

# Perth and Kinross LDP3 2027 - Evidence Report

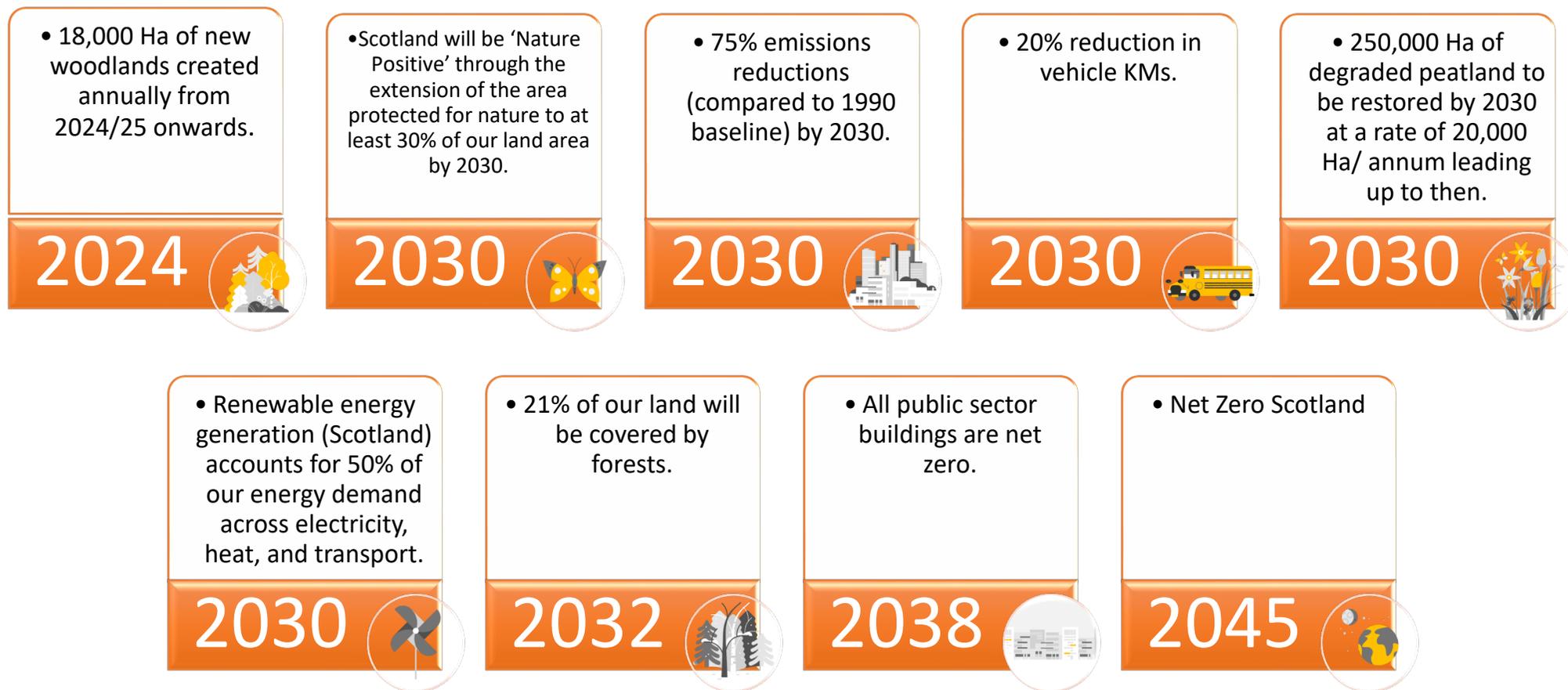
## TOPIC PAPER NO. 004: TACKLING THE CLIMATE AND NATURE CRISES

July 2024





Figure 1: Overview of Key National Climate and Nature Related Targets





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## Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	Under section 83(1) of the Environment Act 1995, Local Authorities have a duty to designate any relevant areas where the air quality objectives are not (or are unlikely to be) being met as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs). AQMAs must be designated officially by means of an 'order'. The extent of the AQMA may be limited to the area of exceedance or take in a larger area. Following the declaration of an AQMA, the local authority is required to develop and implement a plan (Air Quality Action Plan) to improve air quality in that area.
Biodiversity	Biodiversity is the variety of life on Earth at all levels (from genes to ecosystems), and the natural patterns that it forms. It is essential to the processes which support all life on earth ecosystem services. Protecting biodiversity is crucial in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO <sub>2</sub> e)	Is a metric measure used to compare various greenhouse gases on the basis of their global warming potential.
Carbon Sink	A natural or artificial reservoir that collects and stores Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ) for an indefinite period.
Climate Change Adaptation	Is about actively responding to the changing climate we have witnessed over the past few decades, and proactively preparing for the future challenges that our continually changing climate brings.
Climate Emergency	The declaration of a climate emergency is an action taken by governments and scientist to acknowledge that humanity is in a state of climate crisis. The UK and Scottish Governments declared a climate emergency in Spring 2019.
Climate Change Mitigation	Efforts to reduce or prevent greenhouse gas emissions and/or enhance carbon sinks which remove emissions from the atmosphere.
Climate Resilience	Is the ability to prepare for, recover from, and adapt to the impacts of climate change whilst preventing those impacts from growing worse.
Evidence Report	A supporting document to the Local Development Plan. The Evidence Report provides a summary of the evidence base for a plan's spatial strategy, policies, and proposals. It demonstrates that consideration has been given to the issues relevant to the plan area, and that appropriate consultation and engagement has been carried out and taken account of in preparing a plan.
Flood Risk Management Target Areas	Flood Risk Management Target Areas are geographical areas used to identify locations which are the focus of targeted risk management objectives and actions as identified in Scotland's <a href="#">National Flood Risk Management Plans 2021</a> . Target Areas are located within PVAs but are not formally designated under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009.

Gatecheck	This is an assessment of the sufficiency of the evidence base on which the Proposed Local Development Plan will be developed. It is undertaken by an appointed person from the Scottish Government's Planning and Environmental Appeals Division.
Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)	These gases are any type of gas which can absorb infrared radiation (heat energy) from the Earth's surface and re-emit it back to the Earth's surface, contributing to the greenhouse gas effect. The 7 main GHGs in the <a href="#">UK GHG Inventory</a> , and which have been defined by the <a href="#">Kyoto Protocol</a> as contributing to global warming are: Carbon Dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> ), Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> ), Nitrous Oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O), Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), Perfluorocarbons (PFCs), Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF <sub>6</sub> ), and Nitrogen Trifluoride (NF <sub>3</sub> ).
Local Development Plan (LDP)	A plan which sets out, for the land in the part of the district it relates to, a spatial strategy; any other such matters as may be prescribed by the Scottish Ministers, and any other matters which the planning authority consider appropriate to include.
National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)	NPF4 is the national spatial strategy for Scotland. It sets out the Scottish Government's spatial principles, regional priorities, national developments, and includes a suite of national planning policy. NPF4 was adopted in February 2023.
Nature	Includes biodiversity, geodiversity and the natural components of our landscapes and seascapes.
Nature/Ecological Crisis	Refers to the decline of nature and the environment as a result of a range of issues, including loss of nature habitats through development and agricultural practices, multiple pressures due to climate change, the presence of invasive non-native species, and pollution. During September 2020 at the United Nations Summit on Biodiversity, participating world leaders made a ' <a href="#">Pledge for Nature</a> ' with the aim of reversing biodiversity loss by 2030.
Natural Capital	A concept that recognises Nature as a valuable asset that provides a multitude of ecosystem services, which support, sustain, and benefit our society and economy, making human life on Earth possible. The concept frames our natural environment as a commodity, helping to emphasise the need to invest in and manage these valuable assets, but within safe environmental limits.
Per Capita GHG Emissions	Per capita means per head, or for each person. GHG emissions per capita refers to the average total emissions attributed to each person in a year and are usually measured in tonnes of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (tCO <sub>2</sub> e).
Proposed Plan	The draft stage of the Local Development Plan, which must be approved by full Council before it can move on to its consultation stage.

Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs)	PVAs are geographical areas that are designated for flood management under the <a href="#">Flood Risk Management Act (Scotland) 2009</a> . They show parts of catchments and coastal areas where nationally significant flood risk exists now or is likely to occur in the future.
Scotland Wetland Inventory	The Scotland Wetland Inventory data set has been developed by assimilating spatial data from Nature Scot. The whole country has not yet been surveyed and as a result the data set only displays known wetlands. The wetland inventory database comprises a number of fields that include the main WFD95 wetland type, the original habitat survey information and whether the wetland polygon is within a statutory designated site. The wetland typology (WFD95) is used as the main identifying field for each polygon in the inventory database.
Spatial Strategy	The detailed statement (usually represented through mapping as well accompanying text) of a planning authority's policies and proposals regarding the development and use of land for the area for which the plan applies.
Sustainable Development	As defined in 1987 by the <a href="#">Brundtland Report: Our Common Future</a> , it is development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	A systematic way of identifying, predicting, reporting, mitigating, and monitoring the environmental effects of plans, programmes, policies, and strategies. <a href="#">The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005</a> provides information on the detailed stages and requirements for SEA in Scotland.
Vulnerable Groups to Climate Change	Socially vulnerable groups sensitive to climate impacts are identified as: Very young children; Older people; People in poor health or with poor mobility and access; Tenancy status; Social isolation; People on low incomes, and Location e.g. flood prone areas, remote or island communities.

# 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Under Section 16(B) of the Act <sup>1</sup>, planning authorities are required to prepare an Evidence Report that contains sufficient information to enable the planning authority to move on to the next stage and prepare their Local Development Plan (LDP).
- 1.2 The purpose of an Evidence Report is to provide the planning authority's interpretation of the evidence it has gathered and the likely implications of that evidence for the preparation of their LDP. The Report will provide a summary of what the evidence means for the plan, rather than contain all the detail of evidence collected.

## THE CLIMATE AND NATURE CRISES

- 1.3 This topic paper sets out the key evidence relating to the twin climate and nature crises and covers issues relating to climate mitigation and adaptation. It will, alongside a range of other topic papers, contribute towards the preparation of the Council's Evidence Report, which is programmed to be submitted to the Scottish Government's Planning and Environmental Appeals Division during November 2024 for the 'Gatecheck' process.
- 1.4 It is important to note that whilst the cross-cutting nature of land use planning means it can have both a direct and indirect influence over tackling the climate and nature crises, there are some sectors linked

to land use, land use change, and land management, such as agricultural practices, which the LDP has no direct influence over, but which none-the-less impact upon greenhouse gas emissions levels, the climate resilience of our people and places, and our biodiversity. For this reason, this paper is focussed on those issues which are relevant to land use planning and within its scope of influence; the implications of the evidence for the Perth and Kinross LDP3 Spatial Strategy, and those key issues which will need to be addressed through LDP3, where appropriate.

