

## Submission to the UN Human Rights Council NHRI Report on the United Kingdom's 4<sup>th</sup> Cycle Universal Periodic Review

30<sup>th</sup> March 2022

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The Scottish Human Rights Commission (SHRC), formed in 2008, was established by the Scottish Commission for Human Rights Act 2006. It is the **National Human Rights Institution (NHRI)** for Scotland, accredited with 'A' status by the Global Alliance of NHRIs and is one of the three UK NHRIs. SHRC is a member of the UK's National Preventive Mechanism. It has a general duty to promote awareness, understanding and respect for all human rights and to encourage best practice. It also has a number of powers including recommending such changes to Scottish law, policy and practice as it considers necessary.

SHRC is pleased to provide this submission to the Human Rights Council as part of the 4<sup>th</sup> cycle review of the United Kingdom. Issues concerning specific groups' rights are highlighted in '**bold**'. The report's scope and methodology are detailed in Annex 1. Annex 2 presents a Sustainable Development Goals review of themes. Annex 3 collates all recommendations. Annex 4 provides annotated references.

All recommendations are directed at the Scottish Government, unless otherwise specified.

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**Contact:** Dr Alison Hosie  
Scottish Human Rights Commission  
Bridgeside House,  
99 McDonald Road,  
Edinburgh,  
EH7 4NS  
Email: [Alison.hosie@scottishhumanrights.com](mailto:Alison.hosie@scottishhumanrights.com) Tel: 07464 918572

## **Annex 2: SDG review of thematic issues**

### **Covid-19**

1. The [UN Secretary-General](#) has expressed grave concern that COVID-19 is undermining sustainable development when accelerated efforts were already needed for it to be realised. The UN Secretary-General has also noted:

*“The 2030 Agenda, underpinned by human rights, provides a comprehensive blueprint for sustainable recovery from the pandemic”<sup>i</sup>.*

### **Human Rights Framework**

2. SDG Goal 16 sets out to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. This is at the core of Scotland’s domestic and international human rights framework. Of particular relevance to this area are Targets 16.3: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; and 16.b - Promote and enforce non- discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.

### **National laws, policies, strategies and initiatives**

#### **NHRI**

3. SDG Goal 16 is also central to this section. Of particular relevance to NHRIs is Target 16.6 in the development of effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels. Additionally the existence of independent national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles is a specific indicator under Target 16.a which focuses on strengthening relevant national institutions.

#### **Civil Society**

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<sup>i</sup> See

[https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un\\_policy\\_brief\\_on\\_human\\_rights\\_and\\_covid\\_23\\_april\\_2020.pdf](https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/un_policy_brief_on_human_rights_and_covid_23_april_2020.pdf)

4. The SDG Goal central to Civil Society is Goal 17 which aims to strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the global partnership for sustainable development. Of most relevance in Scotland's context is Target 17.7 which focuses on encouraging and promoting effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resources strategies of partnerships.

### **National Action Plans and Strategies**

5. The range of national action plans and strategies referenced in this submission cover a wide range of SDG Goals. [Scotland's National Action Plan](#) in itself brings the aims of Goal 17 to life, as a process of collaborative action requiring effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resources strategies of partnerships. Thematically the current 40 proposed draft actions cover a wide spectrum of SDG goals (Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 and 16).

### **[Race Equality Framework for Scotland 2016-2030 / Gypsy/Traveller Action Plan 2019-2021](#)**

6. The SDG Goal central to both of these strategies is Goal 10 on reducing inequalities, in particular Targets 10.2 focused on the empowerment and promotion of the social, economic and political inclusion of all; 10.3 ensuring equal opportunity and reduction of inequalities of outcome and 10.4 focused on adopting relevant policies and progressively achieve greater equality.
7. However in terms of the strategy's thematic aims, the following goals are also relevant:
  - Tackling Racism; Hate crime; Participation and Representation: Goal 16
  - Education: Goal 4
  - Employability: Goal 8
  - Health: Goal 3
  - Home: Goal 11
  - Reducing poverty: Goals 1 & 2

- Gender equality: Goal 5

### **Scottish Strategy for Autism 2011-2021**

8. The values of this strategy are around choice, dignity, privacy, realising potential and equality and diversity. This runs across services in a range of areas. As with the previous two strategies the SDG Goal central to both of these strategies is Goal 10 on reducing inequalities, in particular Targets 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4.
9. However in terms of the strategy's thematic aims, the following goals are also relevant:
  - Safety, Participation and Representation: Goal 16
  - Education: Goal 4
  - Employability: Goal 8

