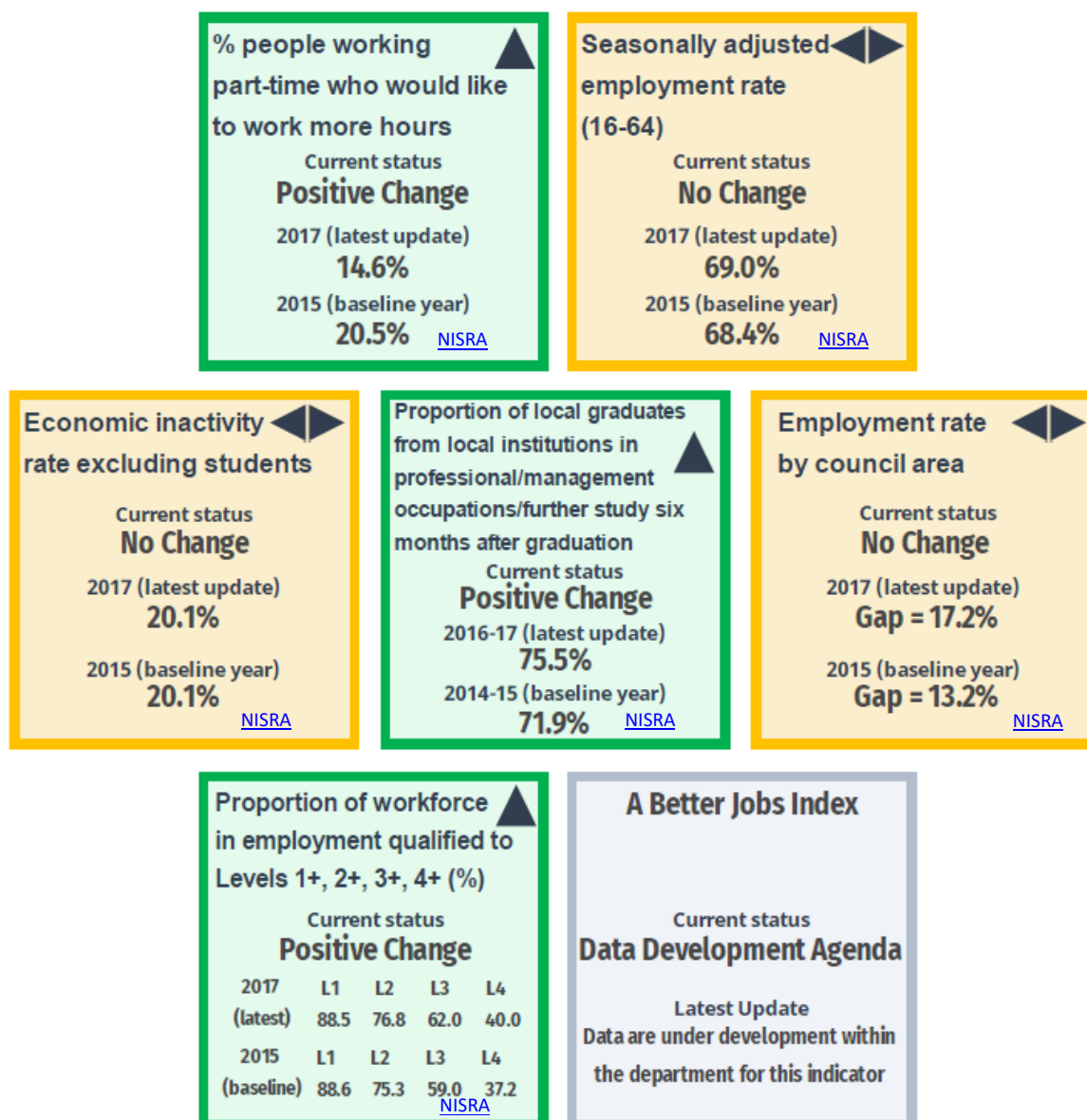
Outcome Update

This outcome is about endeavouring to build a successful economy through ensuring that more people are working in better jobs. Employment contributes to wealth and value added in the economy as a whole. It also brings a range of benefits to individuals and communities by increasing levels of health, confidence, self-respect and social inclusion. Access to a better job is important in addressing inequalities; work is one of the best routes out of poverty and is a vital component in building successful communities. In addition, it is essential that we have a workforce that is properly equipped and ready for employment and with appropriate skills for the marketplace.

Seven population indicators are used to quantify progress against this outcome:

- economic inactivity rate excluding students;
- proportion of the workforce in employment qualified to level 1 and above, level 2 and above, level 3 and above, and level 4 and above;
- seasonally adjusted employment rate (16-64);
- a better Jobs Index;
- percentage of people working part time who would like to work more hours;
- employment rate by council area; and
- proportion of local graduates from local institutions in professional or management occupations or in further study six months after graduation.

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Progress towards Outcome

Progress against this Outcome has generally been slower than we would like. There have been no meaningful changes to our economic inactivity or employment rates in recent years, and in both we fall well below the UK standard with considerable regional imbalances. The skills profile of our workforce continues to improve, but not quickly enough: our skills forecasts continue to show a significant supply gap for people in our workforce with higher level skills. Similar gradual improvements can be discerned in the proportion of our graduates finding work or further study six months after graduation, but this belies the fact that still too many of them are leaving Northern Ireland for those opportunities, or finding lower-skilled jobs.

We know that to bring about the desired improvements against this Outcome we need to do more to stimulate job creation in the private sector, through the encouragement of new business start-ups and the attraction of larger firms and foreign direct investment. We need to address our economic inactivity rates by showing people that work and study are the best routes out of poverty, and we need to identify more creative, flexible ways to up-skill our workforce beyond the traditional routes. That is why so many of the actions identified in the 2018/19 Delivery Plan for this Outcome revolve around matching educational provision to our actual skills needs, implementing innovative new skills programmes to complement traditional routes, creating new jobs, addressing regional employment imbalances, and supporting people to return to work.

Some highlights of the work we have undertaken in this regard during the first half of 2018-19 include:

- Phase 1 of the Peace4Youth Programme was successfully rolled out with 11 major projects run so far, supporting over 1,728 participants. The Programme is aimed at people who are disadvantaged, excluded or marginalised; have deep social and emotional needs; and are at risk of becoming involved in anti-social behaviour, violence or dissident activity. Early indications are that the independent Phase 1 evaluation will be satisfactory which will enable Phase 2 to commence by the end of March 2019.
- Following a second call for applications under the European Social Fund Programme, 69 additional projects with a total value of £168 million commenced in the first half of the year and will run until 31 March 2022. The programme has now supported 134 employment-related projects to improve employability and reduce the risk of social exclusion for over 1,600 participants furthest from the labour market.
- 3,390 Assisted Jobs have been supported during the year to date through Invest NI's interventions with companies, and 265 companies are receiving employment-related support. Of the jobs promoted, 2,438 pay salaries above the NI Private Sector Median which is currently £21,159.

While we are pleased with the progress we have made, it is clear that significant challenges remain. Addressing our economic inactivity problem will rely on creating high value jobs but also convincing people that work truly is the best route out of poverty through, for example, high quality careers advice and the full roll-out of Universal Credit. Improving the skills profile of our workforce will require us not only to invest in skills provision through a wide range of delivery routes, but to also do more to target those specific skills areas which our economy needs most. And the final terms of the UK's withdrawal from the EU could have considerable implications for efforts to progress towards this outcome.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

Action	Progress Update
Increase the proportion of graduates qualifying from NI Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) with an economically relevant STEM qualification	In 2015/16, 22.8% of qualifications gained by students at NI HEIs were in 'Narrow STEM' related subjects - this is from a 2008 baseline of 18%. This increased again to 23.1% in 2016/17.
FE Sector will ensure that:- - A minimum of 70% of all Full Time qualifications delivered will be in economically relevant STEAM areas - At least 30% of all Part Time qualifications delivered will be in economically relevant STEAM areas	2018/19 academic year validated data not yet available.
40% of regulated enrolments in FE colleges will come from the two most deprived quintiles	Validated data for the 2018/19 academic year is not available.
Implement the Apprenticeships and Youth Training Strategies Implementation Programme, including in 2018/19: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting circa 450 apprentices at Levels 4 and 5 in conjunction with the Further Education Sector and CAFRE; • introducing circa 100 Higher Level Apprenticeship opportunities at Level 6; • supporting circa 5,500 apprentices (programme leavers) to achieve targeted qualifications; and • supporting circa 4,000 young people (programme leavers) to achieve targeted qualifications 	<p>Most recent data (relating to academic year Aug 17 - July 18) indicates likelihood of targets being met.</p> <p>Official statistics for Higher Level Apprenticeship steady state level 4/5 provision, which commenced in the academic year 2017/18, will be available in February/March 2019.</p> <p>Higher Level Apprenticeship steady, state level 6 provision has not yet commenced.</p>
Deliver the Careers Strategy 'Preparing for Success 2015-2020' action plan for 2018/19, which will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offer face to face, careers guidance interviews to all Year 12 pupils with the aim of accessing at least 95% of pupils in their final year of compulsory education; and • deliver careers guidance to at least 12,000 adults through the delivery channel which best meets their needs including face to face interviews, webchat and telephony 	<p>Target of 95% achieved for 2017/2018 Academic year.</p> <p>Data for careers guidance to adults not yet available.</p>
Successful roll-out of Phase 1 of the Peace4Youth Programme to up to 1,875 marginalised 14–24 year olds and subject to satisfactory evaluation of Phase 1, commencement of Phase 2 by the end of March 2019	Further progress towards the successful roll-out of Phase 1 with >1,700 participants engaged with Peace4Youth at 30 September 2018. Early indications are that the independent Phase 1 evaluation will be satisfactory which will enable Phase 2 to commence by end

Action	Progress Update
	March 2019.
<p>Through the European Social Fund assist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 550 unemployed people into employment; • Over 600 economically inactive people into employment, education or training; • Over 1,000 NEETs into employment, education or training; and • Over 450 participants with disabilities into employment, education or training. 	<p>By 31 March 2018 the ESF has progressed:</p> <p>227 unemployed into employment; 356 economically inactive into employment, education or training; 353 NEETs into employment, education or training; 1,411 participants with disabilities into employment, education or training; 167 NEETs in CFSP into employment, education or training.</p>
<p>Through the 'Local Works' approach, and working with all 11 councils, and their community partners, develop a localised approach to employability by better matching supply and demand, creating pathways for those who need additional support to find and sustain a good job</p>	<p>The Community Planning process has been utilised to drive forward our engagement and by the end of September 2018, the Department for Communities, (alongside colleagues from the Department for the Economy) is now a key partner on four Councils Employability and Skills forums. We have also been able to bring our combined resources together collaboratively to establish sector specific academies to help create employment and skills pipelines such as Hospitality and Construction. Partnership working has also allowed other activities such as job fairs to be targeted on a more local basis.</p>
<p>Complete the roll-out of Universal Credit</p>	<p>The implementation schedule for Universal Credit is on track for completion in early December 2018. As of the 19 September 2018, there are 25 live Universal Credit offices, with plans for another 10 offices to be live by 5th December 2018. There are currently 15,310 claims and 17,234 claimants accessing the UC service.</p>
<p>We will offer all new benefit claimants with a health condition or disability a Health & Work Conversation to help them make decisions about a possible return to work at some point</p>	<p>The Service has been introduced to all 35 Jobs & Benefits offices; by end December 2018, all Universal Credit Work Coaches will have been trained to deliver a Health and Work Conversation. The attachment of Work Psychologists to each office providing support to staff is complete and a number of capability building workshops have been held supporting front line staff to develop confidence and ability to support customers with health and disability support needs.</p>
<p>Support 17,600 people through</p>	<p>From April 2018 to August 2018 we</p>

Action	Progress Update
employability programmes including programmes for people with health conditions and/or disabilities	have supported 13,777 people through our five employability programmes to assist people to remain in work or to progress into work. Latest figures show that 28% of participants are moving into employment. Our disability employment support Programmes up to the end of August have helped 2259 people retain their employment.
Secure 4,000-6,000 new Total Assisted Jobs through Invest NI's interventions with companies of which a minimum of 2,400 will pay salaries above the NI Private Sector Median	3,390 new assisted jobs have been secured through our interventions with companies.