- 1.5 This topic is specifically covered by NPF4 policies 1: Tackling the climate and nature crises, and 2: Climate mitigation and adaptation. However, as universal policies, NPF4 policies 1 and 2 have key policy connections with all the remaining NPF4 policies from 3 to 33, and will be implemented by the cumulative impact of those other policies. In particular through policies 3: Biodiversity, 4: Natural places, 5: Soils, and 6: Forestry, woodlands and trees.

## LEGAL AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

- 1.6 Currently, the specific requirements within the Act for LDPs relating to tackling the twin crises are:
  - **Section 3F Greenhouse gas emissions policies** which states that "a planning authority, in any local development plan prepared by

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<sup>1</sup> [The Town and Country Planning \(Scotland\) Act 1997, as amended by the Planning \(Scotland\) Act 2019](#)

them, must include policies requiring all developments in the local development plan area to be designed so as to ensure that all new buildings avoid a specified and rising proportion of the projected greenhouse gas emissions for their use, calculated on the basis of the approved design and plans for the specific development, through the installation and operation of low and zero-carbon generating technologies.” and

- **Section 15(5)(a) Form and content of local development plans** which requires a plan to set out “the principal physical, ...and environmental characteristics of the district.”

1.7 However, it is worth noting that the Scottish Government intend to repeal Section 3F of the Planning Act as national planning policies now go further than Section 3F and also consider lifecycle emissions. Furthermore, with the New Build Heat Standard coming into force on 1 April 2024 through the building regulations, it targets heating related emissions as a significant source and removes current emissions compliance calculation methodology<sup>2</sup>.

1.8 Policies 1 and 2 of NPF4 expect the following from LDPs:

- **Policy 1** – “LDPs must address the global climate emergency and nature crisis by ensuring the spatial strategy will reduce emissions and adapt to current and future risks of climate change by promoting nature recovery and restoration in the area.”
- **Policy 2** - “The LDP spatial strategy should be designed to reduce, minimise or avoid greenhouse gas emissions. The six spatial

principles<sup>3</sup> should form the basis of the spatial strategy, helping to guide development to, and create sustainable locations. The strategy should be informed by an understanding of the impacts of the proposals on greenhouse gas emissions.

LDPs should support adaptation to the current and future impacts of climate change by taking into account climate risks, guiding development away from vulnerable areas, and enabling places to adapt to those risks.”

1.9 In addition to the above, the Scottish Government published [Local Development Planning Guidance](#) in May 2023. Under the documents ‘Step by step guide’ section, advice is provided on relevant evidence for NPF4 policy topics to help planning authorities in considering the national planning policies when preparing their Evidence Report. The guide summarises the legislative requirements and the evidence likely to be required to allow NPF4 policies to be taken into account by an LDP, it also signposts to various information sources.

1.10 The section to follow looks to identify relevant datasets and sources of information to satisfy the asks of the Act and NPF4 Policies 1 and 2, as well as take account of the data and information suggested in the May 2023 Guidance.

#### IDENTIFICATION OF DATASETS

1.11 Table A1 of Appendix A sets out the evidence which should be gathered and analysed so that the Proposed Plan can address the

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<sup>2</sup> [The Scottish Government, Fourteenth Annual Report on the Operation of Section 72 of the Climate Change \(Scotland\) Act 2009, March 2024](#)

<sup>3</sup> NPF4’s Six Spatial Principles are: Just transition; Conserving and recycling assets; Local living; Compact urban growth; Rebalanced development, and Rural revitalisation.

requirements and expectations raised in both the Act and in NPF4. It also highlights where there are current gaps or uncertainty relating to some of the data identified. Section 2 of this paper expands upon this by exploring in more detail the key issues raised by the data and what the implications might be for the Proposed Plan.

## 2 Twin Crises Information Analysis

### DATA AND INFORMATION SOURCES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PLAN

2.1 To follow is a list of sources of data and information directly related to the climate emergency and nature crisis subjects, and also a summary of why that evidence is considered relevant to the Proposed Plan's preparation.

#### LDP Spatial Strategies

2.2 As previously highlighted under paragraph 1.5 - due to the universal nature of NPF4's policies 1 and 2, i.e. because they apply to the overall LDP Spatial Strategy, and all development proposals, this paper will be unable to cover in detail the relevant climate and nature crises objectives for each policy area. Therefore, not all relevant sources of data and information for the subjects will be listed below. Instead, these matters will be picked up under each of the relevant individual topic papers.

2.3 [Part 1 of National Planning Framework 4 contains six Spatial Principles](#) - NPF4 Policy 2 asks that these principles should form the basis of an LDPs spatial strategy to help guide development to sustainable locations and create sustainable places. The six spatial principles are:

1. Just transition - We will empower people to shape their places and ensure the transition to net zero is fair and inclusive.

2. Conserving and recycling assets – We will make productive use of existing buildings, places, infrastructure, and services, locking in carbon, minimising waste, and building a circular economy.
3. Local living – We will support local liveability and improve community health and wellbeing by ensuring people can easily access services, greenspace, learning, work, and leisure locally.
4. Compact urban growth – We will limit urban expansion so we can optimise the use of land to provide services and resources, including carbon storage, flood risk management, blue and green infrastructure, and biodiversity.
5. Rebalanced development – We will target development to create opportunities for communities and investment in areas of past decline and manage development sustainably in areas of high demand.
6. Rural revitalisation – We will encourage sustainable development in rural areas, recognising the need to grow and support urban and rural communities together.

#### Box 1: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

NPF4 asks that we plan our future places in line with these six overarching spatial principles so that our places work for everyone. Through applying this approach, the spatial strategy developed for LDP3 should be an integrated one, bringing together cross-cutting priorities in order to achieve sustainable development, rather than having to compromise between environmental, social, and economic objectives. The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for LDP3 will also help the Plan strike a balance between these different objectives, identifying and directing the right development to the most appropriate and sustainable locations.

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Lifecycle Assessments

- 2.4 [National Planning Framework 4 – lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions: assessment findings](#) and the [ESPON – Quantitative Greenhouse Gas Assessment tool for Spatial Planning](#) contain assessment methodologies to help in developing a greater understanding of the individual components of development proposals, and their likely positive or negative effects on greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

### Box 2: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

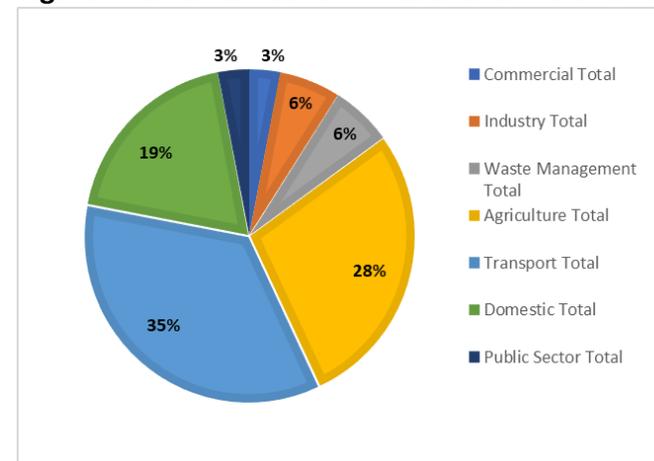
Under NPF4 Policy 2, LDP spatial strategies are expected to be informed by an understanding of impacts of the Plan’s proposals on GHG emissions. These tools should assist the Council in better understanding the likely effects of different proposals on GHG emissions, and the potential direct, indirect, and overall effect of proposals on GHG emissions. This should in turn guide the development of the Plan’s spatial strategy and the identification of development proposals to help reduce, avoid, or minimise GHG emissions.

- 2.5 [Department of Business, Energy, and Industrial Strategy \(BEIS\) Data 2021](#) is a set of statistics which annually provides a reliable and nationally consistent breakdown of GHG emissions estimates across the UK. It combines data from the [UK’s GHG Inventory](#) with data from a number of other sources, including local energy consumption statistics, to produce estimates at a local authority level. BEIS use nationally available datasets going back to 2005 and cover territorial

emissions of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O).

- 2.6 These estimates are compiled for local authorities based on a number of sectors: Transport; Energy supply; Business; Residential; Agriculture; Waste management; Industrial processes; Public; and Land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF). As well as providing a sectoral breakdown, they also outline those emissions thought to be within the scope of influence of local authorities and those which are outwith.
- 2.7 BEIS data has been used in the development of the Council’s Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CCSAP) and forms part of the monitoring framework for the implementation of these documents. Figure 2 illustrates the share of the overall GHG territorial emissions by sector, with the Transport and Agriculture sectors as the largest emitters within the Perth and Kinross Area.

**Figure 2: GHG Territorial Emissions for Perth and Kinross, BEIS**



2.8 As expected, the BEIS data shows that after the transport emission reductions seen in 2020, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, there was a year-on-year emissions increase, primarily associated with the transport sector. Although emissions in 2021 had decreased from the 2019 pre-Covid level, the decrease was not enough to match the estimated trajectory needed to reach the Scottish Government target of 75% reduction by 2030.

2.9 The Land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) sector does not feature in the chart at Figure 2. This is due to a number of land use activities and assets, such as forestry, acting as a “carbon sink”, absorbing CO<sub>2</sub>, and offsetting some of the area wide emissions generated by the different sectors<sup>4</sup>.

2.10 In 2021, the total Perth and Kinross area wide territorial GHG emissions was 1306.1 ktCO<sub>2e</sub>, whilst the LULUCF sequestration (including forest land and grassland) was reported as 704.7 ktCO<sub>2e</sub><sup>5</sup> for the same time period. Therefore, the balanced net territorial GHG emissions contributing to climate change in 2021, was 601.4 ktCO<sub>2e</sub>. This figure is up on the 2020 net balanced area wide total of 502.8 ktCO<sub>2e</sub> due to greater overall area wide emissions and less sequestration potential being reported. Comparison of the year on year BEIS data for the total area wide sequestration by the LULUCF sector shows a negative trend in sequestration levels since 2017.

<sup>4</sup> **Note:** In order to reach our national Net Zero ambitions, the pattern we want to see is the ktCO<sub>2e</sub> figure decreasing for area wide territorial emissions, and the ktCO<sub>2e</sub> sequestration figure increasing year on year.

However, the overall trend in reducing Perth and Kinross area wide GHG emissions is improving.