### **Mental Health Strategy 2017-2027**

10. The primary focus of this strategy is around delivery for mental health outcomes and the improvement of services, which is covered by SDG Goal 3: Ensuring healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages. In particular Target 3.4 which includes the promotion of mental health and wellbeing.
11. However there is recognition of the impacts on mental health being wider than a focus on health and therefore this strategy would also include a focus on:
  - Poverty: Goals 1 & 2
  - Education: Goal 4
  - Employment: Goal 8
  - Social Security: Goal 10
  - Discrimination/equality: Goal 10
  - Justice: Goal 16

### **Draft Framework for Taxation**

12. Taxation is raised in two areas of the SDG framework. Goal 12 has a focus on ensuring sustainable consumption and production

patterns, which advocates restructuring taxation to encourage more environmentally favourable behaviour (Target 12.c). Goal 17 which looks to strengthen the means of implementation also has a specific focus on resource mobilisation and improving domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection (Target 17.1).

### **National Strategy for Economic Transformation**

13. This strategy has the potential to support the implementation of a range of SDG Goals, including:

- Goal 1: End poverty in all its forms everywhere (Targets 1.4 and 1.5)
- Goal 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls (Target 5.5 and 5.a)
- Goal 8: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all (Targets 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6 and 8.8)
- Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries (Targets 10.1, 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4).
- Goal 9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation (Targets 9.1, 9.2, 9.4, 9.5 and 9.c).
- Goal 12: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns (Targets 12.1, 12.2, 12.3, 12.6 and 12.7)
- Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.
- Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development (Target 14.a).
- Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss (Target 15.9 and 15.a).

### **New Scots Refugee Integration Strategy 2018-2022/ Ending Destitution Together Strategy (2021)**

14. The SDG Goal central to this strategy is Goal 10 on reducing inequalities, in particular Target 10.7 with its focus the safe migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies. Also relevant are Targets 10.2, 10.3 and 10.4.
15. However in terms of the strategy's thematic aims, the following goals are also relevant:
  - Education: Goal 4
  - Employability: Goal 8
  - Gender equality: Goal 5
  - Health: Goal 3
  - Home: Goal 11
  - Poverty: Goals 1 & 2

### **Digital strategy: A Changing Nation 2021**

16. Central to this strategy is SDG Goal 9 - Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation. In particular, Target 9.c, which is focused on significantly increasing access to information and communications technology and strive to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020. In addition Goal 16 which promotes peaceful and inclusive societies and has a focus on building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, also has relevance here in relation to regulation of new technology (Target 16.6). As does Target 16.3 and its focus on the rule of law.

## Housing to 2040

17. SDG Goal 11 is the key focus of this strategy: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable. In particular Targets 11.1 ensuring access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services; 11.2 on the provision of access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems; 11.7 on the provision of universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces and 11.b which has a particular focus on mitigation and adaptation to climate change.

## **National Legislation**

18. The range of legislation welcomed by SHRC in this submission also cover a wide range of SDG Goals.

## Child Poverty (Scotland) Act 2017

19. SDG Goals 1 and 2 are the primary focus of this Act – with Goal 1 focused on the elimination of poverty in all its forms and Goal 2 specifically on food poverty. The Act, however, has a cross-thematic focus recognising the impact poverty has across a wide range areas.

- Affordable and clean energy: Goal 7
- Clean water & Sanitation: Goal 6
- Decent work: Goal 8
- Education & Childcare: Goal 4
- Gender equality: Goal 5
- Health: Goal 3
- Home: Goal 11

## Domestic Abuse (Scotland) Act 2018

20. SDG Goals 5 and 16 are the primary focus of this Act. In relation to Goal 5 on gender equality, Target 5.2 in particular focuses on the elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres.

21. Goal 16 with its focus on the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, has two particular Targets of note: Target 16.1 to significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, and 16.2 which aims to end abuse, exploitations, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.

### **Gender Representation on Public Boards (Scotland) Act 2018**

22. SDG Goal 5 on gender equality and empower has particular relevance to this Act, especially Target 5.5 which focuses on ensuring women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.

