Local Government and Communities Committee

Consultation of the Scottish Parliament on the Scottish Government’s Revised National Outcomes

Submission from Chris Horne

The sentiment of the suggested outcomes is ok, but realistically it is wishy washy and doesn't tackle the issues of the day in my view.

I accept outcome number 1.

For outcome 2 to deal with poverty we need to create wealth in the nation, and ensure all have the opportunity to take a share of the new country wealth. Sharing just what we have means we remain with a stagnant economy and too many low value jobs.

Growing up loved, safe etc. is great. However the government can only really affect safe. What they can do however is help us ensure we are healthy, highly skilled, educated and thus able to achieve our full potential.

Finally what is notable by its absence is any mention of the environment. I want to live in a country with a sustainable, environmentally friendly economy and transport system. That helps tourism, health and wellbeing, and I suspect economic outcomes.

Notably none of the outcomes are measurable. How can the government show success, or indeed opposition parties scrutinise/highlight challenges if there is no measure - even something fairly loose and high level as indicators? I hope we see some movement in these outcomes.