**Figure 3: Perth and Kinross estimated year-on-year GHG reduction (ktCO<sub>2e</sub>) needed to achieve 75% of 1990 baseline by 2030**

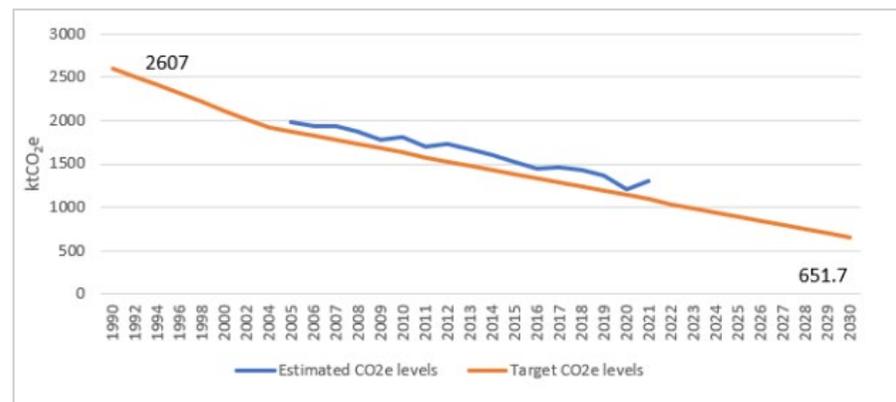


Figure 3 is an extract taken from the PKC Year 2 Climate Change Annual Report

2.11 As demonstrated by Figure 3, currently, the GHG emissions in Perth and Kinross are 19% higher than a trajectory aligned to the Scottish Government targets. However, it is worth noting that as the Council’s Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CCSAP) was approved in December 2021, it is likely that any changes in performance as a result of implementing the CCSAP are yet to be reflected in the data.

2.12 As shown in Figure 4, since 2005, the per capita GHG emissions in Perth and Kinross have steadily reduced, until the increase in 2021.

<sup>5</sup> Kilotonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent

While this reflects the trend for Scotland for that period, the per capita emissions for the area have continued to remain higher than the Scottish average, which is expected for a local authority with a more rural population like Perth and Kinross.

**Figure 4: Per Capita GHG Emissions for Perth and Kinross (tCO<sub>2</sub>e)**

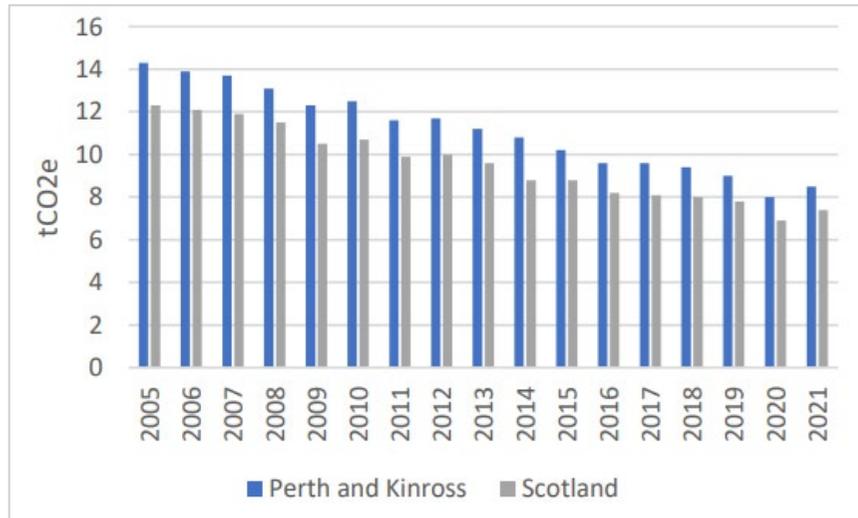


Figure 4 is an extract taken from the PKC Year 2 Climate Change Annual Report

2.13 The year on year increase in per capita GHG emissions shown in the most recent BEIS data, reflects the recovery from artificial Covid-related emissions reductions from 2020, and shows a decrease from 2019 emissions, albeit not on trajectory.

2.14 Figure 5 shows that in terms of the Perth and Kinross Area-wide CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (ktCO<sub>2</sub>e) from 2005 until 2020, whilst a steady downward trend was experienced, only the significant Covid-related emissions reductions in 2020 were responsible for bringing the emissions down

to a level that complies with the Scottish Government’s interim emission target for 2020 of 56%. The 2021 data, on the other hand, shows a 13.7% increase from 2020 values. Although this is positively lower than 2019 levels, the value is still 10% higher than what is needed to be on trajectory for the 2030 target and is not in compliance with the 2021 target.

**Figure 5: Perth and Kinross Areas-Wide CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions (ktCO<sub>2</sub>e)**

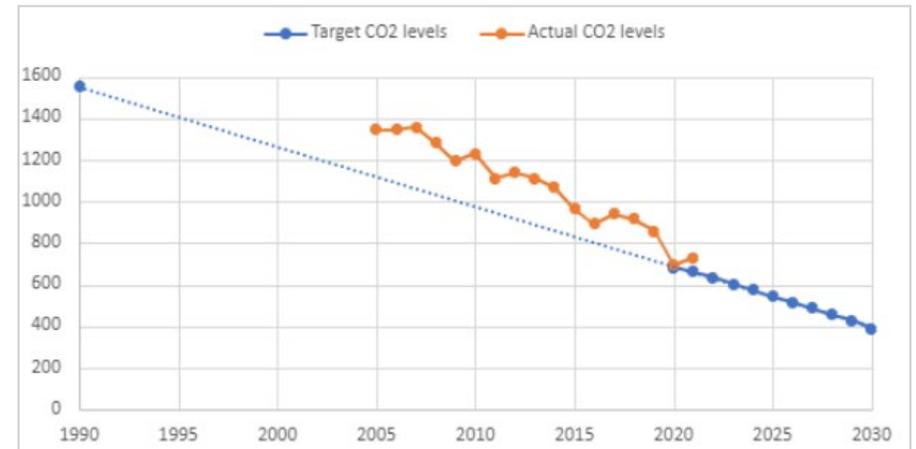


Figure 5 is an extract from the PKC Year 2 Climate Change Annual Report

2.15 The BEIS data is an extremely useful data source, which provides an understanding of current GHG emissions levels across Perth and Kinross (including trends from 2005 to 2021). As previously highlighted at paragraph 1.18, the data shows us that the Transport and Agriculture sectors are the largest GHG emitters across the area, followed closely by the Domestic (Energy Consumption) sector, and that although some progress has been made to date, the Council Area is not currently on a trajectory with the Scottish Government’s

emission targets. As mentioned elsewhere in this Topic Paper, many of the activities occurring within these sectors which result in high GHG emissions levels are outwith the scope of land use planning and the Council's influence, and will require a holistic and partnership approach, across many stakeholders, to help realise national net zero emissions targets.

### Box 3: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

In terms of LDP3, the BEIS data will be helpful in guiding the development of the Plan's Spatial Strategy and the identification of proposals, in order to reduce, avoid, or minimise emissions. It will also provide a baseline against which the effectiveness of LDP3's spatial strategy can be monitored in the future.

## Adaptation and Mitigation, and Achieving Net Zero and a Just Transition

### A Changing Climate – Scotland and Perth and Kinross

2.16 The [Adaptation Scotland website](#) provides detailed information on Scotland's Climate Projections. It tells us that our climate is changing and that we are already seeing the impact of this change in Scotland, with the 10 warmest years on record having all occurred since 1997. In addition to the warming of the climate, over the past few decades we have seen changes in rainfall patterns and rising sea-levels. The

weather is also getting more extreme, with our hottest days getting hotter and our wettest days getting wetter.

2.17 Climate projections indicate that the changes we have already experienced in our climate, over the last century, will continue and intensify over the coming decades. Ultimately, the amount of change that occurs will depend on how successful we are in reducing GHG emissions globally. In 2020, the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change \(IPCC\)](#) warned that we only have a limited period until 2030 to take the decisive and serious action required to avert the crisis and avoid the worst impacts.

2.18 The key long term climate change trends identified by Adaptation Scotland for the country are:

- Average temperatures will increase across all seasons.
- Weather will remain variable and may become more variable.
- Typical summers will be warmer and drier.
- Typical winters will be milder and wetter.
- Intense, heavy rainfall events will increase in both winter and summer.
- Sea levels will rise.
- Reduced frost and snowfall.

2.19 It is important to recognise that these changes will not be consistent across the country, or even across a large area like Perth and Kinross. The impacts of these changes will depend on how quickly we can reduce GHG emissions to a net zero position, and what action we take to adapt across Scotland as a whole, and the Perth and Kinross

Area specifically, to the current and predicted future changes in climate.

2.20 The impacts which we are already experiencing across Perth and Kinross and are likely to experience even further without decisive action in tackling both the climate emergency and nature crisis, are listed below. Please note that the details of climate risks for specific policy areas will be addressed in the other topic papers. This paper provides a strategic overview for the Council Area.

2.21 The likely impacts for the Perth and Kinross area include:

- Loss of nature, important habitats, and species.
- Increased occurrence and severity of flooding.
- Damage to buildings and infrastructure, including our heritage assets.
- Impacts on transport and communications infrastructure and networks.
- Potential damage to paths and places of recreation.
- A reduction in the availability and quality of water due to rising temperatures, and the need to meet growing domestic, agricultural, and industrial demands.
- Increased risk of pests and diseases impacting the natural environment, including woodlands, wildlife, and crops.
- Potential impacts on food supply.
- Potential impacts on energy supply, security, and efficiency - leading to power outages.
- Reduced rainfall increases the risk of wildfires.
- Impacts on stability and security of livelihoods.
- Impacts on health and wellbeing from increased temperatures, including heat stress.

- Risks to health from changes in air quality.
- Increased levels of poverty and poor economic growth.

## Our Changing Nature

2.22 Topic Paper 005: Biodiversity and Natural Places covers in detail the evidence that will be used to inform the development of our LDP3 Proposed Plan in respect of the natural environment, habitats, and species. Where available, this will refer to information relevant to the state or condition of the natural environment of Perth and Kinross, including reference to impacts on biodiversity and habitats as a result of Climate Change. Topic Paper 007: Forestry, Woodland, and Trees also highlights the effects of a changing climate specifically on our trees and woodlands, and the need to adapt to build climate resilience. To avoid repetition of evidence, this topic paper considers high level strategies and reports relating to the Nature Crisis.

2.23 The State of Nature Partnership's [State of Nature Report 2023](#) sets out the trends for species including plants. The Scotland specific summary contains commentary on protected areas, woodlands and peatland, the impacts of land use activities, and climate change. This includes:

- A 15% decline in species abundance.
- A 15% increase in distribution of invertebrates due to climate change.
- 11% of species in Scotland are now classified as threatened with extinction.
- 57% decrease in plant and lichen distributions.