### **Children (Equal Protection) (Scotland) Act 2019**

23. Similarly to the Domestic Abuse Act, SDG Goals 5 and 16 are the primary focus of this Act, and again Targets 5.2, 16.1 and 16.2.

### **The Fuel Poverty (Targets, Definition and Strategy) (Scotland) Act 2019**

24. In addition to the general focus on eliminating poverty in all of its forms of SDG Goal 1, this Act is also connected to Goal 7 on affordable and clean energy, in particular Target 7.1 which is focused on ensuring universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services.

### **Young Persons' (Under 22s) Free Bus Travel<sup>ii</sup>**

25. SDG Goal 11 focuses on making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable – and within this goal Target 11.2 focuses specifically on providing access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.

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<sup>ii</sup> See <https://www.transport.gov.scot/concessionary-travel/young-persons-free-bus-travel-scheme/>



26. Other SDG Goals relevant to the provision of free bus travel to young people under 22, include: reducing poverty (Goal 1); facilitating access to education (Goal 4), facilitating access to decent work (Goal 8); reducing inequalities (Goal 10) and (with an increase in greener buses) Goal 13 on climate action.

#### **Scottish Biometrics Commissioner Act 2020**

27. Goal 16 which promotes peaceful and inclusive societies and has a focus on building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, also has relevance here in relation to regulation of new technology (Target 16.6). As does Target 16.3 and its focus on the rule of law.

#### **Forensic Medical Services (Victims of Sexual Offences) (Scotland) Act 2021**

28. This Act has Access to Justice (Goal 16: Targets 16.3 and 16.6), Gender Equality (Goal 5) and health and wellbeing (goal 3) as its central focus.

#### **Redress for Survivors (Historical Child Abuse in Care) (Scotland) Act 2021**

29. This Act has Access to Justice (Goal 16) as its central focus with Targets 16.2 and 16.3 of most relevance.

#### **Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021**

30. The Hate Crime Act is similarly focused on Access to Justice and Goal 16, with Targets 16.1 and 16.6 of most relevance.

#### **Social Security (Scotland) Act 2018,**

31. Adequate social protection measures feature in a number of the SDG Goals, including Goals 1, 5 and 10. Relevant Targets include 1.3 on the implementation of nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures; 5.4 on recognising and valuing unpaid care and domestic work through social protection and 10.4 on the adoption of social protection policies, and progressively

achieve greater equality.

### **Age of Criminal Responsibility (Scotland) Act 2019**

32. This Act has Access to Justice (Goal 16) as its central focus with Targets 16.3 and 16.6 of most relevance.

### **Scottish Elections (Franchise and Representation) Act 2020**

33. This Act has (to a limited extent) furthered the participation rights of prisoners which is the focus on Target 16.7 of Goal 16: Ensure responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels.

### **Gender Recognition Reform (Scotland) Bill.**

34. In addition to overarching focus on Goal 5 on gender equality, the main focus of this Bill is SDG Goal 10 on reducing inequality. Of particular relevance are Targets 10.2 on the empowerment and promotion of the social, economic and political inclusion of all and 10.3 focused on ensure equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

### **Petition PE1817 : Prohibition of the provision and the promotion of all forms of LGBT “conversion therapies”**

35. The main focus of this proposed legislation is SDG Goal 10 on reducing inequality and in particular Target 10.3 on ensuring equal opportunity and reduce inequalities of outcome, including by eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices and promoting appropriate legislation, policies and action in this regard.

### **Disabled Children and Young People (Transitions to Adulthood) (Scotland) Bill**

36. This proposed Bill covers a wide range of themes focused on reducing inequality (Goal 10), access to inclusive education (Goal 4) and access to full and productive employment and decent work

for all (Goal 8).

37. Target 10.2 - By 2030, empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status. A range of Targets across the three goals have particular relevance, including:

- 10.3 - Ensuring equal opportunity and reducing inequalities of outcome;
- 4.a - providing education facilities that are disability sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all;
- 4.1 - ensuring completion of education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.
- 4.3 - ensuring equal access to further and higher education.
- 4.4 - substantially increasing numbers of those with employability skills.
- 4.5 – elimination of gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities.
- 4.6 - ensuring improved literacy and numeracy.
- 8.5 - achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value.
- 8.6 - substantially reducing the proportion of youth not in employment, education or training.

