



The National Performance Framework What does it mean for the third sector?

Case study Befriending Networks



Befriending
Networks

Befriending provides support for people experiencing loneliness or social isolation. Befriending Networks provides support, training and guidance to hundreds of befriending projects across the country. By providing opportunities for members to share experiences and practices, we enable members' befriending services to develop effectively and efficiently and we are able to represent our members' voices on a national level. We are a charity SC023610.

How we used the National Performance Framework (NPF)

We recently used the NPF when considering applying for new funding. We took our current goals and outcomes statements and plotted these roughly against the new NPF outcomes and individual indicators. We were then able to identify the outcome areas that may be applicable to Befriending service and ourselves as Befriending Networks. These were:

- **National Outcome: We are Healthy and Active** – Indicators: mental well-being and physical activity
- **National Outcome: We live in communities that are inclusive, empowered, resilient and safe** – Indicators: loneliness and social capital
- **National Outcome: We grow up loved, safe and respected, so that we realise our full potential** – Indicators: Child wellbeing and happiness, Quality of children's services, Children have positive relationships
- **National Outcome: We respect, protect and fulfil human rights and live free from discrimination** – Indicators: quality of public services and influence over local decisions

This then helped us to think about where each of our activities fitted, what was the outcome we were hoping for and what indicators would we use to monitor. If we were saying we contribute to a particular outcome or indicator what could we evidence by way of activities, outcomes.

What was the benefit?

Overall, we feel that this process allowed us to write our funding application in way that much more clearly demonstrated our role in Scotland and the part we play in delivering Scotland's National Outcomes. It has also helped us to review our monitoring to ensure that we are gathering suitable data that will support evaluation against these outcomes and indicators.

It has enabled us to clearly relate the work we do back to Scottish Government outcomes in a clear, plain English way. This has supported us to articulate in both funding applications and report backs our role and potential/actual impact and links with the NPF outcomes.

What would we like to see happen next with the NPF?

We think further publicity about the National Performance Framework would be beneficial – especially for local authority staff – and even the general public.

We also think it would be good for smaller third sector organisation to see how they can fit. This is something we hope to do with Befriending Networks Scottish members during next year's common ground meetings.

Befriending Networks website is <https://www.befriending.co.uk/>

For more about the third sector and the NPF please see this [blog](#).