



National  
Social Value  
Standard

# National Social Value Standard

Navigating the 2024 SVS updates

## Purpose

Below are more details on how the metrics have changed in terms of reporting requirements to help users navigate the 2024 SVS updates.

## Employment and economic

### Jobs (created/safeguarded/made redundant/dismissed)

#### General change to jobs

This section has been modified to ensure the user gets the full value from employment, which is now possible due to adjustments made to the broader economic section which removed GVA/LM3 previously.

This means that jobs can now be recorded as the number of FTEs in the reporting period, instead of splitting this out into 'jobs safeguarded' or 'jobs made redundant', as was done previously. This change makes the measurement more exact and relevant to what the organisation has impacted in the reporting period. The framework's overall economic model is now designed such that employment can be captured more broadly within the model.

#### Tailoring to individuals expanded

The number of characteristics and employment details for individual stakeholders that impact and weight the valuations have increased significantly. They now cover the following areas:

- Geographical location.
- Employment history.
- Employment type.
- Occupation.
- Sector.
- Salary.
- Status as an ex-offender or homeless/formerly homeless.

- Age.
- Disabilities.
- Ethnicity.
- Education level.
- Gender.
- Sexual orientation.
- Relationship status.

Some areas (mainly ones that were previously non-monetised) have been renamed, removed or reshaped – often to allow them to become robustly monetised:

- The ability to add specific ages has now replaced the previous age-related brackets.
- The evidence for care leavers was such that once the value is controlled for a lot of the other information now included (education status, ethnicity, age etc), the income levels of each category is not significantly lower than other groups. Therefore, this information can be captured in the other categories.
- Previous categories for ‘refugee’ or ‘displaced person’ have been adapted as there is not enough evidence for these categories directly. However, SVS does capture this in part by combining ethnicity and whether individuals are nationals of the UK. This will inherently capture some of the inequality attached to refugees and displaced people.
- For stakeholders falling under the ‘first full-time job’ category, this has weak evidence attached to it, so using age will account for these differences in general.

This individual weighting is also now available beyond just the jobs metrics, impacting all metrics with direct stakeholder impacts. To help the user experience, they are still only optional for users who are able to gather the relevant data and want to tailor their impacts further.

### Salary information

With the salary tailoring listed above, the preferred option is to record the median salary of the FTEs the user is reporting. The second preference would be to record the occupation and region to allow the SVS to better estimate the median salary itself. If none of that data is available the framework will use UK level data as the basis for the estimate.

## Employment history

The previous employment history categories included: 'employment history unknown', 'unemployed', 'long-term unemployed' and 'previously employed.' This has been replaced by 'continuously or previously employed', 'hired in last 6 months (previously unemployed)', 'hired in last 6 months (previously long-term unemployed)' and 'hired in last 6 months (employment history unknown)'.

## Work placements and internships

SVS now simplifies these categories into the user selecting whether the stakeholder is on a paid or unpaid internship, work trial or work placement. Like all relevant metrics, the duration can be adjusted.

## **Apprenticeships**

The relevant changes to 'jobs' similarly apply to 'apprenticeships' with the main difference between the two being that users have the option to specify the level of the apprenticeship. The median salary within apprenticeships is also adjusted to a different default salary. However, the user will still have the option of overriding this if they have the necessary data.

## **Job quality**

The 'job quality' metrics have been updated to a dual metric system, allowing for positive and negative aspects of job quality to be derived from a single survey. This change streamlines the data collection process, as now the same pair of metrics can be used for reporting, with the positive and negative components captured separately, thus providing a more comprehensive overview of job quality.

# **Wellbeing, training, and skills**

## **Mentoring/mentees**

Previously, these metrics were separate, but they are now reported as one 'mentoring relationship' metric. This allows more streamlined reporting. The input unit is therefore number of relationships, rather than the number of stakeholders.

## **Training (level, 2, 3, and 4+)**

The 'professional qualification' metric has been removed with there not being enough real difference between this and the level 4+ qualification. So, where previously the user would have used 'professional qualification,' this should be assigned to 'level 4+ qualification'.

## **Training (hourly)**

No change to reporting.

## **Eating fruit**

The definition has been changed to be slightly more lenient. This now allows the user to count those who have eaten fruit because of the intervention. In the background, SVS has adjusted the estimate for those who will have eaten fruit because of the intervention. Therefore, it becomes easier to use.

## **Sleep**

No change to reporting.

## **Loneliness**

No change to reporting.

## **Life-saving incidents/serious injury saving incidents/slight injury saving incidents**

No change to reporting.

