

UK Multi-Stakeholder Forum for Open Government

Tuesday 17th February 2026



Cabinet Office



**UK OPEN
GOVERNMENT**
CIVIL SOCIETY NETWORK

Matthew Clarke

Director

Civil Service Strategy Unit

Kevin Keith

Chair

UK Open Government Network



Inclusivity

Joint agenda

Encourage everyone to participate

Avoid interruptions

Ensure people can follow the conversation

Provide time for people to consider topics before agreeing next steps



Chatham House

Chatham House Rule

“...participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any participant, may be revealed.”

Safe space for conversation

Gemini transcription will be used for this meeting to assist with production of the meeting readout, and will then be deleted

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Purpose of this meeting

Part 1: Review NAP6 implementation to inform self assessment

Part 2: Updates from across all levels of government and civil society

Comfort break

Part 3: Progress update on UK OGP Co-Chair planning

Part 4: NAP7 planning



Part 1:

Review NAP6 implementation



NAP6 implementation context

Since implementation began in January 2024:

- January 2024 MSF went ahead - led to publication of NAP5 and NAP6 self-assessments
- May 2024 MSF cancelled due to announcement of election
- 4th July 2024 General Election
- Machinery of Government changes
- MSFs stopped after July 2024
- Commitment engagement continued
- UK applied to become co-chair of OGP in October 2025
- MSFs restarted in December 2025
- Final commitment status updates being prepared



NAP6 implementation discussion

The end of 2025 marks the completion of NAP6.

Today's discussion is an opportunity to reflect on:

- Improvement for future implementation
- Monitoring progress
- Focus on the process rather than the details of commitments

Discussion will inform a government self-assessment



NAP5 and NAP6 self-assessments



Policy paper

UK National Action Plan for Open Government 2021-2023 Implementation Self-assessment

Published 4 December 2025

Contents

Disclaimers

Introduction

Background

Co-creation

Moving forward: changes made to the development of UK National Action Plan

Monitoring implementation

Highlights of progress

Lessons learnt

Print this page

Disclaimers

- This self-assessment relates to a plan implemented under the 2019 to 2022 Johnson, 2022 Truss, and 2022 to 2024 Sunak Conservative governments.
- The [Central Digital and Data Office](#) (CDDO) was the business unit previously responsible for open government policy. This responsibility transferred to the Civil Service Strategy Unit within Cabinet Office in April 2025.

Introduction

The UK's [Fifth National Action Plan for Open Government 2021-2023 \(NAP5\)](#) was published on 31st January 2022 and implementation ran until 31st December 2023. It set out commitments to promote [open government](#) core values of transparency, accountability and public participation. The plan built on the previous four [UK National Action Plans](#) and was coordinated by the Central Data and Digital Office (CDDO), part of Cabinet Office, in partnership with the [UK Open Government Civil Society Network](#) (UK OGN).



Policy paper

UK National Action Plan for Open Government 2024-2025 Co-creation Self-assessment

Published 4 December 2025

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Background

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Planning for the Seventh National Action Plan for Open Government (NAP7)

Print this page

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- The [Central Digital and Data Office](#) (CDDO) was the business unit previously responsible for open government policy. This responsibility transferred to the Civil Service Strategy Unit within Cabinet Office in April 2025.

Introduction

The UK's [Sixth National Action Plan for Open Government 2024-2025 \(NAP6\)](#) was published on 18th December 2023. It set out commitments to promote the [open government](#) core values of transparency, accountability and public participation. The plan built on the previous five [UK National Action Plans](#) and has been coordinated by the Central Data and Digital Office (CDDO), part of Cabinet Office, in partnership with the [UK Open Government Civil Society Network](#) (UK OGN). The implementation period of NAP6 is from 1st January 2024 to 31st December 2025.



Breakout room discussion

15 minute small group breakout discussions:

- There will be facilitators in each group
- Agree 1-person to feedback from your group
- Feedback to mainroom in 15 minutes
- 1 minute feedback from each group

Transcription OFF



Breakout room feedback

Transcription ON

Feedback from breakout rooms:

- 1 minute feedback from each group
- Reflections from Kevin Keith and Matthew Clarke



Part 2:

Updates across all levels of
government and civil society

UK Open Government Network Update

- Governance: Coordinator appointed; committee recruitment
- Ecosystem mapping: geographic; thematic; diverse
- Network of networks model: sustainable NAP participation
- Business planning and funding applications
- Comms uplift so more stakeholders know how to engage
- Co-creation Brief | Series of recommendations related to the next NAP
- Letter to the Minister



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Cabinet Office

- Proposal to update OGP Action Framework approved
- Review of MSF Terms and Reference - minor updates due
- Publication of NAP5/6 self assessments completed
- Publication of NAP6 commitment final status reports soon
- OGP IRM due to start work on NAP6 results report
- Recruitment underway for new Deputy Director and Grade 6 staff, with part of role overseeing open government

- Update on Participatory Methods Forum

FCDO Update

- Have joined Leadership Troika, as incoming Co-Chair, working with Laura Neuman (civil society rep.)
- OGP welcomes newest member, Thailand
- However, recent exits of US/Israel disappointing, if not surprising
- Raises questions around scope for multilateral action in a contested world
- Member engagement and OGP renewal key as part of OGP@15 campaign



