

Perth and Kinross LDP3 2027 - Evidence Report

TOPIC PAPER NO. 019: LOCAL LIVING AND 20 MINUTE NEIGHBOURHOODS

July 2024



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Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

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.
Community Planning Partners	The Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership leads the community planning process in our area and is responsible for providing strategic direction, agreeing priorities and managing performance. The core partners involved are: Jobcentre Plus, NHS Tayside, Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services (PKAVS), Perth and Kinross Council, Perth College, Policy Scotland, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, and Skills Development Scotland.
Community Wealth Building	A people-centred approach to local economic development, which redirects wealth back into the local economy, and puts control and benefits into the hands of local people.
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.
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.
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.
Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods	Local living gives people the opportunity to meet the majority of their daily needs within a reasonable distance of their home. 20 Minute Neighbourhoods is a concept and one method of supporting local living. The 20 Minute Neighbourhood concept aims to provide access to the majority of daily needs within a 20 minute (round trip) walk, wheel, or cycle.
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.
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.

SIMD Datazones	These are small geographical areas covering the whole of Scotland (6,976 in total), and are ranked from the most deprived to the least deprived in respect of income, employment, health, education, access to services, crime and housing.
SIMD Quintiles	Quintiles in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation are a way of dividing Scotland into five groups of equal size (each containing 20% of Scotland’s data zones) based on the level of multiple deprivation. Multiple deprivation refers to the lack of resources or opportunities in various aspects of life, such as income, health, education, and crime. The lower the quintile, the higher the deprivation – 1 being the most deprived 20% and 5 being the least deprived 20%.
Smart Perth	Smart cities are at the forefront of global thinking on urban development. The European Regional Development Fund ‘8 th City’ Programme defined a smart city as ‘integration of data and digital technologies into a strategic approach to sustainability, citizen wellbeing and economic development.’ Smart cities are attractive places to live, work and visit, and their systems are connected through communications networks, and data sensors in each of these systems can be used to help manage the city. Perth and Kinross Council has been working since 2016 to develop smart city ideas and projects for Perth.
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 Brundtland Report: Our Common Future , it is development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Under Section 16(B) of the Act ¹, 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.

LIVEABLE PLACES – LOCAL LIVING AND 20 MINUTE NEIGHBOURHOODS

- 1.3 This topic paper sets out the key evidence relating to the NPF4 Policy 15 subject area of 'Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods.' 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 (DPEA) during November 2024 for the 'Gatecheck' process.
- 1.4 It is important to note that within the context of the Perth and Kinross Council Area, the implementation of the 'Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods' approach will most likely take the form of

people having access to the majority of daily needs within a 20 minute (round trip) walk, wheel, or cycle within Perth City, and within our larger settlements. Whereas, in our more rural areas the approach will more likely follow a 'local living' approach i.e., people have the opportunity to meet the majority of their daily needs within a reasonable distance of their home, which may be delivered through accessing a network of places.

RELEVANT POLICIES

- 1.5 This topic is specifically covered by NPF4 Policy 15: Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods. However, given the nature of what this policy seeks to achieve, it has key policy connections other NPF4 policies on - Tackling the climate and nature crises; Climate mitigation and adaptation; Sustainable transport; Design, quality and place; Infrastructure first; Quality homes; Blue and green infrastructure; Play, recreation and sport; Community wealth building; City, town, local, and commercial centres, and Retail. As such the subject matters will also be touched upon under other relevant LDP3 Topic Papers.

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

NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

- 1.6 Policy 15 of NPF4 expects the following from LDPs:
- LDPs should support local living, including 20 minute neighbourhoods within settlements, through the spatial strategy, associated site briefs and masterplans. The approach should take into account the local context, consider the varying settlement patterns and reflect the particular characteristics and challenges faced by each place. Communities and businesses will have an important role to play in informing this, helping to strengthen local living through their engagement with the planning system.
- 1.7 The policy intent for NPF4 Policy 15 is noted as:
- To encourage, promote and facilitate the application of the Place Principle and create connecting and compact neighbourhoods where people can meet the majority of their daily needs within a reasonable distance of their home, preferably by walking, wheeling or cycling or using sustainable transport options.
- 1.8 The policy outcomes for Policy 15 are:
- Places are planned to improve local living in a way that reflects local circumstances.
 - A network of high-quality, accessible, mixed-use neighbourhoods which support health and wellbeing, reduce inequalities and are resilient to the effects of climate change.
 - New and existing communities are planned together with homes and the key local infrastructure including schools, community centres, local shops, greenspaces, health and social care, digital and sustainable transport links.
- 1.9 In addition to the expectations of LDPs set out in NPF4, under the ‘Step by step guide’ section of the Scottish Government’s [Local Development Planning Guidance](#), advice is provided on relevant evidence for the NPF4 policy topics to help planning authorities in considering the national planning policies when preparing their Evidence Report. The guide summarises any legislative requirements and the evidence likely to be required to allow NPF4 policies to be taken account of by an LDP, it also signposts to various information sources.
- 1.10 The LDP Guidance suggests that in preparing their Evidence Report for Policy 15, planning authorities are expected to have an understanding of existing settlement patterns, considering the particular characteristics and challenges faced by places with respect to local living.
- 1.11 Other sources of information recommended include:
- The locations of facilities that are used for the purposes of sport, leisure, arts, and cultural activities, or to support lifelong learning or social interaction.
 - The locations of facilities that are used for support services within a community for health and wellbeing including: visiting health services, clinics, support and advice services and childcare provision.
- 1.12 Section 2 to follow looks to identify relevant datasets and sources of information to satisfy the asks of NPF4 Policy 15, as well as take account of the data and information suggested in the May 2023 LDP Guidance.