2.24 These declines are measured since 1994 so do not include earlier declines through habitat loss. The declines (and increases) overall in some species does not reflect that there are large differences in individual species or species groups. 43% of terrestrial and freshwater species showed a strong or moderate decline over the last 10 years with 36% of species showing an increase. Moths for example have declined 18% since 1970 with the majority of that decline occurring over the last 10 years. The priorities identified in this Report include:

- Vascular plants
- Bryophytes and lichens
- Species associated with arable farmland and semi-natural grassland.
- Upland birds
- Wading birds
- Wintering waterbirds

2.25 Other concerns which were highlighted in the Report are:

- 7% contraction in red squirrels range between 1993-2016.
- Significant decline in critically endangered pine hoverfly due to habitat loss.
- 36% of vertebrates are threatened in Scotland.
- 31% of Amphibians and reptiles are threatened UK wide.

2.26 Through having an awareness of these species, it can help with prioritising which actions need to be taken, and also avoided, in order to protect and conserve species through spatial strategies and policies.

## Tackling the Climate and Nature Crises

- 2.27 [Climate Ready Scotland: climate change adaptation programme 2019-2024](#) is a five year programme aimed at preparing Scotland for the challenges the country faces as our climate continues to change. The programme identifies 7 Outcomes, each of which have their own Sub-outcomes.
- 2.28 The Scottish Government's [Update to the Climate Change Plan 2018 – 2032: Securing a Green Recovery on a Path to Net Zero](#) updates the 2018 Climate Change Plan, and includes new ambitious targets to help end Scotland's contribution to climate change by 2045. The update provides a 'Route Map to 2032' with actions and targets for each of the different sectors. Those which are of particular relevance to LDP3 have been included in Figure 1 at the start of this Topic Paper.
- 2.29 With respect to the Land Use, Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) sector, the update recognises our landscape and natural environment as our greatest assets, they not only contribute massively to our economy and society, but also, how we use them is also seen as important too, to our collective health and wellbeing.
- 2.30 The two key pillars of LULUCF in Scotland are regarded as forestry and peatland. The expansion of Scotland's forests and woodlands will help contribute to a reduction in GHG emissions, as well as generate an important commercial natural resource, improve biodiversity, and provide spaces and places for people to enjoy. The

expansion target set is to increase the annual level of woodland creation up to 18,000 Ha in 2024/25.

2.31 Peatlands form 20% of Scotland’s land cover. In good condition they can perform the role of a “carbon sink” by actively removing and storing carbon from the atmosphere. They also support habitats and species and help to improve water quality and manage flood risk.

When degraded, these peatlands can no longer perform these functions, but rather emit more carbon than they can remove. The 2018 Climate Change Plan established an annual peatland restoration target of 20,000 Ha.

2.32 Please note, Topic Papers 006: Soils and 007: Forestry, Woodland, and Trees explore in more detail the relevant data and information in respect of peatland, and woodland creation for the Perth and Kinross Area.

2.33 The Scottish Government’s [Scottish Biodiversity Strategy to 2045 – Tackling the Nature Emergency in Scotland](#) sets out a clear ambition for Scotland to be ‘Nature Positive’ by 2030, and for biodiversity across the country to be restored and regenerated by 2045. In pursuit of the Strategy’s Vision, a set of detailed Outcomes (to be achieved through actions in a number of Delivery Plans) have been identified under 4 themes. The Strategy also identified 6 Objectives which have helped to shape the development of actions. These Objectives are:

1. Accelerate restoration and regeneration.

2. Protect nature on land and at sea, across and beyond protected areas.
3. Embed nature-positive farming, fishing, and forestry.
4. Protect and support the recovery of vulnerable and important species and habitats.
5. Invest in Nature; and
6. Take action on the indirect drivers of biodiversity loss.

2.34 The December 2020 Scottish Government [Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Post-2020: A Statement of Intent](#) established the direction for the new biodiversity strategy in response to the increased urgency for action in tackling the twin climate change and biodiversity loss challenges. One of the key priorities identified in the Statement was that:

‘We will extend the area protected for nature in Scotland to at least 30% of our land area by 2030...’.

2.35 Nature Scot’s [Climate Change and Nature Information Sheet](#) reiterates the link between climate and nature, and highlights that a ‘nature-rich future is our best response to the climate emergency.’ The sheet continues that as the planet is already ‘locked into a lot of change’ we still need to adapt to that change alongside our efforts in reducing emissions. The delivery of nature based solutions can help to protect and enhance habitats; increase biodiversity; reduce net emissions through capturing and storing CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere; reduce the severity of floods, heatwaves, rising sea levels and storms. The enhancement and expansion of Scotland’s nature can

also have added benefits for people’s health and wellbeing and can support local economies and food production and supply.

**Box 4: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3**

It is important that Perth and Kinross Council’s plans and strategies reflect national policies, key actions, and outcomes, and that they are developed through taking account of national advice in respect of adapting to a changing climate, so that we can contribute towards achieving national targets relating to emissions reductions, woodland creation, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and protecting and enhancing habitats and species. It is also important that we take an ecosystem’s services approach to developing LDP3’s spatial strategy. This can best be achieved through the SEA for LDP3.

2.36 In December 2021 the Council adopted its first [PKC Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan \(CCSAP\)](#). It was produced in response to the UK Parliament and Scottish Government’s environment and climate emergency declaration statements in Spring 2019. The purpose of the CCSAP is to turn the intent of the Council’s support for these emergency declarations into practice. It sets out the next steps and an initial route map to take us to a net zero carbon and climate resilient Perth and Kinross.

2.37 Public engagement work was carried out on the Draft Strategy and Action Plan during 2020 and 2021 to help shape the final documents. The results of this exercise have also been provided on the Council’s

dedicated [Climate Action website](#) and are explored in more detail later under the Stakeholder Engagement section of this paper.

2.38 The Strategy sets out the legislative framework, including national targets (see Figure 1 at beginning of this Topic Paper); outlines key emissions trends; establishes six overarching principles to shape the long-term approach to climate change for the area (See Figure 2 to follow), and also contains 27 Council Commitments which are needed to achieve the outcomes.

**Figure 2: PKC’s Six Overarching Climate Change Strategy Principles**

1. Achieving Net Zero aligned with the Paris Agreement and the Scottish Government Targets, with the ambition of achieving them sooner.
2. Building a more resilient Perth and Kinross.
3. Ensuring climate action is fair and benefits all and we deliver a green recovery from Covid-19.
4. Enhancing biodiversity to help avoid an ecological emergency.
5. Engaging and empowering young people to take action on climate change.
6. Empowering our communities and businesses to take climate action in line with the Perth and Kinross Offer.

2.39 The [Action Plan](#) is then divided into 8 thematic areas: Transport; Buildings and Energy; Business and Industry; Waste and Circular Economy; Land Use (incorporating LULUCF); Climate Resilience; Education and Engagement, and Governance. For each of these thematic areas or sectors, it provides details on - existing action to

date within the area; a list of key themes for each sector and related actions; a Road Map to deliver these actions; key challenges and opportunities, and also corresponding Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to help measure progress.

- 2.40 Originally, 146 Actions were identified in the Council’s Climate Action Plan, spread across the 8 themes. That number has since risen to approximately 200, as a result of new actions being identified through the Council’s 8 internal Climate Change Working Groups, which are made up of officers from different teams across various Council services, who are tasked with the delivery of the actions, often in partnership with other stakeholders. The groups regularly review their list of actions to ensure they remain appropriate. To date, a number of the actions have already been or are close to being delivered, and progress against these actions is regularly monitored.
- 2.41 The Council also produces a [Climate Change Annual Report](#) to provide an update on progress on the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan. The most recent report covers the period October 2022 to September 2023 and confirms that at that time 46% of the Climate Change KPIs showed positive change. However, the Report does flag that due to a data release delay for a number of indicators, some of the data being reported on was still related to pre-Strategy performance. If these indicators were to be removed, the value would increase to 55% of all KPIs.
- 2.42 The Council’s recently published [Consultation Draft Mobility Strategy](#) sets out the Council's vision for managing and developing the

transport network across the area. It considers all modes of transport for the movement of goods and people, across our urban and rural areas, to help achieve the national targets and outcomes established under the [National Transport Strategy 2 \(NTS2\)](#), and the key issues and action targets identified under [Tactran’s Draft Regional Transport Strategy 2023-2033](#).

- 2.43 The Draft Regional Transport Strategy’s (RTS) key outcome ‘To Take Climate Action’ seeks to:
- Reduce estimated CO2 emissions from transport in the region in line with the national target of a reduction of 56% by 2030 (compared to 1990 levels).
  - Increase the share of EV and low emission vehicle use through promoting Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) adoption.
  - Reduce car kilometres driven in line with the national reduction target of 20% by 2030 (compared to 2019 levels).
- 2.44 Actions identified under the Draft RTS outcomes ‘Increase the levels of walking and cycling in the least affluent SIMD data zones’, and ‘Reduce transport emissions in declared air quality management areas’, will also contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- 2.45 The Council’s Draft Mobility Strategy responds to the climate change agenda and changes in how people travel. It also considers emerging technologies, digital services, housing, inclusion, poverty, health, climate adaptation, economic growth, air quality, and placemaking. It contains 11 Transport Planning Objectives.

2.46 In response to the NTS2 priority and Draft RTS outcome on taking climate action, and recognising the impact emissions from the transport sector have on the area’s greenhouse gas emissions levels, along with the need to future proof transport infrastructure against the impacts of a changing climate, the Draft Mobility Strategy identifies 2 objectives:

- To reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions produced by transport across Perth and Kinross, by reducing car kilometres, decarbonising motorised transport, and increasing the share of everyday journeys of people and goods by sustainable and active travel modes.
- To improve climate resilience across Perth and Kinross’s transport network by reducing the impacts caused by extreme weather events.

2.47 The Draft Strategy’s accompanying Action Plan also identifies a number of strategic actions linked to its ‘Sustainable Transport’, ‘Organisation, Planning and Regulations’, ‘Innovation and Future Mobility’, and ‘Road Network’ themes, which, when delivered, will contribute to efforts in tackling climate change across Perth and Kinross.

#### Box 5: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

Consideration of data, information and relevant actions that are contained in the Council’s Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan will ensure that development of the LDP3’s Spatial Strategy reflects the Council’s corporate position on climate action, and those relevant actions identified in the Action Plan, whose delivery can be supported via the land use planning system, are included within LDP3. It will also allow for the closer monitoring of implementation of some of those actions.

Through its Spatial Strategy, LDP3 can help support the delivery of some of the Draft RTS and Mobility Strategy actions in relation to active and sustainable travel networks, and improvements to the transport network and its associated infrastructure to help make it more resilient to the impacts of climate change.