Devolved Governments and local government

Government and
Civil Society Leads

- Northern Ireland
- Scotland
- Wales

- Glasgow City Council
- Greater Manchester Combined Authority



10 minute Comfort Break



Part 3:

Update on UK OGP Co-Chair engagement

UK OGP Co-Chair planning

Stefan Kossoff

- Consultation process underway on priorities and planning for co-chair year
- Draft priorities around i) tackling illicit finance ii) digital governance/AI iii) addressing democratic backsliding and civic space
- Important OGP adapts itself to the challenges of the moment, and is fit-for-purpose for the future
- Brazil Leadership retreat crucial next step
- High Level UNGA event planned for Sept 2026; No firm decision on a UK summit in 2027
- Exploring opportunities, incl FCDO Development Conference, G20 Presidency and links with Illicit Finance Summit.....



Illicit Finance Summit

23-24 June 2026

"Dirty money fuels crime on the streets of the UK and drives conflict and instability overseas. It's largely invisible, but the damage is there for all to see..."

"This government is committed to turning the tide..."

"The Summit will agree tough international action on three means through which dirty money is moved: illicit gold, which is financing Russia's war in Ukraine; property, used by criminals and kleptocrats to hide cash; and crypto-assets, increasingly exploited by people smugglers to stash away their profits."

Foreign Secretary, Yvette Cooper

The Illicit Finance Summit

Preventing, disrupting or recovering criminal and corrupt wealth for shared security, prosperity and a fairer financial system

To achieve this, the Summit will seek domestic commitments from attendees, including the UK, and launch new partnership initiatives to:

Strengthen global enforcement against criminal and corrupt wealth through, for example:

Enhancing
cross border
information
sharing

Disrupting
professionals
who enable the
movement and
concealment of
illicit wealth

Strengthening
asset recovery
efforts, including
the use of civil
forfeiture tools

Spotlight and galvanise action on high-risk methods of moving criminal and corrupt wealth

ILLICIT GOLD:
E.g. improving
traceability,
regulation and
public-private
partnership

PROPERTY:
E.g. strengthen
transparency
and information
sharing

**CRYPTOASSET
S:**
E.g. enhancing
enforcement
capability and
regulation



Part 4:

Planning the next National Action Plan



Review of Open Government Partnership Action Framework



Key motivations to review framework:

- Timelines of framework too rigid
- Creates tension between action plans and mainstreaming open government
- OGP Strategy 2023-2028 objective for greater flexibility
- Balance flexibility with accountability and sustainability
- Limited to framework for national members, not OGP Local due to scope, but mindful of future national-local benefits



Process:

- **Up to Sept. 2024:** UK experiences during NAP5 and NAP6 → discussion with other countries → tested Rolling NAP concept
- **Feb. 2025:** Strong support for conducting review at OGP Steering Committee to conduct review was strongly supported
- **Formed Action Framework Task Force:** UK gov. and Zuki Kota as co-chairs, plus eight other Steering Committee members, supported by OGP Support Unit.
- **May-Nov. 2025:** Surveys, virtual consultations and in-person OGP Camp event with key government and civil society contacts across the partnership to gain range of views and test ideas.
- **Dec. 2025:** Proposal approved by OGP Criteria & Standard Subcommittee.
- **Jan. 2026:** C&S submitted to OGP Steering Committee for final approval, prompting additional feedback, clarifications and tweaks.
- **4th/5th Feb 2026:** Approved by SC. Implementation to follow.



Key changes:

1. **Separate assessment** of minimum required levels of activity from the assessment of the Participation and Co-Creation Standards.
 - Automatic technical process for completely inactive national members
2. **Introduce flexibility** in process and timelines to enable members to maximize the Action Framework in ways that best fit their own contexts.
 - Shift from ‘action plan’ to individual ‘action commitment’ as key unit of action, and flexibility for how these are managed
3. **Introduce proportional consequences** for not meeting minimum requirements for co-creation, and to update the current minimums.
 - **Fundamental concerns** - not meeting standards leads to clear process of support and sanction
 - **Technical concerns** - not meeting minimum requirements leads to clear process of support



Implementation of changes

- Not formally announced to whole community yet - coming soon
- Implementation will include briefing sessions and support material, etc. from OGP
- IRM Review will follow during 2026
- Timely for launch of UK NAP - expectation that the UK will lead on using new flexibilities
- **Biggest challenge:** exploring what the potential of the changes are in practice



Concept for UK National Action Plan for Open Government



The co-creation process is a two-way street, requiring support from civil society and government on agreeing to specific issues within broader themes. As such, only those policy areas that meet this set of criteria will proceed through co-creation:

- Promote **ambitious open government reforms** that stretch the government beyond its current state of practice
- Are relevant by advancing one or more **open government principles** (transparency, accountability, participation)
- Have governmental and civil society **capability and resources** to support them