OUTCOME 7

We have a safe community
where we respect the law,
and each other

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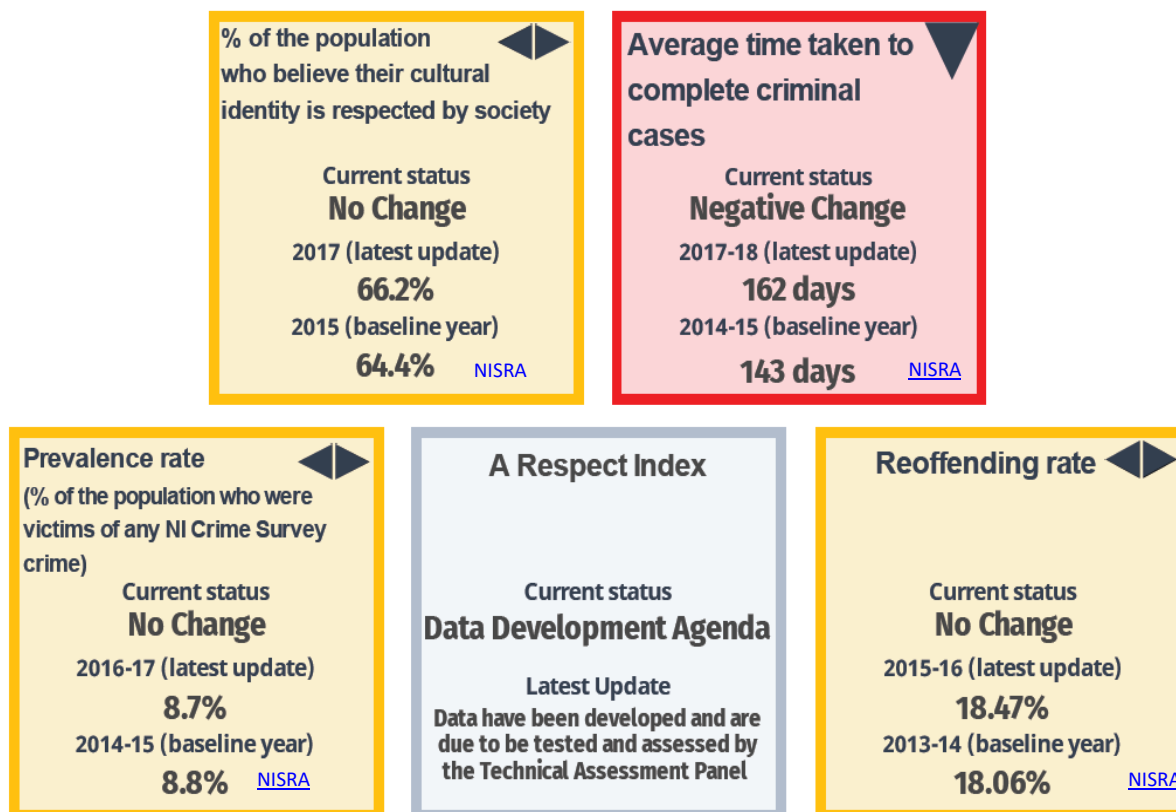
Outcome Update

Reducing crime, reducing reoffending and increasing respect and reconciliation collectively play a crucial role in creating a safe community and in diverting people, especially young people, from entering the justice system. Through this outcome we want to create an environment where people can feel safe and respected regardless of their background and beliefs. We also want to increase the degree to which we respect each other and what makes us unique. It is important that we address the harm and vulnerability caused by crime and reduce offending. We want to do this by helping and supporting people to change and assisting those in custody to make better life-choices when they are released. We also need to make the justice system better and 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.

Five population indicators are used to quantify progress against this outcome:

- Prevalence rate (percentage of the population who were victims of any NI Crime Survey crime);
- a Respect Index;
- Percentage of the population who believe their cultural identity is respected by society;
- Average time taken to complete criminal cases;
- Reoffending rate.

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Overall progress towards Outcome

Reducing crime and reoffending, increasing respect and reconciliation and increasing the effectiveness of the justice system work well as a package to support Outcome 7. Recognising that we are in the early days of a large programme of work, no advance has been made on three of the population indicators, data development is underway for the Respect Index and there has been slippage in the average time to complete criminal cases.

There are five Problem-Solving Justice (PSJ) pilots up and running, each at different stages and a scoping study is underway for a sixth initiative. It is too early at this stage to say whether or not these courts are changing people's lives but evidence from other jurisdictions indicates that these approaches can help to prevent people from reoffending.

Tackling the issue of avoidable delay in the justice system continues to be a challenge. In September DoJ published its latest statistical bulletin on case processing times for 2017/18. Although the headline figure did show a modest

improvement compared to last year, criminal cases are still taking too long with data showing slippage against the 2014/15 baseline figure. An interagency group from across the criminal justice system meets regularly to review progress and seeks to identify potential problem areas. In the coming months, DoJ will continue to work on embedding the new Indictable Cases Process (ICP) and extending the rollout of Proportionate Forensic Reporting (PFR) to cases involving cyber-crime (digital analysis of mobile phones, computers etc.). The Department will also deliver the recommendations contained in the report by the Northern Ireland Audit Office on Avoidable Delay and the speeding up justice recommendations contained in the Fresh Start Action Plan. Separately, DoJ continues to work with partners to implement and embed other initiatives aimed at speeding up the justice system.

It is recognised that a significant number of offenders have underlying health needs. The Departments of Health and Justice are working together to improve health outcomes for people in the criminal justice system. In the last six months, initiatives have been progressed which fall under three distinct areas of activity:

- collaborating with Social Care professionals to improve services for people in NI Prison Service (NIPS) care;
- delivering a renewed person-centred approach to support people at risk of suicide and/or self-harm; and
- completing Phase One of the joint Health and Justice Review of Vulnerable People in Custody.

We have made progress on a number of actions we undertook to deliver in 2018/19. These include:

- The Problem Solving Justice pilots have demonstrated the potential to reduce the number of short custodial sentences awarded by our courts.
- When compared against the average time taken for all Crown Court cases over the same period, ICP cases were completed approximately 46% faster.
- We are continuing progress towards delivery of the headline actions of the T:BUC Strategy:
 - the T:BUC Camps Programme has awarded funding to 130 successful applicants to deliver projects involving more than 4,700 young people from all District Council areas of Northern Ireland;
 - the remaining three shared neighbourhoods to complement the existing seven will be completed this year; and
 - 481 young people have participated in 35 projects under the 'Uniting Communities through Sport and Creativity Programme', which delivers cross community sport and cultural projects.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

An update on the progress of each action contained in the Outcomes Delivery Plan for outcome is provided in the table below.

Action	Progress Update
<p>Deliver a range of Problem Solving Justice (PSJ) initiatives and commence evaluations on the effectiveness of the pilot programmes.</p>	<p>Programme underway – a number of PSJ pilots are running, each at different stages and a scoping study is underway for a further initiative: Enhanced Combination Orders (292 handed down as of 18/9/2018) Substance Misuse Court (50 participants to date) Domestic Violence Perpetrator Programme (19 participants to date) Family Drug & Alcohol Court (11 families have participated to date) Mental Health Court (scoping study) Next stage – evaluation of the pilots.</p>
<p>Deliver the 2018/19 commitments within the Tackling Paramilitarism Action Plan.</p>	<p>Programme underway – work is underway to deliver a number of commitments, including: The Paramilitary Crime Taskforce achieved its first conviction for membership of a paramilitary organisation in September 2018. Recovery of criminal property/proceeds of crime represents over £1.3m of lost revenue prevented. The Ending the Harm campaign launched in October 2018; preceded by showings of the play, “Banjaxed” (supported by PCSPs); Delivery of the Aspire programme for young men, with over 160 statutory cases and 140 community referrals to date; Delivery of the Women in Community Transformation programme (over 500 women have completed phase 1); A youth outreach programme and capacity building programme for schools and youth workers is underway; and A number of projects on promoting lawfulness, including the Attorney General’s “It’s Your Law” and DfC pilot projects.</p>
<p>Work across government to develop new approaches to dealing with harm and vulnerability including the development of a healthy places programme in collaboration with local councils, and partners across community, voluntary and statutory organisations.</p>	<p>Programme underway: Four council areas have developed Support Hubs. Indicative evidence from the PSNI has shown that there has been a reduction in calls to the PSNI (varying between 12% and 63% across Support Hubs) from individuals after they have been assisted by the Support Hubs. Further data development work is ongoing.</p>

Action	Progress Update
Conduct an initial scoping of the possibility of transforming Woodlands Juvenile Justice Centre and Lakewood Secure Care Centre into a joint multi-purpose Care and Justice Campus.	Programme underway - a Programme Team has recently been recruited and will be fully operational from early December 2018.
Working across Government, develop a strategic approach, actions and activities to support ex-offenders into employment	Programme underway: One project is underway to produce a desk aid for frontline Jobs & benefits staff to help make them more aware of the support and assistance available to ex-offenders. Other projects are being developed.
Improve health within Prisons	Programme underway: Introduction of Supporting People At Risk (SPAR) Evolution in Magilligan Prison, Hydebank Wood College, and Hydebank Wood Female Prison, and in Newry, Dungannon and Laganside Courts. SPAR Evolution will be extended into selected areas within Maghaberry Prison in early December 2018. 68 female SPARS and 646 males SPARS opened since 1 April 2018. Evaluation will follow.
Embed the Indictable Cases Process (ICP).	Programme underway: 38 cases completed through the ICP by the end of September 2018 with a further 200 live ICP cases in the system. When compared against the average time taken for all crown Court cases over the same period, ICP cases were completed approximately 46% faster.
Extend the rollout of proportionate forensic reporting to cybercrime cases.	Programme underway: PSNI developed short reports for an analysis of digital evidence (PRF1 Digital); 36 officers trained; 397 PRF1s completed since 1 March 2018.
Publish performance data on the speed of the justice system.	Programme underway – the first statistical bulletin was published in January 2018 for the period of 2016-17, and the Department published a follow up bulletin covering the period of April 2017-18 in September 2018. The next bulletin will be published in September 2019.