## **Smoking**



No change to reporting.

## **Alcohol misuse**

No change to reporting.

## **Drug misuse**

No change to reporting.

## **Mental/physical/general health (community or workplace)**

Rather than have low, medium, and high intervention options, which can prove too subjective when it comes the huge array of possible interventions in this space – SVS now has a significant set of specific interventions. If the exact intervention needed is not listed there, then users can select the one which most closely aligns. It should be noted that not all interventions result in positive improvements according to the research and therefore some of the interventions included have valuations of zero. This is important so that information about efficacy is passed on and understood, further contributing to increased wellbeing outcomes for those impacted.

Also, ‘community’ and ‘workplace’ have been combined, in the sense that the people impacted are counted as stakeholders, whether internal or external.

## **MMC (health)**

No change to reporting.

## **Supply chain**

### **SME, start-up, VCSE or mutuals support**

Previously, this had two sub-category options; ‘stakeholders’ and ‘hours invested from staff.’ This metric has now been simplified into one metric called ‘small business/non-profit support.’ The input allows for the hours input by

staff members and attendees. This allows SVS to give the most reasonable estimate of the value of different types of events. If previously the user recorded 'stakeholders' and 'hours invested by staff' in this metric, the user would now just need to estimate the number of 'hours invested by staff'.

## **Supply chain spending**

There is now a new option for supply chain spending. Essentially, any spending which has a focus directly on social value or ethics can be allocated to this metric, this would be the preferential choice (it has a higher value). Other spending after this can be allocated to the supply chain manual metrics (where users know the social value ratio of the supplier/organisation), or split within the remaining supply chain categories.

## **Community**

### **Volunteering (hourly)**

No change to reporting.

### **Engagement in sport and cultural activities or hobbies**

No change to reporting.

### **Food banks**

No change to reporting.

### **Crimes**

No change to reporting.

### **Donations**

No change to reporting.

## **Food waste**

No change to reporting.

## **Homelessness**

Previously, the SVS had sub-categories for moving people to ‘temporary accommodation’ and ‘rough sleeping.’ The metric has been simplified to allow for direct measurement of the wellbeing improvements that result from this type of intervention.

## **Flooding incidents**

No change to reporting.

## **Roadwork incidents**

No change to reporting.

## **Green space**

Previously the options were: ‘having a view over a green space’, ‘use of own garden’, ‘use of urban space’, ‘use of water amenities’, and ‘use of countryside green space’. These have been simplified at the top-level; ‘access to green space’, ‘view of a green space’, and ‘access to a blue space.’ More options are then defined within ‘access to green space’, based on the size of the green space that has been created, which directly relates to the valuation. Lastly, the metric now reports the number of properties rather than the number of stakeholders. This is an easier input when considering how many houses are within the relevant 500 square metres of the green space.

## **Stakeholder engagement hourly**

No change to reporting.

## **Co-design/co-creation with stakeholders**



These metrics have been combined into one 'stakeholder engagement' metric. The evidence to support the separate metrics was not strong enough, so SVS has reverted to quantify the time spent on 'stakeholder engagement and consultation events'. This essentially simplifies the overall use of the metric and tracks the effort invested in engaging with stakeholders.

## **Educational/curriculum support**

This set of metrics are no longer available. There is a 'careers advice and guidance' metric, which is a per hour, per stakeholder metric. Anything that doesn't fall under this should be reported under the standard hourly training metric, and can be combined with characteristics tailoring such as age and education level.

## **Personal, social and civic development**

This metric is no longer available. Instead, hourly training metric is recommended.

## **Site visit (hourly)**

No change to reporting.

## **Perception of neighbourhood**

No change to reporting.

## **Smoking/alcohol/drugs misuse**

No change to reporting.

## **Environmental**

### **CO2e**

SVS is shifting carbon reporting from measuring the changes in CO2e to focusing on the absolute carbon emissions in the reporting period. These metrics are consistent with the UK government greenhouse gas reporting factors. Care should be taken within the carbon emission section to ensure the user doesn't double-count carbon emissions.

## **Air pollution**

Similar logic applies from the changes in CO2e. SVS is moving air pollution reporting from measuring the changes in pollution to focusing on the absolute pollution in the reporting period.

## **Noise**

Similar logic applies from the changes in CO2e. SVS is moving noise pollution reporting from measuring the changes in pollution to focusing on the absolute pollution in the reporting period.

## **Biodiversity**

Far more options are now available in essentially what is an integration of Natural England's full biodiversity unit calculator. So users can now directly monetise the impact of biodiversity changes.