### **Good Food Nation (Scotland) Bill**

38. The SDG Goal of most relevance to this Bill is Goal 2: focused on ending hunger, achieving food security and improving nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture. Of particular relevance are Targets 2.1 on ending hunger and ensuring access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, including infants, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round; 2.2 on endings all forms of malnutrition; and 2.4 on ensuring sustainable food production systems and implementing

resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.

39. The scope of this Bill states that Scottish Ministers must have regard, among other things, to the scope for food-related issues to affect outcomes in relation to— (a) social and economic wellbeing (Goals 1,5,8), (b) the environment (Goals 12-15), (c) health (Goal 3), and (d) economic development (Goal 8).

### **Human Rights Monitoring & Data Inadequacies**

40. SDG Goal 17 underpins the implementation of the SDGs and one aspect of Target 17.18 focuses on significantly increasing the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts.

### **Civil and Political Rights**

#### **Freedom from Violence**

41. A range of themes are covered in this submission under the overarching heading of freedom from violence and this covers a number of SDG Goals, although all have Goal 16 in common: which promotes peaceful and inclusive societies and has a focus on building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

## **Hate Crimes**

42. Goal 16 – in particular Targets 16.1 to significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, 16.3 on the promote the rule of law and ensuring equal access to justice for all, and 16.6 on the development of effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels

## **Violence Against Women & Girls/ LGBT+ Gender Based Violence (GBV)**

43. Goal 16 - in particular Targets 16.1 to significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, and 16.2 which aims to end abuse, exploitations, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.
44. Goal 5 on Gender equality and Target 5.2 in particular on the elimination of all violence against women and girls.

## **Human Trafficking**

45. Goal 16 - in particular Target 16.2 which aims to end abuse, exploitations, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.
46. Goal 5 on Gender equality and Target 5.2 in particular on the elimination of all violence against women and girls
47. Goal 8 on Decent work and economic growth and Target 8.7 which is focused on ending human trafficking.

## **Restraint and Seclusion**

48. Goal 16 - in particular Targets 16.1 to significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere, and 16.2 which aims to end abuse, exploitations, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children.
49. Goal 4 on Education and Target 4.a which is focused on the provision of safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.

## **Access to Justice**

50. A key focus of SDG Goal 16 is ensuring the provision of access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Of particular relevance to this theme are Targets 16.3: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; 16.6: development of effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels and 16.a: focused on strengthening relevant national institutions and 16.b: the promotion and enforcement non- discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development.

## **Policing**

51. SDG Goal 16 is also the focus of the policing theme with a particular focus on Targets 16.1: significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere; 16.3: promotion of the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all; 16.6: development of effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels and 16.a: focused on strengthening relevant national institutions.

## **Detention**

52. The theme of detention covers a wide range of SDG Goals in addition to Goal 16 (and Targets 16.1, 16.3, 16.6 and 16.a), including:

- Clean water & Sanitation: Goal 6
- Decent work: Goal 8
- Education: Goal 4
- Gender equality: Goal 5
- Health: Goal 3

## **Technology**

53. Goal 16 which promotes peaceful and inclusive societies and has a focus on building effective, accountable and inclusive

institutions at all levels, also has relevance here in relation to regulation of new technology (Target 16.6). As does Target 16.3 and its focus on the rule of law.

## **Participation rights**

54. A range of SDG Goals and their targets include the promotion of participation rights:

- Goal 5 - Gender equality (Target 5.5)
- Goal 10 – Reducing inequality (Target 10.2)
- Goal 16 - Peace Justice and Strong Institutions (Target 16.8)
- Goal 17 – Partnerships for the Goals (Target 17.7).

## **Economic and Social Rights**

### **Adequate standard of living**

55. This theme covers key elements of the right to an adequate standard of living, namely poverty and social security, access to food and housing. This therefore covers a number of SDG Goals and their targets as follows:

56. Goal 1 - No poverty

- Target 1.2 – reducing the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.
- Target 1.3 – Implementation of nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all.
- Target 1.4 – Including ensuring equality of rights to economic resources, and access to basic services.
- Target 1.5 – building resilience and reducing exposure and vulnerability to climate-related extreme events and other economic, social and environmental shocks and disasters (e.g. COVID-19).
- Target 1.b - Creating sound policy frameworks to support accelerated investment in poverty eradication actions.