2.48 The Council commissioned the James Hutton Institute (JHI) to undertake a Carbon Sequestration Study of the Perth and Kinross Council Area. The study’s concluding report was submitted to the Council in December 2021. The project focussed on the sectors of land-based industries and natural resources, and how these can be considered when looking at the carbon resources of the area, and its potential for sequestering or reducing GHG emissions.

#### Box 6: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The JHI project report identifies some actions relating to the assessment and use of natural resources which could be taken forward to help in achieving net zero emissions. This report can help guide the development of the Plan's Spatial Strategy, through highlighting existing sources of GHG sequestration and storage, and identifying new opportunities.

- 2.49 The [UK Climate Change Committee's \(UKCCC\) 'Progress in reducing emissions in Scotland – 2023 Report to Parliament \(March 2024\)'](#) monitors Scotland's progress in reducing emissions and assesses the policies in place for delivering future reductions in emissions. The Report states in its Executive Summary that the Scottish Government is failing to meet the ambitious national climate goals. Annual emissions targets have been missed repeatedly, and the publication of Scotland's Draft Climate Change Plan has been delayed from its 2023 publication date. As such, there is a lack of a comprehensive delivery strategy for meeting future emissions targets and progress against actions is continuing to fall short of legal requirements.
- 2.50 Whilst the Report acknowledges "some early signs of good progress", urgent and significant action is thought to be needed to turn Scotland's targets into effective delivery and achieve the necessary levels of emissions reductions at the earliest date possible. With respect to the development of our LDP3 Proposed Plan, this means that we require to ensure our Forestry and Woodland Strategy is up

to date to support the Perth and Kinross Area's contribution to the national targets for new woodland creation, and that we identify and protect the area's most valuable soils, including those areas of peatland with restoration potential.

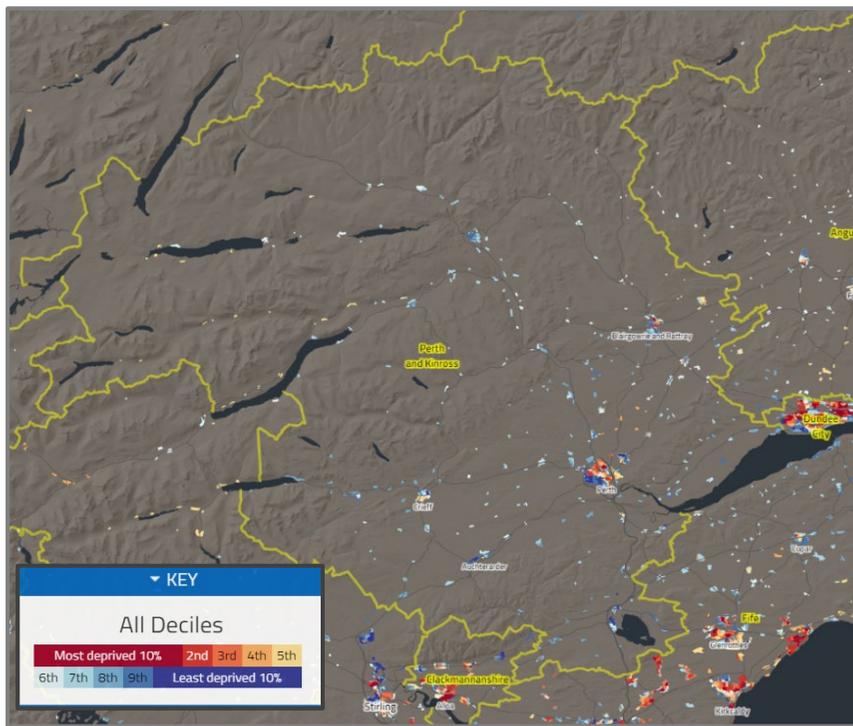
#### Box 7: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

This UKCCC's report and recommendations provides the Council with a clear picture of the sectors in which significant progress needs to be made (across Scotland) and at a rapid scale to achieve the necessary levels of emissions reductions at the earliest date possible. The LDP3 Spatial Strategy should seek to deliver sustainable development and the creation of sustainable communities. Our Forestry and Woodland Strategy should help facilitate enhanced woodland creation to contribute to achieving Scottish planting targets, whilst ensuring the delivery of the right tree in the right place as per [Scottish Government Guidance](#). Our work on Nature Networks as part of LDP3 should, along with the [Peatland ACTION](#) Project, identify areas for restoration and explore mechanisms for delivery with partners.

## Vulnerability to Climate Change Risks within Perth and Kinross

2.51 The 2020 [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation \(SIMD\)](#) data tells us that 39 out of 186 (21%) of all datazones in the Perth and Kinross Area are ranked in the 40% most deprived areas in Scotland; 7 out of 136 (4%) are within the 15% most deprived; 3 out of 186 (2%) are within the 10% most deprived areas, and 44 out 186 (%) are within the 20% least deprived areas in Scotland. The most deprived areas in Perth and Kinross can be found in Perth (Muirton, and Hillyland, Tulloch and Inveralmond), and Blairgowrie East (Ratray).

**Map 1: SIMD Map for the Perth and Kinross Council Area (2020)**



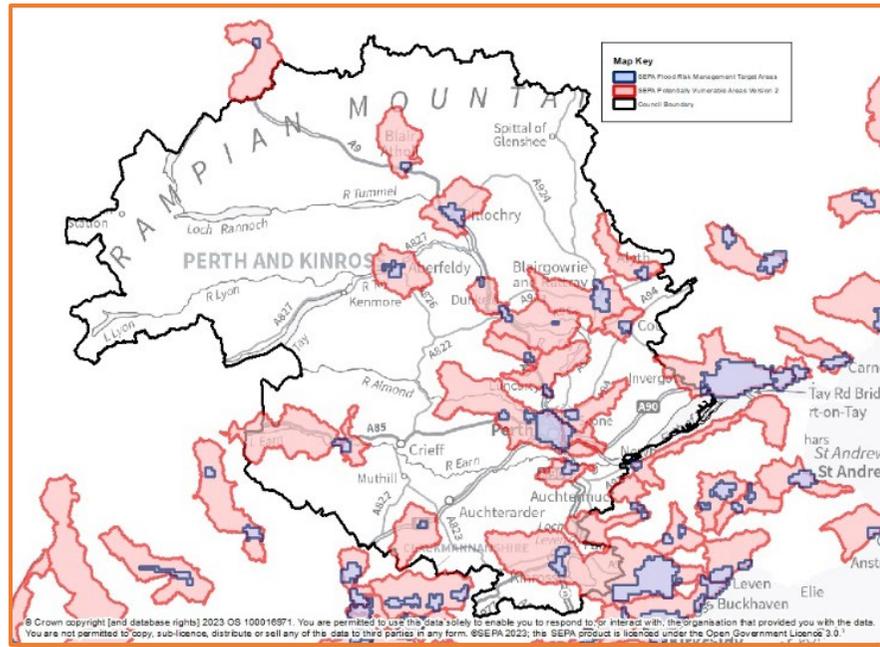
2.52 In 2018 the [SEPA National Flood Risk Assessment \(NFRA\)](#) identified 21 Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) within, overlapping or immediately adjoining the Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) Area. The PVAs of relevance to the PKC Area are: Aberfeldy, Alyth, Auchtermuchty, Bankfoot, Blackford, Blair Atholl, Blairgowrie and Rattray, Bridge of Earn, Comrie, Coupar Angus, Cowdenbeth, Dalwhinnie, Dundee, Broughty Ferry and Invergowrie, Dunkeld and Birnam, Hillfoot villages, Kinross, Milnathort and Glenrothes, Luncarty and Stanley, Perth and Almondbank, Pitlochry, and Scone.

2.53 Flooding in Scotland is managed through 14 local plan districts which are based on river catchments. Perth and Kinross Council is the lead authority for the [Tay District](#) as well as being involved in 3 other surrounding districts – the [Forth](#), [Forth Estuary](#), and the [Tay Estuary and Montrose Basin](#). The Local Flood Risk Management Plans (FRMPs) for these districts supplement, and are consistent with SEPA’s plans, but also set out the responsibilities, timescales, local coordination, and funding arrangements for the implementation of the selected actions. The main focus of the local FRMPs is to manage flood risk in PVAs, where specific actions apply in addition to the general actions.

2.54 In 2021, there were 22 Flood Risk Management Target Areas within Perth and Kinross at: Blair Atholl, Spittalfield, Weem, Aberfeldy, Almondbank, Alyth, Bankfoot, Blackford, Blairgowrie and Rattray, Bridge of Earn, Comrie, Coupar Angus, Dunkeld and Birnam,

Invergowrie, Kinross, Luncarty, Methven, Perth, Pitlochry, Scone, Dalguise, and Milnathort.

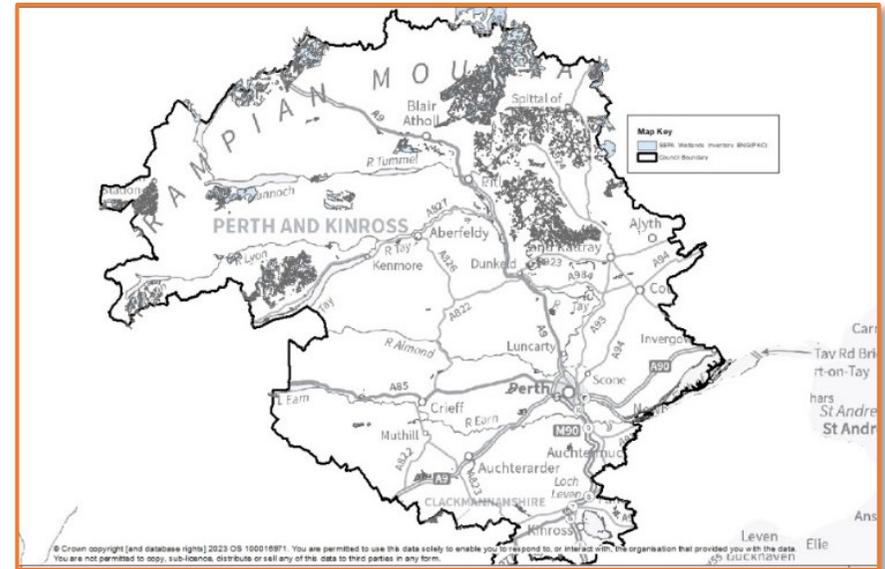
**Map 2: SEPA Flood Risk Management Target Areas and PVAs (2020)**



2.55 Areas within Perth and Kinross identified as having high potential for floodplain storage (Current SEPA 1:200 year flood outline) are at: Kinross and Milnathort, Blackford and Greenloaning, Dunning, Crieff, Madderty and Balgowan, Bridge of Earn, Perth, Huntingtower, Ruthvenfield, Scone, Luncarty, Errol Station, Inchtule, Rait, Grange, Spittalfield, Dalguise, Dowally, Guay and Kindalochan, Ballinluig, Logierait, Blair Atholl, Tummel Bridge, Aberfeldy, Weem Village, Meikleour, Coupar Angus, Kettins, Meigle, Alyth, Blairgowrie and Rattray.