Action	Progress Update
<p>Deliver the T:BUC strategy, including delivery of the seven headline actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish ten new shared education campuses; 2. Provide development opportunities to 10,000 young people not in education, employment or training through the Peace IV Youth programme; 3. Develop 3 new shared neighbourhoods to complement 7 previous developments; 4. Develop five Urban Villages; 5. Deliver 'Uniting Communities Through Sport and Creativity' – a significant programme of cross community sporting and cultural activities in 3 urban villages and 3 rural villages; 6. Aim to remove all interface barriers by 2023; and 7. Deliver over 100 T:BUC camps, to approximately 4,000 young people per annum. 	<p>Programme underway:</p> <p>9 shared education campuses projects at various stages of implementation with 2922 pupils and 170 full time teachers involved. 11 major projects are underway in the Peace IV Youth Programme involving 1,728 participants.</p> <p>41 shared houses completed under the shared neighbourhood programme and 3 new shared neighbourhoods will be completed this year. £6,835,000 allocated to c. 80 projects under the Urban Villages Programme to date this year.</p> <p>481 young people participated in 35 United Communities projects so far this year.</p> <p>130 T:BUC camps approved for funding with an estimated 4700 participants enrolled on 2018/19 programme.</p>
<p>Progress the PEACE IV programme to make real and lasting change on the four key themes of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shared Education initiatives; 2. Support for marginalised Children and Young People 3. Provision of new Shared Space and Services; and 4. Building Positive Relations with people from different communities and backgrounds. 	<p>Programme underway – as of August 2018, letters of offer for 82 projects had been accepted, allocating over €176m of funding across these areas of activity.</p>
<p>Implement actions under the Racial Equality Strategy.</p>	<p>Programme underway – this work is led by the Racial Equality Subgroup in conjunction with Racial Equality Champions across the NICS. It includes a review of the Minority Ethnic Development Fund, the introduction of ethnic impact assessment and work on Roma, Traveller and Gypsy issues. Work to revise and improve Northern Ireland's racial equality legislation is also well underway.</p>

OUTCOME 8

We care for others and we help those in need

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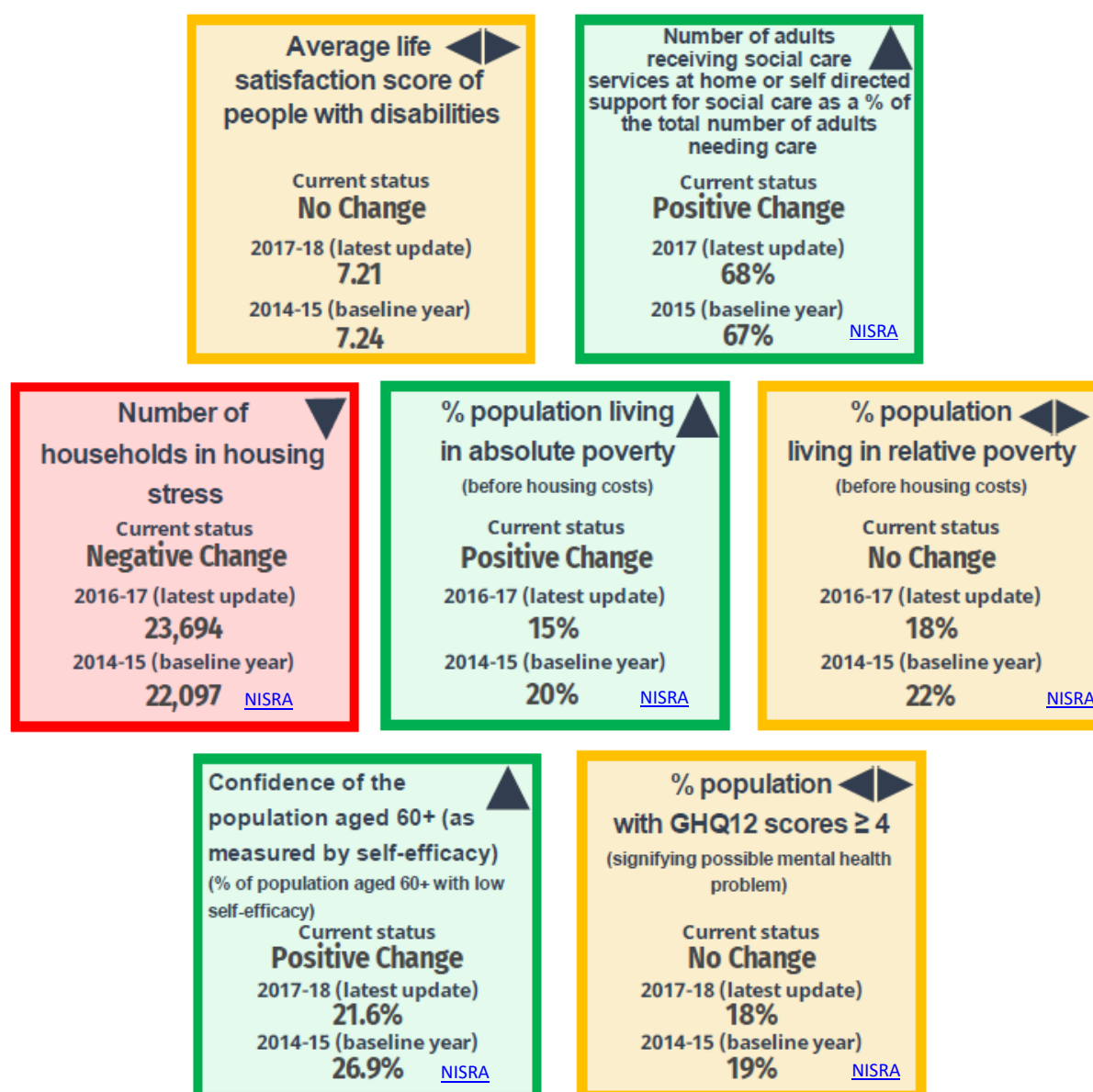
Outcome Update

The aim of this outcome is to ensure that all citizens in society are adequately supported to enable them to build self-confidence and capacity to live independent self-fulfilling lives. The focus is on helping those who are most vulnerable and to ensure that they have the means to help themselves to live their lives free from fear, discrimination, and exclusion.

Six population indicators are used to quantify progress against the outcome:

- Percentage of the population with GHQ12 scores ≥ 4 (signifying possible mental health problems);
- Number of adults receiving social care services at home or self-directed support for social care as a % of the total number of adults needing care;
- Percentage of the population living in absolute and relative poverty;
- Average life satisfaction score of people with disabilities;
- Number of households in housing stress; and
- Confidence of the population aged 60 years or older (as measured by self-efficacy).

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Overall progress towards Outcome

Good progress has been made towards this Outcome.

Positive change is being seen in the proportion of adults receiving social care or self-directed support who need it, and as of 1 April 2018 all Health and Social Care Trusts are Self-Directed Support operational. The recent figures on poverty indicate that the percentage of the population living in absolute poverty (before housing costs) has reduced from 20% in 2014/15 to 15% in 2016/17. But it remains a concern that there is no change in the percentage of people living in relative poverty (before housing costs). While we welcome the positives we have more to do through our

Programmes in directly tackling poverty and disadvantage through financial support and other assistance.

We continue to measure the life satisfaction score of people with disabilities, and recent figures suggest there is no change. While we have seen positive change in the population aged 60+ with low self-efficacy, we are aware that some older people continue to experience low self-efficacy and this is particularly prevalent in those living in the most deprived areas, women, those with disabilities and those with poor self-reported health. We will continue to develop initiatives which improve the quality of life for older people, for example the Make the Call Service.

We do however face a challenge in seeking to reduce the number of households in housing stress. While we are on target to deliver an additional 1,850 social home starts by March 2019, housing stress levels continue to rise – from 22,097 in 2014/15 to 23,694 at 31 December 2017. The scale of the stress and supply challenges in NI's housing sector require Government interventions that lever in the contributions of others in a more diverse way than is currently the case. The Department for Communities continues to explore innovative ways to address the challenge of increasing housing stress levels within the wider context of improving housing supply.

We are making good progress in the actions we undertook to deliver during 2018/19. Some highlights include:

- From 1 April 2018 to 31 August 2018 we supported 13,777 people through our five employability programmes to remain in work or progress into work. The latest figures indicate that 28% of participants are moving into employment. Aligned with this, our disability employment support programmes have helped 2,259 people retain their employment (as at 31 August 2018);
- By 31 August 2018, the Make the Call Wraparound Service had spoken to or visited 25,959 people and have identified 11,349 of those have a potential entitlement to additional benefits or services;
- As a result of Department for Communities investment in Special Olympics Ulster, 32 new athletes have been recruited, 20 new volunteers recruited and trained to support club activities with an additional 55 volunteers supporting fundraising activities. 19 places have been secured for Team Ulster athletes on Team Ireland for the World Games in Abu Dhabi in March 2019 at which the athletes will compete across 10 Sports. This continued support helps provide physical activity and sports opportunities for people of all ages with special educational needs; and

- We have allocated funding to provide various sign language courses to 34 hearing families of deaf children to develop early sign language acquisition to improve deaf children's chances of academic achievement and better life outcomes generally, including courses for homework support for 10 children of deaf adults. We are also providing deaf awareness and sign language courses for approximately 630 pupils, staff and parents in 23 cross sectoral schools at primary and secondary levels.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

Action	Progress Update
Reach 55,000 people through the Make the Call Wraparound Service to ensure that individuals and families are receiving all of the social security benefits they are entitled to.	25,959 people spoken to or visited by the Make the Call team with 11,349 of those having a potential entitlement to additional benefits or services.
Provide assistance through social security benefits (approx. £6bn in 2018/19) to individuals and families in our society that require financial support. This will be achieved through the delivery of a suite of important welfare benefits including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State pension; • Disability Living Allowance; • Employment Support Allowance; • Jobseekers Allowance; • Carers Allowance; and • The roll out of Universal Credit throughout Northern Ireland 	From April to June 2018 £1,476m of financial support provided to people, families and communities through the social welfare system.
Support 17,600 people through employability programmes including programmes for people with health conditions and/or disabilities. These programmes include Steps to Success, Workable NI, Condition Management Programme, Access to Work and European Social Fund.	From April 2018 to August 2018 13,777 people supported through five employability programmes to remain in work or to progress into work. Latest figures indicate that 28% of participants are moving into employment.
Invest funding of approx. £10m to deliver a Child Maintenance Service, with the following key performance targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that at least 9 out of 10 parents are paying their child maintenance by 31 March 2019; and • Achieve 97% accuracy in its Child Maintenance Assessments by 31 March 2019. 	More than 9 out of 10 parents are paying their child maintenance and therefore making a financial contribution to their children's upkeep. Independent checking indicates that 97% of our maintenance assessments are accurate.