New approach to the NAP

- In the past, all commitments were tied to the same timescales
- Some commitments were slowed down
- Others were hindered in their scope or ability to be involved
- Change in OGP rules will provide greater flexibility
- We plan for commitments to use a coordinated common approach but proceed at their own pace



Commitments - stage-by-stage

The 4 main stages for a commitment:



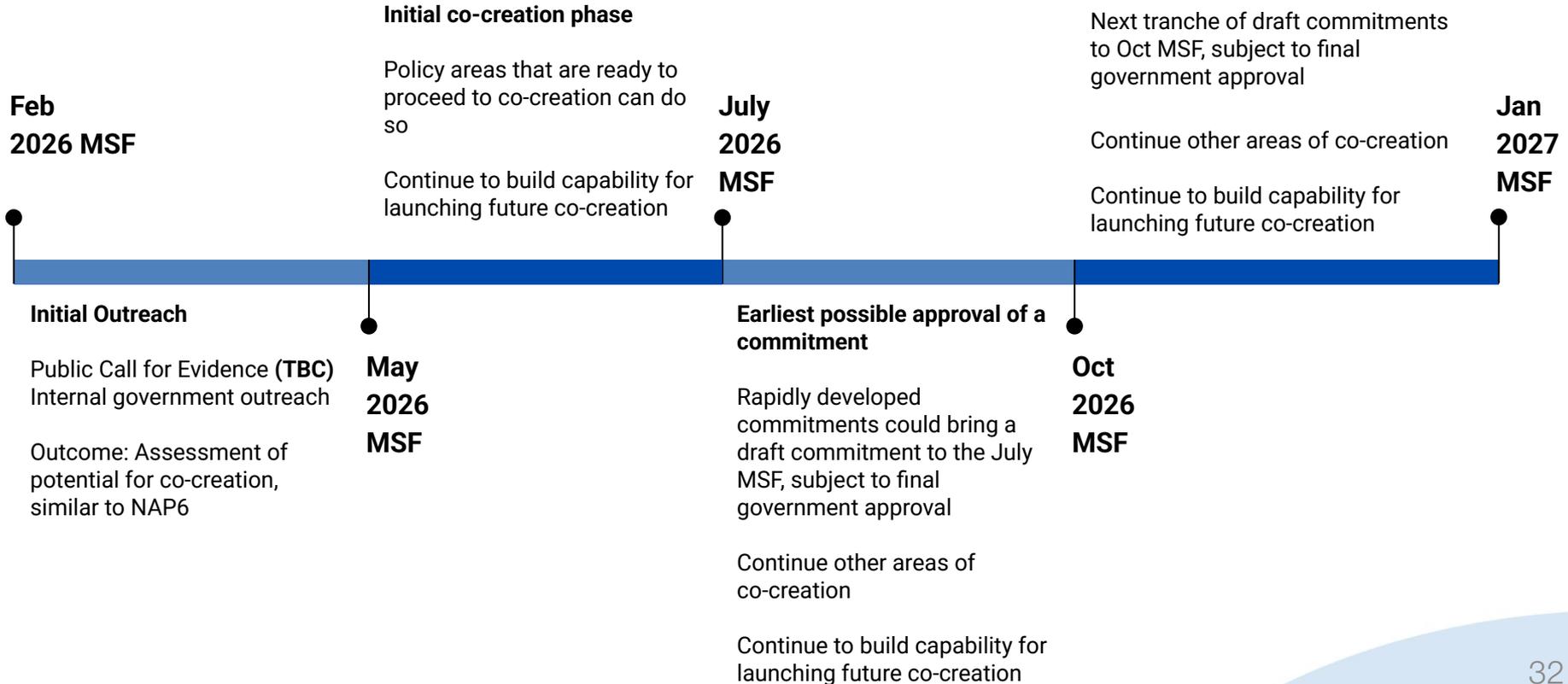


Commitments on their own time





Provisional timelines





- NAP7 content on GOV.UK at start of outreach phase
- Potential Call for Evidence for ideas of what the NAP could include
 - Finalisation of this will have knock-on impacts for timeline
- Supplemented by UK OGN coordination efforts
- Internal government outreach
- Analysis to assess potential for co-creation in mid-May
- 13th May MSF may need to shift to a later date



Break-out discussion:
How do we make the
most of the new
flexibilities?



NAP7 co-creation discussion

NAP7 can make use of new flexibilities in OGP rules.

Today's discussion is an opportunity to consider:

- How can we make best use of the rule changes?
- What are your views on the concept for NAP7?
- What opportunities and risks do you see?

Discussion will inform lead-up to May MSF and beyond



Breakout room discussion

20 minute small group breakout discussions:

- There will be facilitators in each group
- Agree 1-person to feedback from your group
- Feedback to mainroom in 20 minutes
- 2 minute feedback from each group

Transcription OFF



Breakout room feedback

Transcription ON

Feedback from breakout rooms:

- 2 minute feedback from each group
- Reflections from Kevin Keith and Matthew Clarke



MSF 12-month horizon

**Next provisional date:
Wednesday 13th May 2026**

Future provisional dates:
Wednesday 8th July 2026
Wednesday 7th October 2026
Wednesday 27th January 2027

Please advise us of any issues



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Closing remarks