2.56 Wetlands are a natural water-storage feature on the landscape. The [Scotland Wetland Inventory](#) indicates that there is approximately 293.1 Km<sup>2</sup> of wetlands in the Perth and Kinross Area.

**Map 3: SEPA Scotland Wetland Inventory**



2.57 The Council measures the air quality of the area at more than 80 locations using specialist equipment, including 4 automatic air quality monitoring stations. By law, PKC must assess the presence of 8 pollutants, and the levels we measure are set at a level to protect the public's health.

2.58 Recent assessments show that PKC's air quality meets the [Scottish Government's objectives](#) for 5 of these pollutants, which do not require to be monitored. However, for the other 3 pollutants (Nitrogen Oxide (NO<sub>2</sub>), Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>), and Fine

Particulate Matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub>) assessments show that they exceed or may likely exceed the Scottish Government's objectives at a few isolated locations. As such, the Council must monitor more detailed levels of these pollutants.

- 2.59 Real Time Monitoring Stations at Atholl Street, Perth, Main Street Bridgend, Perth, James Square, Crieff, and North Muirton Primary School, Perth, monitor the presence of these 3 air pollutants.
- 2.60 Where monitoring indicates that levels of a particular pollutant will exceed the objective level set by [National Air Quality \(Scotland\) Regulations](#) in any given year, the area in question should be designated as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). There are currently 2 AQMAs in Perth and Kinross: Perth City and Crieff High Street, which were originally declared due to levels of road traffic pollutants (NO<sub>2</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) being found to be above the air quality objectives.
- 2.61 As a result of measures implemented over recent years, improvements in the air quality have already been seen within both AQMAs. Pollutions levels within the Crieff AQMA have remained within objectives for several years. Levels in Perth are also below the objective in the majority of locations.
- 2.62 The [Scottish Household Survey \(SHS\)](#) is an annual survey of the general population in Scotland, and has been carried out since 1999. The survey aims to collect reliable and up to date information on a number of topics, including neighbourhoods and environment, via a

random sampling of people in private residences. The most recent publication is the 2022 SHS.

- 2.63 The SHS Neighbourhoods data provides a picture of how residents rate their neighbourhoods as a place to live. In 2022, the data reports that the percentage residents of Perth and Kinross who rated their neighbourhood as very/fairly good was 95%, which is the same as the Scotland figure. 63% of residents ranked their neighbourhood as very good; 32% as fairly good; 4% as fairly poor, and 1% as very poor. These percentages are also closely mirror the Scotland figures for each of the rankings. The percentages for the Perth and Kinross Area have also remained similar throughout the years since the first survey undertaken in 1999.
- 2.64 The SHS Environment Survey was first carried out in 2013 and as such does not report year on year data for as far back as 1999. The survey asked residents their perceptions about climate change as a problem, and further queried the percentage of adults perceiving that problem to be immediate and urgent by various classifications or profile information. The results of the survey for the Perth and Kinross Area were as follows:
- 81% of adults in Perth and Kinross perceived climate change as an immediate and urgent problem (74% for Scotland as a whole).
  - 12% of adults perceived climate change as more of a problem for the future (same as Scotland figure).
  - 1% of adults perceived climate change as not really a problem (3% for Scotland as a whole).

- 6% of adults were still not convinced that climate change is happening (5% for Scotland as a whole).
- 0% of adults thought none of the above (2% for Scotland as a whole).
- 1% of adults responded that they don't know (5% for Scotland as a whole).

2.65 In comparison, the percentage figures recorded for the 2013 survey were:

- 46% of adults in Perth and Kinross perceived climate change as an immediate and urgent problem (46% for Scotland as a whole).
- 22% of adults perceived climate change as more of a problem for the future (25% for Scotland as a whole).
- 9% of adults perceived climate change as not really a problem (7% for Scotland as a whole).
- 17% of adults were still not convinced that climate change is happening (13% for Scotland as a whole).
- 3% of adults thought none of the above (3% for Scotland as a whole).
- 4% of adults responded that they don't know (7% for Scotland as a whole).

2.66 The change in percentages in just under a 10 year period shows that people appear to generally be more aware of climate change and are increasingly concerned about the impacts and risks that it brings.

2.67 The SHS Environment Survey also asked adult residents whether they agreed with a number of different statements, one of which was: 'It's not worth me doing things to help the environment if others don't do

the same.' The response for adults within the Perth and Kinross Area was:

- 5% strongly agree (4% of Scotland as a whole).
- 15% tend to agree (8% of Scotland as a whole).
- 11% neither agree nor disagree (10% of Scotland as a whole).
- 39% tend to disagree (24% of Scotland as a whole).
- 31% strongly disagree (48% of Scotland as a whole).
- 0% don't know (3% of Scotland as a whole).
- 0% have no opinion (3% of Scotland as a whole).

2.68 Another statement which adult residents were asked whether they agree with or not was: 'I don't believe my behaviour and everyday lifestyle contribute to climate change.' In 2022:

- 1% of adults in Perth and Kinross strongly agreed with this statement (4% Scotland figure).
- 11% tend to agree (same as Scotland figure).
- 14% neither agree nor disagree (12% Scotland figure).
- 40% tend to disagree (27% Scotland figure).
- 34% strongly disagree (39% Scotland figure).
- 0% don't know (3% of Scotland figure), and
- 0% has no opinion (4% Scotland figure).

2.69 The percentage figure for adult residents who strongly disagree with the statement has gone up by 14% since the first time this question was asked in the survey in 2015. For the rest of the rankings, the percentages have gone down, which is a positive trend in relation to residents who agreed with the statement.

### Box 8: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

Having a better understanding of the climate risks affecting, or likely to affect the Perth and Kinross Area allows us to develop a spatial strategy which avoids allocating development in the most vulnerable locations, exacerbating those effects and the impacts felt by those most at risk as a result. It will also help to protect our communities and assets (biodiversity, natural, and man-made) and build resilience through identifying adaptation and mitigation measures.

A spatial strategy which seeks to achieve sustainable development can help safeguard those in the Perth and Kinross Area who are most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, by avoiding outcomes which would unintentionally increase their vulnerability.

## GAPS, UNCERTAINTIES, AND KEY ISSUES RAISED

### LDP Spatial Strategies

2.70 NPF4 Policy 1 states that LDPs must address the global climate emergency and nature crisis via their spatial strategies. As previously noted, Policy 1 will be implemented through the collective impact of all the other national planning policies. Further detailed and relevant data and information gaps and uncertainties can be found, in particular, under the corresponding sections of Topic Papers: 005: Biodiversity and Natural Places; 006: Soils, 007: Forestry, Woodlands and Trees; 010: Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land, and Empty Buildings; 011: Coastal Development and Aquaculture; 012: Energy, Heating and Cooling (including Infrastructure: Energy Supply Systems); 013: Zero Waste; 019: Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; 021: Green and Blue Infrastructure; 023: Flood Risk and Water Management, and the series of Infrastructure Topic Papers.

### Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Lifecycle Assessments

2.71 Greenhouse gas emissions lifecycle assessments – It is considered that this requirement will be most appropriately dealt with at the Proposed Plan preparation stage, as at this stage in the plan preparation process “detailed policies and site proposals should not be included in the Evidence Report [and] detailed site appraisal will

not be appropriate...”<sup>6</sup> As such, it is not known at this time whether or not data or information gaps or uncertainties may arise when applying either of these methodologies to individual development proposals, at Proposed Plan stage. It is suggested that to ensure that lifecycle assessments are undertaken when preparing the Proposed Plan, an action could be to include a question in the LDP3 Site Appraisal template requiring a GHG lifecycle assessment for site proposals. However, that being said, this is a new field of expertise which local authorities will need to develop a greater understanding of.

2.72 Currently, no data is available for planning applications re GHG emissions lifecycle assessments for existing, or recently submitted proposals. However, it is anticipated that the availability of this data may improve between now and Proposed Plan preparation stage with NPF4 policies 2 a) and 26 f) criterion. This will require monitoring to be put in place in the interim to identify relevant applications.

2.73 BEIS Data – Data is released by BEIS approximately 18 months after year end. The most recent data available is the 2005 to 2021 publication. It is worth noting that prior to the 2005 to 2020 publication, the BEIS statistics covered emissions of Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) only. Since then, it has also reported on Methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), and Nitrous Oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) at a local authority level. This means that it is

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<sup>6</sup> Paragraph 108, Scottish Government [Local development planning guidance, May 2023](#)

not possible to monitor trends in data for these emission types for the Perth and Kinross Area prior to 2020.

2.74 As the Scottish Government has not yet released the Perth and Kinross 1990 baseline for either the full suite of GHG emissions or CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, a Perth and Kinross target figure for 2030 was estimated for these two indicators for the purposes of the Perth and Kinross Council Year 2 Climate Change Annual Report. The estimate was based on the presumption that Perth and Kinross would follow the Scottish trends between 1990 and 2005 when data first became available.

### Adaptation and Mitigation, and Achieving Net Zero and a Just Transition

2.75 Section 3.2 of Topic Paper 005: Biodiversity and Natural Places explores the gaps and uncertainties with respect to data and information on protected areas, habitats, and species. Many of the assessments of scope, condition, and abundance of these areas and species are currently out of date; still in the process of being assessed, or not available at a local authority level.

2.76 PKC Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan - It is worth noting that there is currently not a full suite of data sources available to allow the comprehensive monitoring of some of the Key Performance Indicators identified for the different thematic areas of the Action

Plan. This is due a lack of suitable data availability or up to date information not yet being available. For example:

- Business and Industry theme – lack of relevant data available around: tourism businesses and Green Certification Scheme; % of businesses with 250+ employees or largest energy demand (+0.5M) with carbon emissions reduction targets.
- Transport theme – lack of up to date data on the % modal share attributed to public transport; the % of journeys to school by active transport; number of passengers using Park and Ride services, and number of public road closures due to flooding or other climate change impacts.
- Land Use theme – lack of or limited data on area of peatland restored, and % of local and major planning consents which contain approvals for biodiversity net gain.
- Resilience theme – up to date RAG (Red, Amber, Green) status of flood risk management actions.

2.77 PKC Climate Change Strategy Year 2 Annual Report - Due to the data delay for a number of the Action Plan's Key Performance Indicators, some of the data reported on in the Annual Report are still related to pre-Strategy performance. It is hoped that by the time of the next Annual Report and Proposed Plan preparation stage, that many of these external data sources will have released new data updates. Furthermore, as the Year 2 Annual Report is the first year data is available for a number of the Council's Climate Change KPIs, the 46% positive change figure only relates to those indicators where past data is available for comparison.