Action	Progress Update
<p>Invest funding of approximately £147m to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide an additional 1,850 new social home starts, of which 200 will be shared housing and 8% of new builds will be wheelchair accessible; • Support 750 first time buyers to purchase a new home through co-ownership or similar schemes; • Provide housing advice to 7,200 people and prevent homelessness in 450 cases through the Housing Rights Service; and • Support people to live independently through the Supporting People programme. The NI Housing Executive will provide £72.8m of support to approximately 17,000 households. 	<p>Progress is in line with expectations at this stage of the development programme - there are 114 social home starts while 10 Schemes with the potential to deliver 284 shared housing starts have been identified. There has been 484 acceptances for co-ownership or similar schemes, and 3784 homeless advice cases received with 205 prevention of homelessness outcomes.</p>
<p>During 2018/19 invest in special Olympics Ulster to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable the recruitment of 200 new athletes with learning disabilities and sensory impairments; • Recruit and train 150 new volunteers to support the athletes and their clubs; and • Provide coaching and competition support to 270 Ulster athletes participating in 14 different sporting disciplines at the Special Olympics Ireland games (June 2018) and 12 athletes competing at the World Games in Abu Dhabi (March 2019), including pre competition camps 	<p>32 new athletes have been recruited, 20 new volunteers recruited and trained to support club activities with an additional 55 volunteers supporting fundraising activities. 19 places have been secured for Team Ulster athletes on Team Ireland for the World Games in Abu Dhabi in March 2019 at which the athletes will compete across 10 Sports.</p>
<p>Deliver increased opportunities for participation and enjoyment for everyone in health enhancing physical activity and sport, with an emphasis on those with disabilities or learning and sensory impairments.</p> <p>This will be achieved through all 11 sporting hubs being fully operational</p>	<p>49 new specialist cycles distributed to the Disability hubs operated by the 11 District Councils. 11 Powerchairs delivered to the Irish Football Association to be used for the NI Powerchair Football programme. Six additional sites have been identified for pool pod installation in Phase 2.</p>

Action	Progress Update
<p>across Northern Ireland in 2018/19, additional equipment being supplied and additional pool pods being installed.</p>	
<p>Invest approximately £200k to support and develop BSL (British Sign Language) and ISL (Irish Sign Language) communities in a linguistic context, in order to improve access to services and promote respect and understanding of BSL/ISL.</p>	<p>Our funding is currently helping to provide various modes of Family Sign Language courses to 34 families with deaf children, 22 of which are being delivered at home. We are also providing a homework support club for 10 children of deaf adults, and deaf awareness and sign language courses for approximately 630 pupils staff and parents in 23 cross sectoral schools at primary and secondary levels.</p>
<p>Support the development of the Health & Social Care elements of the Regional Mental Trauma Network (the Network) including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit a Network Manager to drive the development of and co-ordinate the Network; • Recruit 10 additional therapists to begin to build the capacity of the HSC element of the Network; • Train 10 therapists to a Masters level in Cognitive Behavioural Therapy (CBT); and • Develop and implement a regional referral pathway which spans across statutory and non-statutory domains for all five Health & Social Care Trusts. 	<p>A Network Manager is now in post and the recruitment of therapists is now underway with a target date of March 2019 for recruitment to be completed in each HSC Trust.</p>
<p>Deliver the Northern Ireland Concessionary Fares Scheme which promotes accessible public transport for members of the community who are most at risk of social exclusion, through discounted and free fares.</p>	<p>Approx. 6.8m journeys were made by SmartPass holders between April and September 2018. The Department for Infrastructure is exploring how it can measure the impact that the Scheme has in reducing social isolation, improving accessibility and any additional benefits that the Scheme provides for its users.</p>

OUTCOME 9

We are a shared, welcoming and confident society that respects diversity

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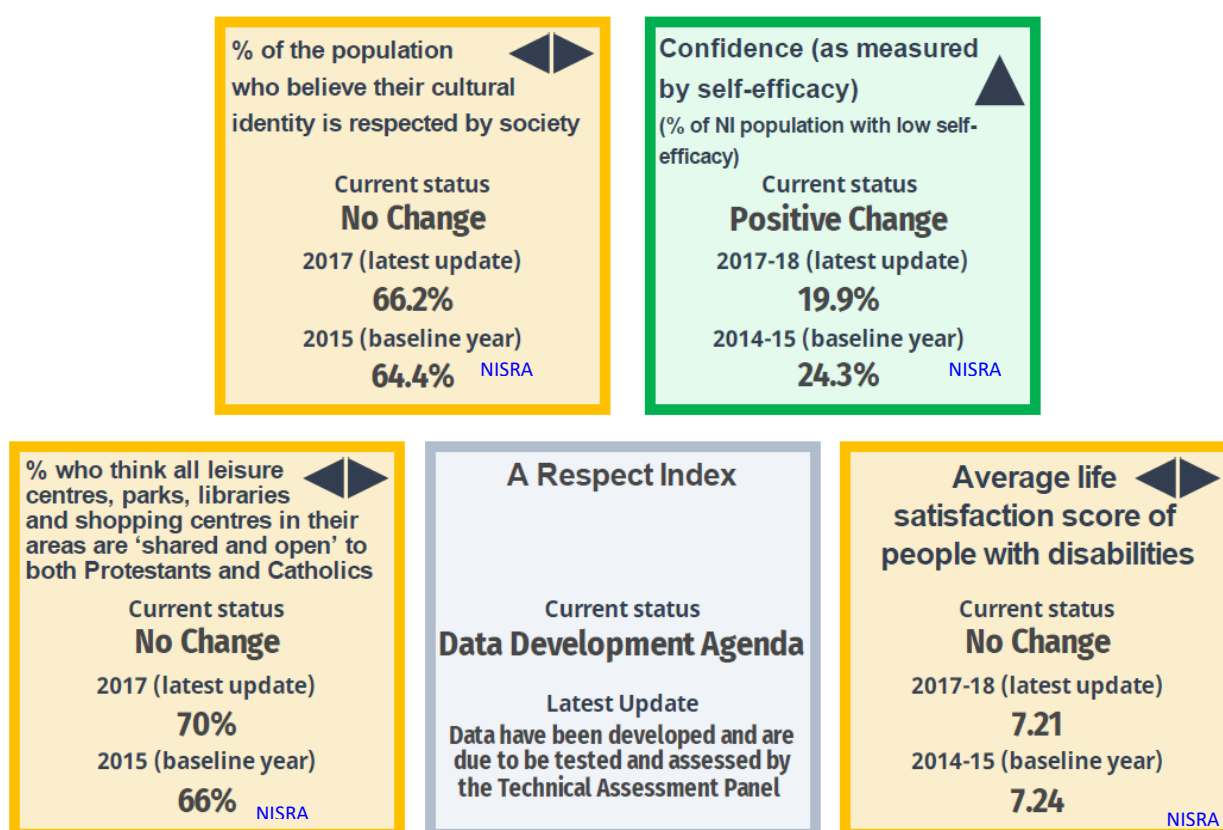
Outcome Update

The aim of this outcome is promote tolerance and resilience to help remove barriers to participation in society experienced by people with different religious belief, political opinion, racial group, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender, disability and whether they have dependents. The focus is on increasing respect and self-confidence of people and communities.

Five population indicators are used to quantify progress against the outcome:

- A respect index;
- Percentage of the population who think all leisure centres, parks, libraries and shopping centres in their areas are 'shared and open' to both Protestants and Catholics;
- Percentage of the population who believe their cultural identity is respected by society;
- Average lifetime satisfaction score of people with disabilities; and
- Confidence (as measured by self-efficacy).

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Overall progress towards Outcome

Progress towards achieving this outcome has been steady with trends remaining largely stable. The 2017 NI Life and Times Survey found that 70% of those asked said that leisure centres, parks, libraries and shopping centres were definitely shared and open to both Catholics and Protestants and is the highest figure recorded to date. This Survey also shows that 66% of people agree or strongly agree that their cultural identity is respected by society. There also has been no change in average life satisfaction for people with disabilities. Work is ongoing to develop a Respect Index, to provide a broader indication of people's attitudes towards and experiences of respect, which will further inform progress towards this outcome.

Some progress is being made on the confidence of the population (as measured by self-efficacy). The Continuous Household Survey outlines that the percentage of the NI population with low self-efficacy is falling. However, low self-efficacy is particularly prevalent in some of sections of society; including females, people living in the most deprived areas, people who are economically inactive, people with poor health, people without dependents, and people with disabilities. The Department for Communities continues to develop a number of interventions to build the confidence

and capabilities of these groups, for example the Digital Citizen Project jointly developed with and delivered by Libraries NI.

We are making good progress in the actions we undertook to deliver during 2018/19. Some highlights include:

- We are continuing the development of 17 Public Realm Schemes, 8 Environmental Improvement Schemes and 5 Revitalisation Schemes with capital spend during 2018/19 of £8.93m as at 30 September 2018. This includes the significant Portrush Public Realm Scheme which will be delivered ahead of the 148th British Open in Portrush in July 2019, including the construction of the new Portrush Train Station, in conjunction with Translink;
- We are continuing progress towards delivery of the headline actions of the T:BUC Strategy. The T:BUC Camps Programme has awarded funding to 130 successful applicants to deliver projects involving over 4,700 young people from all District Council areas of Northern Ireland. This year will see the completion of the remaining three shared neighbourhoods to complement the existing seven. £850,000 has been invested so far this year in the 'Uniting Communities through Sport and Creativity Programme' to deliver cross community sport and cultural projects; and
- We have allocated funding to provide various sign language courses to 34 hearing families of deaf children to develop early sign language acquisition to improve deaf children's chances of academic achievement and better life outcomes generally, including courses for homework support for 10 children of deaf adults. We are also providing deaf awareness and sign language courses for approximately 630 pupils, staff and parents in 23 cross sectoral schools at primary and secondary levels.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

Action	Progress Update
<p>Deliver the T:BUC strategy, including delivery of the seven headline actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish ten new shared education campuses; • Provide development opportunities to 10,000 young people not in education, employment or training through the PEACE IV Youth programme; • Develop three new shared neighbourhoods to complement seven previous developments; • Develop five Urban Villages; • Deliver 'Uniting Communities Through Sport and Creativity' – a significant programme of cross community sporting and cultural activities in three urban villages and three rural villages; • Aim to remove all interface barriers by 2023; and • Deliver over 100 T:BUC camps, to approximately 4,000 young people per annum. 	<p>Programme underway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 shared education campuses projects at various stages of implementation with 2922 pupils and 170 full time teachers involved. • 11 major projects are underway in the Peace IV Youth Programme involving 1,728 participants. • 41 shared houses completed under the shared neighbourhood programme and 3 new shared neighbourhoods will be completed this year. • £6,835,000 allocated to approx. 80 projects under the Urban Villages Programme to date this year. • 481 young people participated in 35 United Communities projects so far this year. • 130 T:BUC camps approved for funding with an estimated 4700 participants enrolled on 2018/19 programme.
<p>Support ambitious initiatives to build capacity in communities in transition in eight geographic areas identified as those most affected by paramilitary influence or coercive control.</p>	<p>The Tackling Paramilitarism Programme have completed a new 13 question survey to gather data on the perceptions of paramilitary influence. A public awareness campaign has been delivered via television, radio and social media.</p>
<p>Deliver actions under the PEACE IV programme in support of community cohesion, with a particular impact on the most socially and economically excluded people through interventions in good relations, training and education, including in relation to:</p>	<p>Programme underway – as of August 2018, letters of offer for 82 projects had been accepted, allocating over €176m of funding across these areas of activity.</p>

