

**NATIONAL STATISTICIAN'S COMMITTEE FOR ADVICE ON STANDARDS FOR
ECONOMIC STATISTICS**

NSCASE(22)07

Approach to the Committee, October 2022

From: Allin, Paul <p.allin@imperial.ac.uk>
Sent: 02 September 2022 13:07
To: Martin Weale <martin.weale@outlook.com>
Subject: Beyond GDP and the current SNA revision

Dear Martin,

Trust you are well, had a good summer, and that you are steering NSCASE into being a force for good!

Apologies if you've seen this already, but may I draw your attention to the article that Diane Coyle, Tim Jackson and I have now had published in The Conversation, [here](#).

I am sure you are very familiar with the points we make. We were particularly driven to write the piece because we see the current revision to the UN System of National Accounts (SNA) as the opportunity to ensure that measures of progress reflect not only economic activity but also wellbeing and the state of the environment.

The revision is due to be completed by 2025, which we can only hope will still be in time to help manage the transition to Net Zero. However, it concerns us that the revision process is still largely under the radar of anyone other than the national accounts community, headed by the UN Statistics Division.

There is no doubt that UK official statisticians are actively involved with the SNA revision, as well as delivering developments to particular sets of statistics (eg [here](#)). But for the revision to be truly effective, there must surely be much more engagement with politicians, policymakers, businesses, and civil society.

Is this something that NSCASE can help press for, as part of the remit to advise on "The methods by which the UK should influence the development of future international statistical standards and guidelines"?

Would of course welcome your thoughts and it would be good to discuss this with you.

Thank you.

With best wishes,

Paul