- 2.78 The JHI PKC Carbon Sequestration Study project report notes some uncertainty in the data defining peatland, its status, and lack of robust data on monitoring of peatland restoration sites make estimates of timescales for the restoration of these sites inappropriate at present.
- 2.79 In terms of woodland expansion potential, the project report identifies significantly higher levels of carbon sequestration potential from the planting of Production Sitka Spruce, and lower from the expansion of Native Broadleaf (after 25 years). It is important to remember the national objective of expanding native woodlands, and policy of planting the right tree in the right place. As such, it is most likely that a mixed approach to planting will be the most appropriate one in reality.
- 2.80 The Council currently has no data available in relation to technological sinks and stores as suggested for inclusion under the Scottish Government's May 2023 Local Development Plan Guidance.
- 2.81 The Scottish Government's May 2023 Local Development Plan Guidance provides advice under its 'Step by step guide' section, regarding relevant evidence for NPF4 policy topics, to help planning authorities in considering the national planning policies when preparing their Evidence Report. In respect of details of climate risks likely to affect the plan area, the Guidance suggests that evidence referenced in relation to other policies, including that on local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods may be relevant. At this stage, work has not begun on identifying local living and 20 minute

neighbourhoods across the Perth and Kinross Area. More detailed information will be gathered via the Settlement Audit process as part of the preparation of the Proposed Plan. Due to the varying nature of the area (both urban and rural) it is likely that a methodology or methodologies will be required to be developed that can be applied to the different geographies.

#### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT TO DATE

- 2.82 Perth and Kinross Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan - The planned primary climate change engagement was delayed due to Covid-19 from Spring 2020 and the process took place from October 2020 to January 2021. Engagement consisted of an online survey which was split over thematic questionnaires – (480 responses), and several online thematic sessions supported by the Perth and Kinross Climate Change network (over 240 attendees). The thematic areas are General (including domestic waste and resilience), Transport, Buildings and Energy, Business and Industry, and Land Use.
- 2.83 The engagement process not only looked at the wider issues associated with the climate and nature crises, but also drilled down into a series of themes, to help gauge the level of public understanding and awareness on these subjects, and to identify examples of existing good practice which could be rolled out further across Perth and Kinross, as well as areas for action, and potential future projects.

2.84 The overall results indicated that individuals across Perth and Kinross are concerned about climate change and its impacts. Almost all respondents (91%) believe that climate change has already impacted the environment around them. Some of the changes noted were extreme weather events including increased temperature levels over longer periods and increased flooding. Furthermore, the concern of respondents in relation to climate change is also demonstrated by the fact that 84% had made lifestyle changes to minimise their impact on the environment. Examples given include reduced car usage and increased use of more sustainable and active travel methods (cycling and walking), as well as reducing single use products and increasing recycling.

2.85 Respondents were aware of the Scottish Government's targets in relation to climate change, with 88% of respondents feeling that Perth and Kinross should go beyond the Scottish Government in target setting. The need to set out a clear vision to reach net zero was supported by 63% of the total responses. The engagement survey feedback aligns with the national level of concern regarding climate change. The 2019 Scottish Household Survey (which was current at the time of the engagement exercised) highlighted that there had been an increase in the percentage of adults in Scotland who agree climate change is an immediate and urgent problem, with 68% having this view. The most recent survey results show that this figure has jumped to 81% (see paragraph 2.55 of this Paper).

2.86 Some overarching themes were raised by a large number of respondents. Almost 90% of overall respondents mentioned that Perth and Kinross Council should lead by example and set its own targets. The need for the Council to work together with all stakeholders in its journey to reach net zero was also outlined as a key action. In addition, continuing to engage with the public and raising awareness was emphasised in over 80% of the comments received. The need for a trusted source of information in relation to climate change was also stressed extensively throughout the engagement process.

2.87 Specifically in relation to the Land Use theme, the engagement exercise asked a total of 40 questions, covering a number of topics, including: biodiversity, greenspaces, open spaces, planning controls, agriculture and other land uses. There were 67 overall responses, which was 13.9% of the responses to the Council's wider survey on climate change. Some of the questions were to help build a profile of the respondent and where they lived. A summary of results for the main topics are as follows:

2.88 Biodiversity – 67.2% of the respondents did not think that the Council had enough measures in place at the time of the survey to protect biodiversity. Respondents also commented that the Council could enhance its biodiversity protection measures through a number of actions, such as: improve greenspaces, use planning powers to protect biodiversity, and follow the approach used by other local authorities to safeguard pollinators.

2.89 Greenspaces – With respect to the Council exploring the use of existing parks and greenspaces to deliver renewable heat/power for community and public sector buildings, where these were considered to have potential, the majority of respondents (80.6%) said they would fully support PKC, while only 4.5% indicated that they would not support this action.

2.90 Open Spaces – 91% of respondents would fully support an increase in overall coverage of woodland in Council maintained open spaces.

2.91 Community Food Growing – 70% of respondents expressed an interest in potential community food growing initiatives, with all 3 options receiving a sizeable response. The formation of a new allotment/ community garden was the most popular option, with 44.8% of respondents selecting it as their first choice.

2.92 Planning Controls – 41.8% of respondent were unsure whether planning policies in the LDP contribute towards tackling climate change, however, 22.4% were sure that they did. Respondents further commented that climate change needs to be considered as a major factor in all policies within the LDP where possible. The removal of trees and woodland for new development was highlighted as one of the main issues with the Council’s planning policies. Respondents suggested a stricter approach should be applied with new developments in order to protect trees and biodiversity.

2.93 Respondents were also asked to rank 9 aspects of tackling climate change in order of importance. Those aspects and their rankings were:

- 1) Energy efficient buildings (score of 5.4)
- 2) Good transport links (score of 5.1)
- 3) Good walking and cycling infrastructure (score of 4.9)
- 4) Developments that protect and create new resources for wildlife and habitats e.g. wildlife corridors (score of 4.8)
- 5) Renewable energy sources to heat buildings and provide power (score of 4.7)
- 6) A number of well-connected green and blue spaces (score of 4.6)
- 7) Planting of new trees (score of 4)
- 8) Access to local services and community facilities (score of 3.6)
- 9) Design of homes and access to digital infrastructure to support homeworking (score of 2.7)

2.94 Other Land Uses – 77.6% of respondents agreed when asked if they think it is extremely important that we change the way we use our land and how this contributes to climate change. 13.3% of those who responded think that this is something that is moderately important, while 3% thought it is somewhat important. 85% of respondents thought the role of land is extremely important in helping us adapt to climate change; 9% thought it is moderately important, and 1.5% that it is somewhat important.

### Box 9: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The feedback received as part of the engagement exercises on the Council's Draft Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan was used to help refine the Strategy and the list of actions contained within the final Action Plan.

Incorporating the Council's position on climate action and any relevant actions identified within the Climate Action Plan into LDP3 will ensure that LDP3's Spatial Strategy reflects the Council's corporate, as well as the public's position, on climate action within Perth and Kinross. It will also help to ensure that delivery of those actions can be supported via the land use planning system and allow for the closer monitoring of implementation relevant actions.

## Appendix A: Identification of Datasets and Information

**Table A1: Summary of Evidence Required or Suggested for NPF4 Policies 1 and 2**

<b>The Act or NPF4</b>	<b>Requirement or Expectation</b>	<b>Dataset or source</b>	<b>Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan</b>	<b>Gaps or uncertainties in data</b>	<b>Included?</b>
Act – Section 3F	LDPs to include policies requiring all developments in the area to be designed to ensure that all new buildings avoid a specified and rising proportion of the projected GHG <sup>7</sup> emissions for their use.  (Calculated on the basis of approved design and plans for specific development, through the installation and operation of low and zero-carbon generating technologies).	None applicable at this stage.	This is a requirement for the inclusion of policies in the Proposed Plan. It is considered unnecessary to gather evidence at this stage in the plan preparation process as the data will come through the consideration of the likely lifecycle GHG emissions for proposals identified for inclusion in the Proposed Plan and also individual planning application submissions.	A greater understanding of how to calculate potential lifecycle GHG emissions for development proposals will be required for the next stage of the plan preparation process.	Yes
Act – Section 15(5)(a)	Requires an LDP to set out the principal physical and environmental characteristics of the district for which a plan is being prepared.	See data presented under the relevant sections in Topic Paper 001: The Plan Area	Provides the context within which the Proposed Plan should be developed.	See details of data gaps and uncertainties identified under relevant sections in Topic Paper 001: The Plan Area.	TP 001
NPF4 – Policy 1	Address the global climate emergency and nature crisis by ensuring the spatial strategy will reduce emissions and adapt to current and future risks of climate change by promoting nature recovery and restoration in the area.	See data presented under the relevant sections in Topic Papers 005, 006, and 007.	Policy 1 will be implemented by the collective impact of all the other national planning policies. In particular policies 2: Climate mitigation and adaptation; 3: Biodiversity; 4: Natural Places; 5: Soils, and 6: Forestry, woodlands and Trees.	See details of data gaps and uncertainties identified under relevant sections in Topic Papers 005: Biodiversity and Natural Places, 006: Soils, and 007: Forestry, woodlands and trees.	Yes

<sup>7</sup> GHG – Greenhouse Gas

The Act or NPF4	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
NPF4 – Policy 2	LDP spatial strategy should be designed to reduce, minimise, or avoid GHG emissions.	None specifically applicable for Policy 2, but rather will be addressed through numerous data and information collated for all of the national policies across all of the topic papers.	N/A	N/A	N/A
NPF4 – Policy 2	The six spatial principles should form the basis of the spatial strategy – to help guide development to and create sustainable locations.	See <a href="#">NPF4 Part 1</a> for details of what the Six Spatial Principles are.  Application of these principles will be reliant on an understanding of all available data across the suite of national planning policies and the interconnections between those policies. The data gathered under all of the topic papers for LDP3 will be relevant.	NPF4 asks that we plan our future places in line with these six overarching spatial principles so that our places work for everyone. Through applying this approach, the spatial strategy developed should be an integrated one, bringing together cross-cutting priorities in order to achieve sustainable development.	It will be necessary to understand what these principles are and apply them to the Plan’s spatial strategy.	Yes
NPF4 – Policy 2	The strategy should be informed by an understanding of the impacts of the proposals on GHG emissions.	<a href="#">National Planning Framework 4 – lifecycle greenhouse</a>	This assessment document and ESPON tool contain assessment methodologies which should assist in developing a greater understanding of	None known at this stage – potentially some information gaps or uncertainties may arise	Yes