Action	Progress Update
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared Education – provision of direct, sustained, curriculum based contact between pupils and teachers from all backgrounds through collaboration between schools from different sectors. • Children & Young People – capacity building actions to support children and young people to form positive and effective relationships with others of a different background and make a positive contribution to building a cohesive society. • Shared Spaces & Services - increased provision of shared spaces and services. <p>Building Positive Relations - promoting positive relations at a local and a regional level, characterised by respect, and celebration of cultural diversity and people learning and socialising together, free from prejudice, hate and intolerance.</p>	
<p>Implement actions under the Racial Equality Strategy and review the Minority Ethnic Development Fund to ensure it meets the changing needs of the minority ethnic sector.</p>	<p>Programme underway. It includes a review of the Minority Ethnic Development Fund, the introduction of ethnic impact assessment and work on Roma, Traveller and Gypsy issues. Preparatory work to revise and improve Northern Ireland's racial equality legislation is also well underway.</p>
<p>To progress 14 Public Realm Environmental Improvement and Revitalisation Schemes including a flagship project in Portrush to help prepare the town for the influx of visitors for the Open Golf Tournament in July 2019.</p>	<p>Development is continuing on 17 Public Realm, 8 Environmental Improvement, and 5 Revitalisation Schemes. Portrush Public Realm Scheme on course to be completed in advance of the 2019 British Open Golf Tournament.</p>
<p>Invest funding of approx. £21.5m to support a range of neighbourhood renewal projects in 36 areas.</p>	<p>263 Neighbourhood Renewal Projects are currently ongoing with a total spend of £7,239k (as at 30 September 2018).</p>
<p>Deliver increased opportunities for</p>	<p>49 new specialist cycles distributed to the Disability Hubs operated by the</p>

Action	Progress Update
<p>participation and enjoyment for everyone in health enhancing physical activity and sport, with an emphasis on females, older people and people with disabilities.</p> <p>This will be achieved through programming activities at the disability sporting hubs across the 11 Council areas and through the 6 Active Fit and Sporty female participation projects targeting young girls, students, sports clubs, older people and people with disabilities.</p>	<p>11 District Councils. 11 Powerchairs delivered to the Irish Football Association to be used for the NI Powerchair Football programme. Six additional sites have been identified for pool pod installation in Phase 2.</p> <p>The 6 Active, Fit & Sporty Projects have (up to 12 September 2018) delivered 71 enabling projects/programmes and engaged 2,468 inactive female participants in sport/physical activity. Of this number 50% were girls aged 14-25; 10% were females with a disability; and 4% of women aged 50 or over.</p>
<p>Invest approximately £200k to support and develop BSL (British Sign Language) and ISL (Irish Sign Language) communities in a linguistic context, in order to improve access to services and promote respect and understanding of BSL/ISL.</p>	<p>Our funding is currently helping to provide various modes of Family Sign Language courses to 34 families with deaf children, 22 of which are being delivered at home. We are also providing a homework support club for 10 children of deaf adults, and deaf awareness and sign language courses for approximately 630 pupils staff and parents in 23 cross sectoral schools at primary and secondary levels.</p>

OUTCOME 10

We have created a place
where people want to live
and work, to visit and invest

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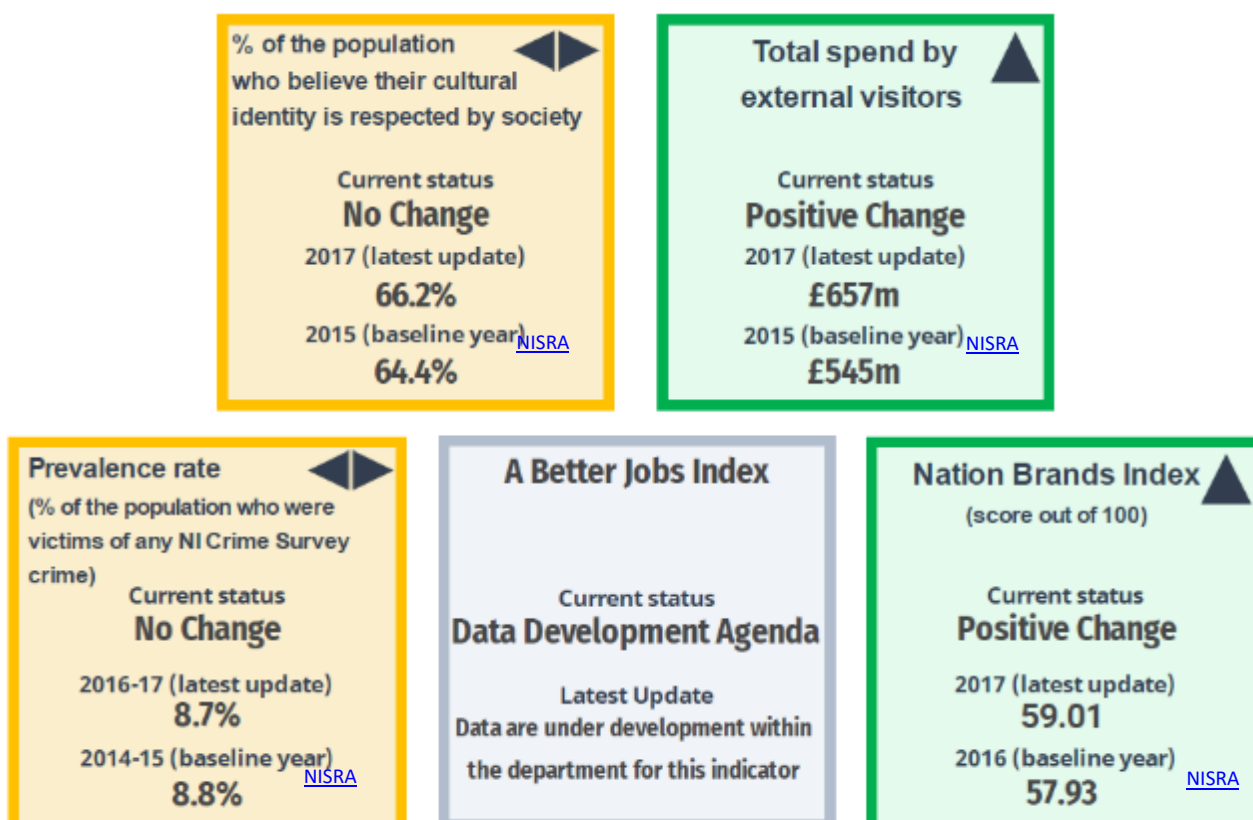
Outcome Update

We are clear that creating a place that people want to live and work in, where people feel safe from crime and where diversity is respected, will lead to increased wellbeing. We will do that by respecting diversity, building international relations, increasing tourism, reducing crime, generating attractive employment opportunities and making Northern Ireland an attractive place to visit.

Five population indicators are used to quantify progress against this outcome:

- Percentage of the population who believe their cultural identity is respected by society;
- Total spend by external visitors;
- Prevalence rate (percentage of the population who were victims of any NI Crime Survey crime);
- a Better Jobs Index; and
- Nation Brands Index.

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Progress towards Outcome

Progress on our work to make Northern Ireland a place where people want to live, work, visit and invest has been mixed. While it is encouraging to see positive change in our international reputation and total spend by external visitors, progress is slower on reducing the prevalence of crime and increasing the proportion of the population who believe their cultural identity is respected by society. We know that to bring about the desired improvements against this outcome we need to do more to improve community and international relations, build our tourism industry, tackle crime and improve the quality and scope of jobs. The Together: Building a United Community (T:BUC) strategy and its activities is a cornerstone of respecting diversity. For example, its Shared Housing Programme has created 7 new shared housing developments, with a further 3 due by March 2019, and the Urban Villages Initiative is fostering positive identities, building community capacity and opening up and connecting communities with a history of deprivation and tension in order to improve relations within and between communities.

More can and is being done though, with work ongoing to review and improve the Minority Ethnic Development Fund and Northern Ireland's racial equality legislation. There has been a positive change in international perceptions of Northern Ireland as evidenced by our Nations Brands Index score.

The NI Bureau in China, Brussels and Washington are proactively working with target countries and local delivery partners to develop and take forward programmes of activity to build relationships, raise our profile and strengthen our international economic position, supporting investment, trade, tourism, education and research, all of which aid delivery of the International Relations Strategy (IRS). For example, the NI Bureau, China successfully lobbied to help secure market access for NI pork and dairy produce there, opening up markets with the potential to generate sales of £20 million per year.

The positive change in total spend by external visitors (increased to £657 million in 2017) suggests initiatives by our tourism bodies, the tourism and hospitality industry itself, and key stakeholders in business and local government on improving tourism products, are working to position Northern Ireland as a must-see destination. This is further evidence by Belfast and the Causeway Coastal Route being named Lonely Planet's *Number One Region in the World to visit in 2018*.

To encourage engagement with our cultural heritage sites, particularly during the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018, the Department for Communities (DfC), Tourism NI (TNI), the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the Arts Council and the British Council worked closely and supported 9 projects with £500k of grant funding. DfC

delivered 10 related events by the end of September with the European Heritage Open Days attracting some 73,000 visitors – a 13% increase on the previous year. Reducing crime and increasing respect and reconciliation are important contributory factors in creating a place where people want to live and work, visit and invest. Whilst meaningful change cannot be made overnight, we are continuing to focus on actions and interventions aimed at diverting people, especially young people, from entering the justice system and establishing an environment where people feel safe and respected regardless of their background and beliefs. The Reducing Crimes Outcomes Group has agreed a programme of work based on developing people and placed based approaches and create a better understanding of citizen contacts with the Criminal Justice System.

The number of employee jobs in NI increased to a new high of 765,100 in June 2018. Progress in 2018/19 to date shows that 3,390 Assisted Jobs have been supported through Invest NI interventions with companies, and 265 companies are receiving employment-related support. Of the total assisted jobs, 1,706 are associated with 21 projects supported with externally-owned companies, ten of which are new to Northern Ireland and 2,438 pay salaries above the NI Private Sector Median.