57. Goal 10 – Reduce inequality

- Target 10.1 – improving the income of the bottom 40 per cent of the population.
- Target 10.2 – empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status.
- Target 10.4 - Adopting policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality.

#### 58. SDG Goal 11 – Sustainable cities and communities

- Target 11.1 - Ensuring access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services.

### **Education**

59. The SDG Goal central to this theme is Goal 4 – which is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. The majority of this Goal's Targets are relevant to the Scottish issues as follows:

- Target 4.a – on building and upgrade education facilities that are child, disability and gender sensitive and provide safe, non-violent, inclusive and effective learning environments for all.
- Target 4.1 - on ensuring that all girls and boys complete free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education leading to relevant and effective learning outcomes.
- Target 4.3 -on ensuring equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.
- Target 4.4 - to substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.
- Target 4.5 - to eliminate gender disparities in education and ensure equal access to all levels of education and vocational training for the vulnerable, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples and children in vulnerable situations.



- Target 4.6 - to ensure that all youth and a substantial proportion of adults, both men and women, achieve literacy and numeracy.

60. Goal 10 on Reducing inequality is also relevant to this theme which covers a number of inequalities of outcome, which is also the focus of Target 10.3.

### **Right to work and fair conditions of work**

61. There are three areas of focus covered under this theme relating to access to decent work, unpaid care and childcare. These are the focus of SDG Goal 10 on reducing inequality including Target 10.4 on adopting policies, especially fiscal, wage and social protection policies, and progressively achieve greater equality; Goal 5 on Gender equality and Target 5.4 on valuing unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies; and Goal 4 on Education and Target 4.2 - on ensuring that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development, care and pre-primary education so that they are ready for primary education.

### **Health**

62. Two main goals focus on access to healthcare, health inequalities and mental health, namely: Goal 3 on ensuring healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages and Goal 10 on reducing inequality.

63. Targets of particular relevance to the Scottish issues raised are:

- Target 3.c – on substantially increase health financing and the recruitment, development, training and retention of the health workforce.
- Target 3.4 - reducing premature mortality from non-communicable diseases through prevention and treatment and promote mental health and well-being.
- Target 3.5 - strengthening the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.

- Target 3.7 – on ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive health-care services, including for family planning, information and education, and the integration of reproductive health into national strategies and programmes,
- Target 3.8 – on achieving universal health coverage, including access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
- Target 3.9 substantially reducing the number of deaths and illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water and soil pollution and contamination.
- Target 10.3 - with the focus on ensuring equal opportunity (in access to health and mental health care and treatment) and on reducing inequalities of outcome (in this case all health and mental health outcomes).

## **Social Care**

64. There are three main goals of focus relating to the issues raised under the theme of social care (Covid-19 deaths in care, social care funding and the National Care Service), namely: Goal 3 on ensuring healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages, Goal 1 on eliminating poverty and the aspect of Goal 16 focused on building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Relevant Targets for each issue are shown below.

- Target 1.3 – implementation of nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieve substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable.
- Target 3.3 - ending epidemics of... other communicable diseases.
- Target 3.8 - achieving universal health coverage, including financial risk protection, access to quality essential health-care services and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines and vaccines for all.
- Target 16.6 – Development of effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels.

## Environmental Rights and Climate Justice

65. There are four central Goals relevant to the Scottish issues covered under this theme, namely: Goals 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; Goal 11 - Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; Goal 12 - Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns; and Goal - 15 Life on Land. Relevant Targets include:

- Target 13.1 – Strengthening the resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.
- Target 13.2 – Integration of climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.
- Target 13.3 - Improve education, awareness- raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.
- Target 11.5 - significantly reducing the number of deaths and the number of people affected and substantially decrease the economic losses relative to gross domestic product caused by disasters, including water-related disasters, with a focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable situations.
- Target 11.6 - reducing the adverse per capita environmental impact of cities, including by paying special attention to air quality and municipal and other waste management.
- Target 11.b- focused on the adoption and implementation of integrated policies and plans towards inclusion, resource efficiency, mitigation and adaptation to climate change, resilience to disasters, and development and implementation of holistic disaster risk management at all levels.
- Target 12.4 achieving the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes, and the significant reduction of their release to air, water and soil in order to minimize their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.
- Target 12.5 - substantially reducing waste generation through prevention, reduction, recycling and reuse.
- A range of Targets within Goal 15 focused on biodiversity.