The Act or NPF4	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
		<a href="#">gas emissions: assessment findings</a>  <a href="#">ESPON – Quantitative Greenhouse Gas Assessment tool for Spatial Planning</a>	<p>the individual components of development proposals for LDP3, to understand likely positive or negative effects on GHG emissions, and the potential direct, indirect, and overall effect of proposals on GHG emissions. This should help guide the development of the Plan’s spatial strategy to help reduce, avoid, or minimise GHG emissions.</p>	<p>when applying the methodology at Proposed Plan stage for specific proposals. Action – include potential GHG emissions lifecycle assessment question as part of LDP3 Site Appraisal process.</p>	
LDP Guidance (NPF4 Policy 2)	<p>Information on local sources of GHG emissions, where available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This could include available information on expected emissions linked to proposals with planning permission that are yet to be constructed.</li> </ul>	<a href="#">Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Data 2021</a> <a href="#">PKC Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan</a> <a href="#">PKC Climate Change Annual Report Supporting statements/ lifecycle assessments for planning applications.</a>	<p>Will provide an understanding of current GHG emissions levels across Perth and Kinross to guide the development of the Plan’s spatial strategy to reduce, avoid, or minimise GHG emissions. It will also provide a baseline against which the effectiveness of LDP3’s spatial strategy can be monitored in the future.</p>	<p>The most recent BEIS data release is from 2021. No data available for existing planning application submissions re GHG lifecycle assessments for existing proposals. Availability of data may improve between now and Proposed Plan preparation stage with NPF4 policies 2 a) and 26 f) criterion – requires monitoring. It is worth noting that some of the actions identified within the Council’s Climate Action Plan and their associated indicators do not have a full suite of data sources</p>	Yes

The Act or NPF4	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
				to allow for monitoring, currently. This is due a lack of data availability.	
LDP Guidance (NPF4 Policy 2)	<p>Details of local opportunities for GHG sequestration and storage, either nature based or technological, where available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It will be useful to understand at the Evidence Report stage the nature based and technological assets, infrastructure, and opportunities in the area for emissions sequestration, storage, and utilisation. Nature based sinks and stores are varied and include carbon rich soils and biomass such as trees and grassland. Technological sinks and stores are also varied and include negative emissions technologies and associated storage. Information about assets and opportunities for sequestration and storage may come through evidence regarding other policy topics including - energy; zero waste; sustainable transport; heat and cooling; digital infrastructure;</li> </ul>	James Hutton Institute (JHI) – PKC Carbon Sequestration Study (December 2021)	The JHI project on carbon sequestration focused on the sectors of land-based industries and natural resources, and how these can be considered when looking at the carbon resources of the area, and its potential for sequestering or reducing GHG emissions. The project report identifies some actions relating to the assessment and use of natural resources which could be taken forward to help in achieving net zero emissions. This report can help guide the development of the Plan’s spatial strategy, through highlighting existing sources of GHG sequestration and storage, and identifying new opportunities.	<p>JHI noted in project report some uncertainty in the data defining peatland, its status, and lack of robust data on monitoring of peatland restoration sites make estimates of timescales for the restoration of these sites inappropriate at present.</p> <p>In terms of woodland expansion potential, the project report identifies significantly higher levels of carbon sequestration potential from the planting of Production Sitka Spruce, and lower from the expansion of Native Broadleaf (after 25 years). It is important to remember the national objective of expanding native woodlands, and policy of planting the right tree in the right place. As such, it is most likely that a mixed approach to</p>	Summary included. TP006: Soils will address in more detail.

The Act or NPF4	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
	flood risk management; and business and industry.			planting will be the most appropriate one in reality.  No data available on technological sinks and stores.	
LDP Guidance (NPF4 Policy 2)		Nature Scot Carbon and Peatland Map 2016	Will help direct the Plan's spatial strategy away from the area's most important soils, and help identify areas for safeguarding from inappropriate development, as well as locations for potential restoration projects.		No - TP006: Soils will address.
LDP Guidance (NPF4 Policy 2)		Peatland ACTION Sites		No data on condition currently available for Peatland ACTION sites.	Summary included. TP006: Soils will address in more detail.
LDP Guidance (NPF4 Policy 2)		Species Rich/ Semi-Natural Grasslands	Will be addressed under Topic Paper 005: Biodiversity and Natural Places (including Landscapes).		No – TP 005 will address.
LDP Guidance (NPF4 Policy 2)		Forestry, woodlands and trees data – PKC Forest and Woodland Strategy (Preferred and Potential Areas); Native Woodland Survey of Scotland; Ancient Woodland Inventory; Tree Preservation Orders;	Trees are important assets in tackling climate change due to the role in carbon capture and storage. However, trees do more than just capturing carbon, they can also help prevent flooding, reduce temperatures in cities, reduce pollution, and keep soils nutrient rich. Native trees and woodlands also have an important role in providing habitats for our biodiversity, and as	The Council's Forestry and Woodland Strategy requires a review in line with the requirements of the Act. This has not been undertaken to date due to resource issues. Topic Paper 006 will begin the process of this review.	Summary included. TP007: will address in more detail.

The Act or NPF4	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
		Forestry and Land Scotland Forest Parks (Tay Forest Park); PKC Strategic Green Networks; Ancient Tree Inventory; Individual Trees of High Biodiversity Value; Trees of High Cultural Value, and Hedgerows.	such planting new native woodland will help to extend and create shelters for wildlife, boosting biodiversity.  Through considering the existing forestry, woodland, and trees assets in our area, as well as identifying potential opportunities for enhancement and expansion via our LDP3 spatial strategy, we can help tackle the twin climate and nature crises.	Ancient Tree Inventory is available but needs enhancing with public engagement, and Tree Wardens knowledge.  Mapping of hedgerows required.	
LDP Guidance (NPF4 Policy 2)	<p>Details of climate risks likely to affect the plan area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Evidence Report can provide information on the likelihood and severity of climate risks to the area, both currently and in the future.</li> <li>Who is affected by climate change is also important. Spatial consideration of climate change risks supports taking into account unevenly felt effects. Inequalities can be increased because of vulnerability to climate change risks.</li> <li>Evidence referenced in relation to other policies may be relevant including: local living and 20</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Update to the Climate Change Plan 2018 – 2032: Securing a Green Recovery on a Path to Net Zero Scotland’s Climate Change Adaptation Programme 2019-2024</a></p> <p><a href="#">Reporting from the UK Climate Change Committee on UK and Scotland emissions reduction progress; climate risks; and adaptation State of Nature Report 2023</a></p>	Having a better understanding of the climate risks affecting, or likely to affect the Perth and Kinross Area allows us to develop a spatial strategy which avoids allocating development in the most vulnerable locations, exacerbating those risks as a result. It will also help to protect our communities and assets (biodiversity, natural, and man-made) and build resilience through identifying adaptation and mitigation measures. A spatial strategy which seeks to achieve sustainable development can help to safeguard those in the Perth and Kinross Area who are most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, by avoiding outcomes which	See other topic papers for details of information gaps and uncertainties for the various policy subject matters.  Work has not started on identifying local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods across the Perth and Kinross Area. More detailed information will be gathered via the Settlement Audit process as part of the preparation of the Proposed Plan. Given the varying nature of the area (both urban and rural) it is likely that a	Yes, however, TP005 will explore in more detail the data and issues arising in relation to biodiversity and natural places.

The Act or NPF4	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
	<p>minute neighbourhoods, quality homes, rural homes, health and safety, city, town, local and commercial centres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Infrastructure in the area which could potentially support climate change adaptation may be referenced in the Evidence Report. This will likely emerge through evidence on other policies including: biodiversity; natural places; soils; forestry, woodland and trees; brownfield, vacant and derelict land and empty buildings; coastal development; heat and cooling; blue and green infrastructure; flood risk and water management; and digital infrastructure.</li> </ul>	<p><a href="#">Scottish Biodiversity Strategy to 2045 – Tackling the Nature Emergency in Scotland</a></p> <p><a href="#">Scottish Biodiversity Strategy Post-2020: A Statement of Intent</a></p> <p><a href="#">Climate Change and Nature Information Sheet</a></p> <p><a href="#">Draft Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, Appendix A: Public Engagement Overview</a></p> <p><a href="#">PKC Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan</a></p> <p><a href="#">PKC Climate Change Annual Report</a></p> <p><a href="#">Consultation Draft Mobility Strategy</a></p>	<p>would unintentionally increase their vulnerability<sup>8</sup>.</p> <p>The details of climate risks for specific policy areas will be addressed in the other topic papers. This paper will provide a strategic overview for the Council Area.</p>	<p>methodology or methodologies will be required that can be applied to the different geographies.</p>	

<sup>8</sup> Vulnerability may be a result of physical location, or societal issues, including income deprivation; housing tenure; age; health, and the strength of local community networks.

The Act or NPF4	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
		<p><a href="#">Tactran’s Draft Regional Transport Strategy 2023-2033</a></p> <p><a href="#">Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) Data</a></p> <p><a href="#">SEPA Flood Risk Maps</a></p> <p>Local Flood Risk Management Plans:</p> <p><a href="#">Cycle 2 2022-2028: Tay Local Plan District</a></p> <p><a href="#">Cycle 2 2022-2028: Forth Local Plan District</a></p> <p><a href="#">Cycle 2 2022-2028: Forth Estuary Local Plan District</a></p> <p><a href="#">Cycle 1 2016-2022: Tay Estuary and Montrose Basin Local Plan District</a></p> <p><a href="#">Scottish Household Survey 2022</a></p> <p>Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods in</p>			

The Act or NPF4	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
		the Perth and Kinross Area			
LDP Guidance (NPF4 Policy 2)	Local/regional adaptation partnerships, plans and strategies.	<a href="#">Perthshire Nature Connections Partnership (PNCP)</a>	Partnership work between the Council and PNCP is an action within the Land Use theme of the Council's Climate Action Plan. It is important to reflect the landscape scale restoration projects being undertaken by the PNCP with other partners and landowners and managers in LDP3 to help ensure their delivery.	The PNCP Programme Report has been published but project work is ongoing as such data and information may not be complete.	No
LDP Guidance (NPF4 Policy 2)	Local GHG mitigation strategies/ climate change plans.	<a href="#">Perth &amp; Kinross Climate Change Strategy &amp; Action Plan</a>	Inclusion of data and information contained in the Council's Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan will ensure that LDP3 reflects the Council's corporate position on climate action, and those relevant actions identified in the Action Plan are included within LDP3 to help with their delivery.	BEIS data shows that the agricultural sector is one of the largest sources of GHG emissions within the Perth and Kinross Area, but the Council and LDP3 have no direct influence over agricultural practices.	Yes