There are potential challenges to continuing to create new jobs and increase business activity arising from a lack of availability of sufficient skilled workers in the labour market. The skills challenges include insufficient supply of Levels 4, 5 and 6 in relevant subjects, the needs of employers for employability skills, reskilling and upskilling of the workforce, and for leadership and management skills. Priority industrial sectors are also highlighting increasing difficulties in recruiting suitably skilled graduates.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

Action	Progress Update
<p>Deliver the T:BUC strategy, including delivery of the seven headline actions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establish ten new shared education campuses; 2. Provide development opportunities to 10,000 young people not in education, employment or training through the Peace IV Youth programme; 3. Develop three new shared neighbourhoods to complement seven previous developments; 4. Develop five Urban Villages 5. Deliver 'Uniting Communities Through Sport and Creativity' – a significant programme of cross community sporting and cultural activities in three urban villages and three rural villages; 6. Aim to remove all interface barriers by 2023; and 7. Deliver over 100 T:BUC camps, to approximately 4000 young people per annum. 	<p>Programme underway:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 9 shared education campuses projects at various stages of implementation with 2922 pupils and 170 full time teachers involved. 2. 11 major projects are underway in the Peace IV Youth Programme involving 1,728 participants. 3. 41 shared houses completed under the shared neighbourhood programme and 3 new shared neighbourhoods will be completed this year. 4. £6,835,000 allocated to c. 80 projects under the Urban Villages Programme to date this year. 5 Urban Villages; over 3,000 participants reporting positive changes in behaviour; over 4,000 reporting improved attitudes and opinions to those of different backgrounds. 5. 481 young people participated in 35 United Communities projects so far this year. 6. Renovation has been approved for a playpark at Serpentine Road and removal of an interface fence. 7. 130 T:BUC camps approved for funding with an estimated 4700 participants enrolled on 2018/19 programme.
<p>Progress the PEACE IV programme to make real and lasting change on the four key themes of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Shared Education initiatives; 2. Support for marginalised Children and Young People 3. Provision of new Shared Space and Services; and 4. Building Positive Relations with people from different communities and backgrounds. 	<p>Programme underway – as of August 2018, letters of offer for 82 projects had been accepted, allocating over €176m of funding across these areas of activity.</p>
<p>Implement actions under the Racial Equality strategy.</p>	<p>Programme underway –it includes a review of the Minority Ethnic Development Fund, the introduction of ethnic impact assessment and work on Roma, Traveller and Gypsy issues. Preparatory work to revise</p>

Action	Progress Update
	and improve Northern Ireland's racial equality legislation is also well underway.
<p>Deliver the International Relations Strategy by: arranging overseas visits on behalf of Departments, and hosting inward visits. Participants will have a focussed message on Northern Ireland's attractiveness as a location for investment, partnership, events or to visit.</p>	<p>International Relations Strategy being delivered by: NI Bureau China which; successfully lobbied to help secure market access for NI pork and dairy produce to China, opening up markets with sales potential of £20mn per year; significantly advanced preparations for NI delegation to attend UK-China Regional Leader's Summit, Dalian (Oct 2018); and helped negotiate 6 formal partnerships with China. NIB Washington which hosted 35 events to engage with political contacts, universities and businesses across North America to promote NI. NIB Brussels which secured 21 meetings with EU officials enabling NI departments to ensure NI interests reflected in discussions on various policy areas. (Data on impact of work of NI Bureau is under development) Successfully delivering 17 inward visits to NI by senior foreign government and diplomatic representatives with 100% confirming visit met objectives.</p>
<p>Deliver international sales and marketing campaigns.</p>	<p>Invest NI continues to deliver International Sales & Marketing campaigns in strategically important territories. This includes activity to promote NI at various international events and a geo-targeted general awareness campaign which includes Programmatic and Direct TV, Radio, Digital, SEO, and Social Media. Campaign messaging split between Trade and FDI as appropriate.</p>
<p>Run tactical marketing programmes.</p>	<p>Tourism Ireland launched its 2018 spring campaign in GB, North America, France, Germany and other markets across the world. Key themes included NI Game of Thrones Territory, Home of Champions for golf in the lead up to The Open 2019 as well as Lonely Planet 'Best in Travel Award' for Belfast and the Causeway Coast. Tourism NI intend to run</p>

Action	Progress Update
	marketing campaigns domestically in Northern Ireland and for the Republic of Ireland market in autumn 2018 and spring 2019.
Host events of scale, including preparations for the 2019 Open Championship.	Preparations for the 148th Open, Portrush, are well advanced. Marketing campaign has been very successful with all tickets for the four Championship Days sold. NI has received extensive positive PR in relation to being a destination within the context of hosting the event. Industry is reporting large volumes of accommodation sales. Regeneration project in Portrush is underway, including public realm, new train station and Revitalisation schemes.
Provide a programme of activities to attract visitors to NI heritage sites.	The European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 has provided a catalyst for an unprecedented coming together of the Historic Environment Division (HED) of DfC, Tourism NI (TNI), the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the Arts Council and the British Council. A Leadership Group of these organisations was established early in 2018 to build upon research that identified significant potential to deepen and extend engagement with heritage sites by innovative cultural and arts programming. HED, HLF and TNI have provided grant support (£500k) to encourage 9 such projects. They have also worked to encourage programmers in the sector to participate in the year and propose relevant events to the UK website (65 by end of September with most (51) promoted by the Discover NI website). DfC had delivered 10 related events by the end of September. One of these, European Heritage Open Days attracted 73,000 visitors – a 13% increase on the previous year.
Secure 4,000 - 6,000 new Total Assisted Jobs through Invest NI's interventions with companies.	3,390 new assisted jobs have been secured through our interventions with companies. Invest NI is on course to achieve this target.
Encourage increased entrepreneurial	Invest NI has encouraged

Action	Progress Update
<p>activity with the aim of increasing business start-ups and an increase in the number of businesses of scale by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting 10 - 15 High Potential Start-up (HPSU) companies with the potential to grow significant sales in global markets; • Identify and work with 10 - 12 'Pre-Scaling' companies to accelerate their Development; • Identify and work with 4 - 6 'Scaling' companies to accelerate their Development; and • Securing £25m - £35m investment by SMEs in their growth and development through Access to Finance funds. 	<p>entrepreneurial activity by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting 10 new HPSUs. • securing £23m investment by SMEs as a result of Invest NI Access to Finance funds. • supporting 6 companies through 'Scaling' activity and on course to achieve target for supporting companies through 'Pre-scaling' activity.

OUTCOME 11

We connect people and opportunities through our infrastructure

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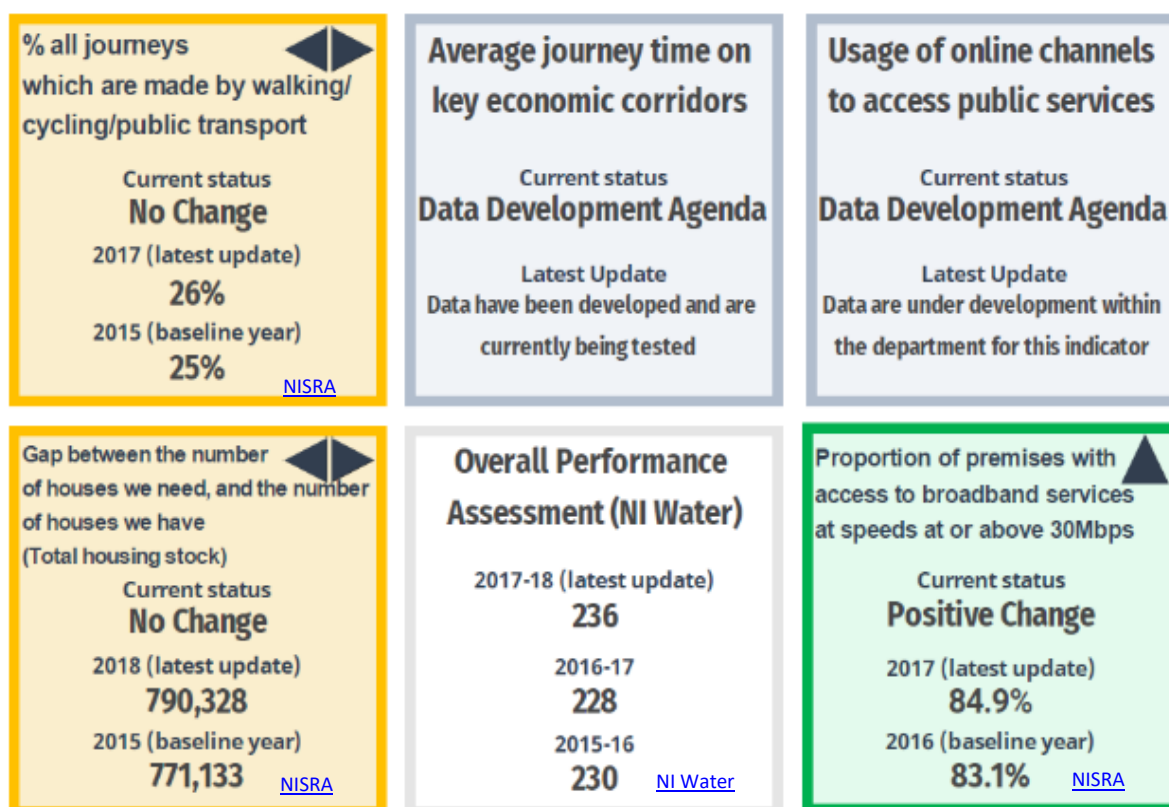
Outcome Update

Connected infrastructure directly impacts on wellbeing and quality of life for all our citizens providing the building blocks to enable economic prosperity, social cohesion and an improved environment for the entire region.

Six population indicators are used to quantify progress against this outcome:

- Average journey time on key economic corridors
- Percentage of all journeys which are made by walking/cycling/public transport
- Proportion of premises with access to broadband services at speeds at or above 30Mbps
- Usage of online channels to access public services
- Overall Performance Assessment (NI Water)
- Gap between the number of houses we need, and the number of houses we have.

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Overall progress against Outcome

This period has seen evidence of significant effort to progress this outcome and “turn the curve”. We are now focused on identifying “Is anyone better off” as a result, and while it is too early to measure impact in most areas, it is extremely positive to see a position change in the proportion of premises with access to broadband services at speeds at or above 30 Mbps. We are working on improving access further through the NI Broadband Improvement Project and Superfast Roll out Programme. Good progress has also been made on the preparatory work to enable the procurement of future proofed broadband services using the funding provided as part of the Confidence and Supply Agreement.

In the case of both average journey times on key economic corridors and usage of online channels to access public services, we are developing and testing the data to allow us to measure impact. Northern Ireland Water is on track to achieve its Overall Performance Assessment score in 2018/19.

One of the particular challenges associated with this outcome is “turning the curve” on how people choose to travel. A shift away from the use of the private car will require significant investment in public transport, walking and cycling infrastructure, as well as emphasis on behavioural change. However, the early success of the Glider, which has seen an increase of 33,000 journeys per week, demonstrates that a shift is possible where the public transport offering is an attractive one.

We have challenged ourselves to work differently. For example on housing, the team is planning an Innovation Lab (involving a wide range of key local and international stakeholders) to inform development of a Supply Strategy to overcome obstacles with a view to achieving agreed outcomes in the longer term. In partnering to build a skilled workforce, Translink has collaborated with Belfast City Council to deliver the ‘Buy Social’ clauses during the construction and engineering phase of the Weavers Cross project. The partnership will see the creation of a Construction Employment Academy to provide information, training and on-going support to potential new entrants in nearby communities for these construction jobs.

However, the absence of ministers has reduced the ability to make progress in some areas, for example, the A5 project. Taking cognisance of legal advice, recent Court decisions and the provisions of the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation and Exercise of Functions) Act 2018 we decided that it was not in the public interest to continue defending the legal challenge to this project and as a result the Court quashed the decision to proceed with the scheme and the associated Direction and Vesting Orders on 16 November 2018. At the point where a decision is ready to be made, and if we are still without ministers, the Department will consider whether to issue a decision to proceed with the scheme, taking account of the provisions of the

above mentioned act and the associated guidance issued by the Secretary of State. Subject to these considerations and any further issues that emerge, construction works on the first phase of the A5 project could commence in late 2019.

