

PROPOSED DOMAINS AND HEADLINE INDICATORS FOR MEASURING NATIONAL WELL-BEING

CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

Please see the Discussion paper for detailed information on domains and measures referred to in this form.

Section A: Proposed domains

1. Do you think the proposed domains present a complete picture of well-being? If not, what would you do differently?

The Theatres Trust does not agree that the proposed domains represent a complete picture of well-being. Your own research identified that cultural activities were important to people's well-being. We consider that it is therefore important to establish domains that can measure cultural activities.

In the 'Where we live' Domain there is no measure that indicates the satisfaction with access to cultural, arts and specifically theatre and performing arts facilities.

This could be provided through inclusion of SIC codes relating to the provision of cultural facilities and measuring 'Assets of Community Value' registered with a Local Authority'. The Localism Act 2011 provides for the creation of a list of land and buildings that 'furthers the social well-being or social interests of the local community'. The Act states that 'Social interests' include 'cultural interests'. We recommend that the development of the 'Measure of access to and quality of the local environment' should also include working with the Communities and Local Government to gather information on Local Authorities asset registers as well as DEFRA.

In the 'Our relationships' Domain there is no measure that indicates the contribution that culture, the arts and theatre make to 'satisfaction with your social life', in relation to 'sense of community' connections and relationships.

In the 'What we do' Domain there is no measure that indicates the impact of different forms of cultural and arts engagement.

The DCMS's CASE work and its annually published 'Taking Part Survey' would/could provide evidence for 'Our relationships' and 'What we do'. In the Government's own recently published 'Measuring National Well-being – Measuring what matters: National Statistician's reflections on the National Debate on Measuring National Well-being', it identified the importance of work/life balance, stating 'The 'Taking Part' survey (by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport) showed links between partaking in cultural and sporting activities and improving well-being'.

2. Do you think the scope of each of the proposed domains is correct? If not, please give details.

As above we would suggest means that more consideration needs to be given to the scope of the proposed domains to enable the impact of culture and the arts to be recognised in 'Where we live', 'Our relationships' and 'What we do'.

3. Are there any areas where proposed domains should be merged or divided further? If yes, please give details.

No. The proposal to capture all data on work and leisure within a single domain is not adequate. The measures currently focus only on the 'What we do' - time spent in leisure, rather than the availability of leisure activities, the social benefits from those activities, and the quality and outcomes of experiences.

4. Are the names chosen for the proposed domains easy to understand? If not, please give details.

The Theatres Trust considers that the proposed domains are easy to understand.

5. Do you think that the proposed domains adequately reflect the responses to the national debate?

NO

Section B: Proposed Measures

6. Should any of the measures be removed? If yes, please give details.

No. We do not feel it appropriate to propose removing a measure. It is more important to present a full picture of well-being than restrict the number of measures.

7. Are there any measures which should be added? If yes, please give details. If an alternative measure is suggested, which measure might be removed, to keep the total number the same?

Yes. As identified in our answer to Question 1 we believe there should be measures added for access to local cultural provision, the impact that culture, the arts and theatre have on our social relationships, and participation in culture. 'Objective' data is or will be collected on assets of community value and on levels of attendance and participation through 'Taking Part'.

In relation to 'assets of community value' we would suggest that analysing existing SIC codes for cultural facilities and utilising the asset registers to be held by local authorities would be a means of measuring the access to, and quality of, the local built environment and the contribution these assets make to well-being. In the Localism Act 2011 The Localism Act 2011 provides for the creation of a list of land and buildings that 'furthers the social well-being or social interests of the local community'. 'Social interests' includes (in particular) each of the following (a) cultural interests; (b) recreational interests; (c) sporting interests.

8. Are there any variants on the measures suggested which would be more appropriate? If yes, please give details.

No.

9. If only one or two measures should be used (for each domain), which ones should be chosen?

The Trust does not have an opinion on this question.

10. Is the number of measures about right? Please give details.

The number of domains are right, but the model would not be devalued if there was an increase in the number of measures.

11. Is the balance between objective and subjective measures about right?
Please give details.

Use of the cultural facilities SIC codes and the number of assets of community value, and the use of the data from CASE/ 'Taking Part' would provide objective measures that could give more useful data over time. This would provide a baseline for more subjective measures in relation to 'What we do' and 'Our relationships'.

Section C: About you

12. Which sector do you primarily work or study in? (To assist in monitoring the range of users the consultation has reached)			
Public Sector			
Central government department or agency		School or college	
Local or regional government		University	
Financial public corporation		Health	
Non-financial public corporation		Other – Advisory Arms Length Body and non-profit institution	X
Private Sector			
Financial corporation		Health	
Non-financial corporation		Manufacturing	
School or college		Service industry	
University			
Other sectors			
Non-profit institution		Not in paid employment or education	
Media		Other, such as full-time carer etc	

13. Are you:			
An analyst?		A teacher or lecturer?	
A researcher?		A student?	
A policy maker?		A consultant?	
A journalist?		Not in paid employment or education?	
Other – statutory consultee	X		

14. Please respond below with:

Contact Name:	Mhora Samuel
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<p>15. May we contact you about this consultation?</p> <p>This may be to discuss your response, further consultations on this topic or to send you a link to the results.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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<p>16. We may make individual responses publicly available, and may refer to the response of specific individuals or organisations in our consultation report. Are you content for your responses to be made public?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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Thank you for completing the consultation. ONS will publish a response in Spring 2012 to the views expressed during the consultation on the National Well-being pages.

If you have any queries regarding this consultation, please contact Jen Beaumont on (0)1633 651 622 or e-mail nationalwell-being@ons.gov.uk

Please return your completed form by e-mail to nationalwell-being@ons.gov.uk or by post to
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Confidentiality and data protection

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or release to other parties or to disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004).

If you would like the information, including personal data, that you submit to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, among other things, with obligations of confidence. In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. Before disclosing any information that is personal to you, we will inform you of this in advance of any disclosure. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Office for National Statistics.

Please ensure that your response is clearly marked on Question 16 if you wish your response and your name to be kept confidential. Confidential responses will be included in any summary of numbers of comments received and views expressed.

Consultation timetable

This consultation will run from 31st October 2011 to 23rd January 2012

After the consultation

We will publish a summary of the comments made approximately eight weeks after the consultation closes.

How to comment on the consultation process

If you would like to make any comments about the consultation process we have followed, please contact:

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