In overall terms, we can say that the availability of funding is a constraining factor.

Having said that, we have achieved good progress in many of the actions we undertook to deliver. Some of the highlights include:

- The delivery on time and within budget of the Belfast Rapid Transit system which has been co-designed with older people and disabled people taking account of their access needs.
- The improvements made on the Comber Greenway, with a 2km widening scheme now complete. There has also been partnership working with local government, including plans to construct a pedestrian/cycle bridge connecting the Greenway to Dundonald Entertainment Complex, and with the Public Health Agency in developing detailed designs for a further eight Council greenway schemes.
- The progress made in social housing where we are on track to deliver 1850 new social housing starts before the end of this financial year and in excess of 900 Affordable Homes through support for the Co-Ownership.

We remain committed to maximising our impact, in particular through exploring new partnerships and ways of working. We will continue to keep a strong focus on how different groups are affected by and are benefitting from the improvements we want to deliver, particularly bearing in mind our responsibilities to promote equality of opportunity and to take account of the needs of rural communities.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

An update on the progress of each action contained in the Outcomes Delivery Plan for this outcome is provided in the table below.

Action	Progress Update
<p>Providing 1,850 new social home starts by March 2019 of which 200 will be shared housing and 8% will be wheelchair accessible;</p> <p>Supporting 750 first time home buyers to purchase a new home through Co-Ownership or similar schemes by March 2019; and</p> <p>Releasing two public sector sites for housing development.</p>	<p>On track to deliver 1850 new social housing starts before the end of this financial year and in excess of 900 Affordable Homes through support for the Co-Ownership Housing Association. There has been progress in developing an App to facilitate identification of and release of public sector land for housing.</p>
<p>Progressing the delivery of major road schemes including flagship projects such as:</p> <p>A6 Randalstown-Castledawson</p> <p>A6 Derry-Dungiven</p> <p>A5 New Buildings-North of Strabane</p>	<p>Scheme underway – Work commenced on the A6 Randalstown – Castledawson in June 2017 with 15km of road under construction. New pedestrian bridge and a new, larger Park and Ride opened at the Drumderg roundabout on the A6 at Toome.</p> <p>Scheme underway – Work commenced on the 25.5 km A6 Dungiven to Drumahoe section of this project in September 2018 with construction ongoing on 2.5kms, including a Park and Ride at Drumahoe.</p> <p>A5 Phase 1a New Buildings to North of Strabane – The Department conceded the legal challenge to its decision to proceed on the 16 November 2018.</p>
<p>Publish by autumn 2018 the Regional Strategic Network Transport Plan.</p>	<p>Under development – Commission initiated in February 2018 and technical tasks relating to evidence base have been completed. Formal governance has been established as part of the Programme of Transport Plans including SOLACE and the Councils.</p>
<p>Introducing the Belfast Rapid Transit (BRT) service, connecting East Belfast, West Belfast and Titanic Quarter via the city centre using new</p>	<p>This project has been successfully completed with 30 BRT vehicles and 18 feeder vehicles now in service. 102 halts have been built with</p>

Action	Progress Update
eco-friendly Glider vehicles carrying on average an additional 5,800 passengers per day (or circa 8m total passengers per annum by 2022).	100% of road infrastructure contracts completed.
Progressing the development of the Belfast Multi-Modal Transport Hub known as Weavers Cross (catering for 8-13m passenger journeys).	Programme underway - It is anticipated that the application will be at planning decision stage before the end of this calendar year.
Progressing the development of the North West Multi-Modal Transport Hub incorporating a new train terminus, bus stands, park and ride facility, bicycle parking and services.	Project underway - early-stage construction work on this project commenced on-site on 3 September 2018. This has added over 150 construction based jobs which will benefit the economy.
Develop the greenways programme including upgrading the Comber Greenway to include a pedestrian/cyclist bridge to Dundonald Ice Bowl along with new and upgraded walking and cycling linkages across Northern Ireland.	Work ongoing – There has been 0.45km of new/improved footways along with 9.8km of new/improved cycle-ways completed. We have achieved 100% of bicycle infrastructure designs in Belfast compliant with London Cycling Design Standards.
Completing transport strategies focusing on modal shift to public transport and active travel to be completed for all Council areas during 2018/19.	Under Development - Technical tasks relating to the evidence base for the Belfast Metropolitan Transport Strategy and the North West Transport Strategy are substantially complete. A Draft Transport Strategy for Fermanagh and Omagh has been developed while work programmes for the remaining Local Transport Strategies have been agreed.
Deliver the Active Schools Travel Programme which works with schools to encourage and promote children to travel more actively to school (cycling, walking, scooting/skating or by Park and Ride/stride/scoot).	In 17/18 289 schools (15,903 people) participated in the programme (up from 229 schools the previous year). In 16/17 there was a 25% increase in number of pupils who travel actively to schools at the end of the year compared to the start – in 17/18 there was a 29% increase.
Providing a further five services online; Increasing digital transactions by 25% (against current baseline of 15.2m since April 2014); and	Programme underway - The following new on line services have been delivered or currently under development; Legal Aid Management System, School Transfer and Enrolment and Appointments Booking. At October 2018 there have been over 19 million online transactions through NI Direct.

Action	Progress Update
<p>Increasing those that use online services by 2% (from a current baseline of 81%).</p>	<p>Whilst the percentage of our population who are now online is at an all-time high of 86% research shows 54% of respondents having used Government online services. Actions to make progress towards achieving increases are centred on a programme of digital inclusion activities called Go ON NI which targets the harder to reach sections of the community.</p>
<p>Commence a procurement process to reduce the gap of 12% of premises currently unable to access a broadband service of at least 30 Mbps using the Confidence and Supply agreement; and</p> <p>Developing a Digital Infrastructure Strategy for Northern Ireland.</p>	<p>Undertook an Open Market Review with industry suppliers to assess the number of premises unable to access a service of 30 Mbps or better. Completed pre-market engagement with industry suppliers to assess interest in project.</p> <p>Commenced engagement with MATRIX Panel to consider incorporating Digital Infrastructure Strategy into Digital ICT Report implementation.</p>
<p>Improve water and wastewater services by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upgrading 167 km of water mains and 12 km of the sewer network; • Alleviating low pressure problems for 159 properties; • Alleviating the risk of flooding at eight properties; and • Preventing intermittent pollution to watercourses at eight locations. 	<p>NI Water continues to invest in upgrading water mains and sewers to improve water supply and drinking water quality and to reduce pollution incidents and out-of-sewer flooding, particularly during periods of extreme weather. Progress in the first part of the year has been slow but this will pick up as the year goes on and it is worth noting that cumulative outturn against the 6 year PC15 target is on track to deliver.</p>

OUTCOME 12

We give our children and young people the best start in life

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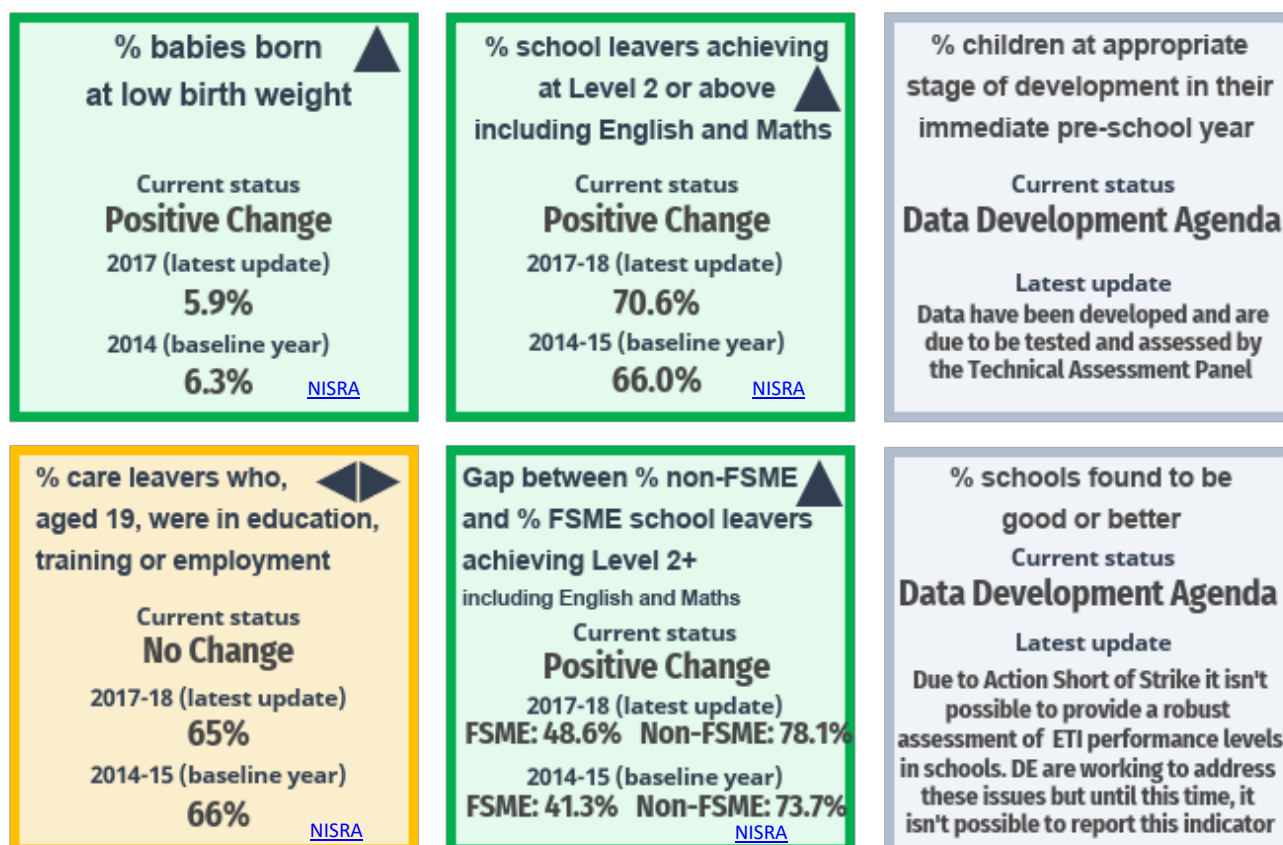
Outcome Update

Ensuring that our children grow up safe and happy and ready to fulfil their potential is a key responsibility of government and of society.

Six population indicators have been identified to determine progress on meeting this outcome. These are:

- Percentage of babies born at low birth weight
- Percentage of children at appropriate stage of development in their immediate pre-school year
- Percentage of schools found to be good or better
- Gap between the percentage of non-FSME school leavers and the percentage of FSME school leavers achieving at Level 2 or above including English and Maths
- Percentage of school leavers achieving at Level 2 or above including English and Maths
- Percentage of care leavers who, aged 19, were in education, training or employment

Progress against population indicators



Real-time graphical representations of the data for all of the indicators in the Outcomes Delivery Plan are available from the [Outcomes Viewer](#)

Progress towards Outcome

There has been mixed success in progressing towards this outcome.

Despite the many challenges facing the education sector in Northern Ireland, it is pleasing that educational attainment continues to improve year on year, as evidenced by the positive data for educational attainment at Level 2 or above including English and Maths. We are also making progress in our efforts to close the gap in educational attainment between those entitled to free school meals and those who are not entitled.

Due to Action Short of Strike (ASOS) among teachers, it has not been possible to collect a sufficient volume of inspection outcomes to provide a robust assessment of Education and Training Inspectorate performance levels in schools. This is why inspection outcomes were not published in the latest Chief Inspector's Report 2016-18. As a result, it is not possible to update the measure for the Programme for Government Indicator 13 – '% of schools evaluated and found to be good or

better'. The Department of Education is working separately to address issues relating to ASOS and when these are resolved it will result in a better evidence base.

There are strong correlations between what happens in the earliest years in life and future experience of health and wellbeing and other life outcomes. Delivering progress in this outcome is therefore dependent on effective collaboration across government and on genuine partnerships with parents, families and other support workers and carers. This was recognised in the Children's Services Co-operation Act (Northern Ireland) 2015, which has placed a duty on authorities to work together in the best interests of children and young people. This provides a focus for us in moving forward.

We are, for example, working on a 3+ Review initiative which involves collaboration between education and health practitioners aimed at giving parents valuable information on their child's development, including in relation to cognitive and emotional needs and, where necessary, appropriate referral to support services at an early stage. The initiative is on track to reach its target of 60% of all children in Department of Education funded pre-school education settings by the end of the 2018/19 academic year.

The Department of Education is delivering the Getting Ready to Learn (GRtL) programme with over 77% of pre-school education settings participating in the programme. The programme is the result of a successful collaboration with health professionals, including health visitors, speech and language therapists, physiotherapists and occupational therapists who have linked with pre-school education providers to share their knowledge and expertise. Through this programme parents are supported to establish and maintain positive home learning environments and to become more involved in their child's overall development. During 2017/18, the GRtL programme reached more than 13,300 families and delivered very positive results in terms of building parental knowledge of the pre-school curriculum and how they can support their children's learning and development at home.

The Department of Health has recently launched a transformation programme aimed at reforming a range of services, including those relating to children's and family social services. It includes putting greater emphasis on early intervention and prevention and contains plans for a service review and reform programme along the continuum of children's and family services.

The Department of Health is taking forward a range of projects relating to the following areas:

- **Pre-care and/or Edge of care:** aimed at keeping children safely out of care and to ensure that decisions about whether they will enter care are made without

unnecessary delay. Some of the more innovative projects include trialing a new way of working with women who have had a number of children taken into care (the Pause project) and trialing a new Family Drugs and Alcohol Court to support families to keep their children from entering care.

- **In-care:** building the capability and capacity of the residential care workforce to better meet the growing complexity of need demonstrated by children placed in its care. Projects include the establishment of peripatetic support teams in each Health and Social Care Trust to support children in residential care; recruitment of new specialist foster carers across all 5 Trusts; and establishment of a number of foster care Hubs (the Mockingbird Model) on a trial basis.
- **After care:** focusing on how to best support families and young people beyond their time in care and to help them towards independent living. One particular project relating to this stage includes trialing a different housing offer for 16/17 year olds when they present as, or are at risk of being, homeless.

Progress against 2018/19 actions

Action	Progress Update
Provide targeted support for pregnant women identified as being at risk of delivering low birth weight babies through increased foetal monitoring and support for reducing smoking, overweight and obesity in pregnancy.	<p>In the first quarter of 2018 485 low birth weight babies were born, with 261 identified as at risk antenatally, i.e. a 54% detection rate.</p> <p>Mothers at risk are referred for increased fetal monitoring, and support for reducing smoking, overweight and obesity.</p> <p>Data is being developed to identify number and % babies referred on to appropriate care during the antenatal period being born at healthy weight.</p>
Increase participation on the Family Nurse Partnership.	<p>This is a rolling programme for first time teenage mothers. In 2017, 131 teenagers enrolled on the programme and 343 remained active within the programme.</p> <p>42.8% of clients have demonstrated higher mastery at 24 months on the programme. (Sense of mastery is a form of perceived personal control, a sense of control over the events of one's life.)</p>
By March 2020, recruit up to 50 new specialist foster carers across all five Health and Social Care Trusts and establish a number of Foster Care Hubs (the Mockingbird Model) on a trial basis.	Funding has been provided to recruit around 10 additional foster carers in each Health and Social Care Trust, trained to meet the needs of children and young people with more complex needs in a family setting. Recruitment activity is underway in each Trust area. Also, some progress has been made to establish the Mockingbird model of foster care. We are near to agreeing a trial site.
By March 2020, design and deliver bespoke leadership training for team leaders and service managers in the residential care workforce and have established coaching and mentoring networks to cascade learning and promote supportive working relationships.	Funding has been allocated to assist with the design and delivery of a bespoke training programme for staff working in challenging residential care environments.
By March 2019, we will trial in the NHSCT area a different housing offer for 16/17 year olds when they present as homeless or are at risk of becoming homeless.	At end September 2018, five young people were availing of support services under the project and more than 1000 support sessions had been delivered. As a result, the young people involved are seeking help more readily, engaging better with employment and training, engaging well with staff and others and building dependable relationships. To date, two young people have been accommodated under the initiative. While small in numbers

Action	Progress Update
	at this stage, the significance for the individuals concerned cannot be underestimated.
By March 2019, a peripatetic support team will be established in each HSCT to support children mainly in residential care, to minimise placement disruption and prevent escalation into high end, secure, custodial or in-patient facilities.	Funding has been allocated to support this project and work is underway to recruit to the teams. Uniquely, the teams will be made multi-agency and multi-disciplinary in their make-up with health care professionals working side-by-side with youth workers.
By March 2019, trial a new Family Drug and Alcohol Court in the Newry Court / South Eastern Health and Social Care Trust area; and trial a new way of working with women who have had a number of children taken into care and are at risk of having children removed from their care in the future (the PAUSE project).	<p>The FDAC trial programme has now been operational 12/12/17. To date, 11 families with 24 children have engaged in the programme. 65 assessments and 63 parent and judge meetings have taken place. 210 therapeutic interventions have been provided. At 30 September, 77% of participating parents have stayed engaged with the programme. We are continuing to track the progress. The aim is to enable children to safely remain at home or return home to their parents from care.</p> <p>The PAUSE project is at an early stage of development. To date, 90 mothers have been identified as potential participants and 28 staff have completed training sessions. The aim is to enable children to remain safely at home with mothers, who previously had children removed from their care.</p>
By March 2020, train circa 2,500 social workers in the Signs of Safety approach across all five Health and Social Care Trusts.	At end September 2018, 8 foundation training sessions have been held, involving 280 staff (11% of the total to be trained by March 2020). Also, 47 practice leaders have attended advanced Signs of Safety training.
Produce an initial system evaluation framework for (statutory) education.	A second phase of stakeholder engagement on the system evaluation framework (Dashboard) was completed. Nineteen focus groups were convened and attended by over 150 School Principals. Feedback was positive with 97% agreeing that the new dashboard adequately reflects what should be valued in the education system and 96% agreeing that the new dashboard will be a useful tool to support evaluation of the education system.
Continue to deliver a range of actions and interventions aimed at improving the life choices of children and young people including under the following six actions:	

Action	Progress Update
1. Targeting Social Need;	£77.7m of Targeting Social Need (TSN) funding was provided in 2018/19 to help pupils from socially deprived backgrounds, or those at risk of underachievement, reach their full potential. DE launched a new online tool in October 2018 to capture information relating to the use and impact of TSN resources.
2. Extended Schools Programme;	£9.1m of Extended Schools funding supported additional services and activities for the most disadvantaged pupils before, during and beyond the end of the normal school day (in 2016/17 the programme delivered 3,455 activities, reaching 43% of schools in NI, 41% of pupils and 63% of FSME pupils). 99% of schools reported evidence of reductions in underachievement and 95% reported evidence of improved health, well-being.
3. Full Service programmes;	Two Full Service programmes enable a wide range of additional interventions aimed at enhancing attainment in areas of acute deprivation (in North Belfast and West Belfast). Schools reported significant successes in 2016/17 including 100% of pupils receiving counselling moving from clinical distress at the outset to the normal range; improved pupil performance in English and Maths; improved attendance, and improvements in the development of pupils academically, socially and emotionally.
4. West Belfast Community Project;	The West Belfast Community Project is a community based wraparound service designed to address educational underachievement. 14 workshops were delivered across pre-school, nursery and primary settings; 172 Parents accessed workshops (pre-school, nursery and primary) and 111 children accessing transition programmes (post-primary). As a result 92% (158) of parents felt they and their child are better prepared for pre-school / nursery / primary and feel more confident to support their child through the transition between early years and primary settings.
5. Sharing the Learning Programme;	The Sharing the Learning Programme provided 1,046 children of nursery age with additional support, including transition support; 233 children moving from Year 7 to Year 8 received support to consolidate learning through the Summer Transition

Action	Progress Update
	<p>Programme; 375 students attended the GCSE Easter School; 83 young people also received GCSE support during the reporting period in a community setting. As a result, 67% of students involved in the programme achieved 5+ GCSEs (A*-C) or equivalent including either English OR Maths.</p>
<p>6. Pupil attendance strategy / policy.</p>	<p>DE's Attendance Strategy was published in March 2016 under the title of: Miss School = Miss Out.</p> <p>This strategy focuses on strengthening four key areas to improving attendance as a key element of school development planning. Over the last 12 months, work has been carried out in conjunction with QUB and approximately 20 (mostly post-primary) schools culminating in the publication of a good practice document including 10 case studies which set-out the interventions in place to improve attendance at school.</p>
<p>Implement a parental engagement campaign aimed at developing parents' role in education.</p>	<p>The 'Give your child a helping hand' campaign was launched in Jan 2018 with follow-ups in Sep 2018 (and Jan 2019). Its key aim is to inform and empower parents / carers to support their children and help tackle educational underachievement as a result of social disadvantage. As a result, 98% of parents interviewed agreed that it was important to talk to their children about their day at school; 94% realised that they could make a real difference to their child's / grandchild's education; 75% claimed their behaviour toward education changed as a result of the campaign.</p>
<p>Provide for every child, whose parents want it, access to a funded place in the Pre-school Education programme in their immediate pre-school year.</p>	<p>Achieved for 2018/19 academic year. Over 99.9% (almost 24,000) children whose parents stayed with the admissions process to the end received the offer of a funded place.</p>
<p>By March 2019:</p>	
<p>1 Ensure that 75% of pre-school settings participate in the Getting Ready to Learn programme to promote consistent, strong early child development messages and support for parents;</p>	<p>There are currently 596 (77%) pre-school settings participating in GRtL in 2018/19 (against a target of 75%).</p> <p>In 2017/18, 100% of participating pre-school settings reported improved levels of parental engagement following participation in GRtL.</p>
<p>2 Continue roll out of the 3+ health review to pre-school children.</p>	<p>The implementation of the 3+ Review is on track to reach its target of 60% of children in DE-funded pre-school education settings by the end of the 2018/19 academic year.</p>

Action	Progress Update
	In 2017/18, 85% of pre-school practitioners felt parents and children benefitted from the 3+ Review (full data analysis and validation is ongoing).