IDENTIFICATION OF DATASETS

1.13 Table A1 of Appendix A sets out the evidence which should be gathered and analysed so that the Proposed Plan can address the requirements and expectations raised in NPF4 and the Scottish Government's Local Development Plan Guidance. 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 Information Analysis

DATA AND INFORMATION SOURCES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PLAN

- 1.14 To follow is a list of sources of data and information directly related to the policy subject of Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods, plus a summary of why that evidence is considered relevant to the Proposed Plan's preparation.
- 1.15 As previously highlighted under paragraph 1.4, because the subject matter has key policy connections with a number of other NPF4 policies, this paper will be unable to cover in detail the relevant objectives for each of those policy areas. Therefore, not all 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.

Understanding Our Local Places

- 1.16 In February 2021, Climate X Change and Ramboll published a research paper into '[20 Minute Neighbourhoods in a Scottish Context](#).' The project considered the ambition for applying this concept in Scotland, taking account of the varying settlement patterns across the country, and sought to identify solutions that would support its delivery. It also analysed international evidence of success for the various concept solutions and delivery mechanisms, including the specific elements that were considered successful, any

impacts on placemaking, barriers to success, regulatory frameworks, funding mechanisms, and stakeholder engagement and buy-in.

- 1.17 The key findings of the assessment showed that communities, across both urban and rural settlement areas, have the necessary services and infrastructure that would allow them to be 20 minute neighbourhoods. However, it could not be concluded through the assessment that the required quality of services or infrastructure is in place, or that these places are currently performing as 20 minute neighbourhoods. The examples reviewed highlighted that a clear plan, which is people-centred, developed with stakeholders in the local community, and with bespoke local considerations, is necessary in order to achieve the vision.
- 1.18 In April 2024, the Scottish Government published their [Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods: Planning Guidance](#). It follows the publication of a draft for consultation in April 2023.
- 1.19 The guidance has been developed to help support the application of NPF4 Policy 15 and highlights the links between a local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods' approach and the delivery of healthy, sustainable, and resilient places that can support a good quality of life and balance our environmental impact at the same time. Wider benefits of the approach are recognised in terms of climate and the environment, health and wellbeing, the local economy, and quality of life.

1.20 The document contains a ‘Local Living Framework’ (Figure 1) which is intended to provide ‘a consistent structure to consider the key characteristics of local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods in development planning, decision-making and in design proposals².’ The Framework sets out 14 key themes, reflecting the [Place and Wellbeing Outcomes](#) and the [Place Standard Tool \(Design Version\)](#), which are then grouped into the 5 overarching categories of: Movement; Space; Resources; Civic, and Stewardship. These categories are regarded as the key considerations for local living.

Figure 1: Local Living Framework Diagram



² Page 19, The Scottish Government Planning Guidance: Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods, April 2024

1.21 The delivery of local living is thought to be a place-based, flexible approach that involves having a full understanding of the context of a place, all the assets present, and also its needs and opportunities. In order to take a structured approach to local living the guidance suggests (on page 29) the following steps:

1. **Understand context** – understanding the context of the place through the use of quantitative and qualitative information.
2. **Collaborate, plan, design** – developing collaborative models of working to inform place-based planning and design processes.
3. **Implement and review** – aligning investment, developing delivery capacity, and embedding in ways of working.

Figure 2: Steps for a structured approach to local living³



³ Diagram is an extract from Page 29 of the Scottish Government Planning Guidance: Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods, April 2024

- 1.22 Collaborative, participatory and place-based working are considered to be essential components in delivering local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods that are inclusive, and allow everyone to live well locally, as well as take part in decision making processes about their places.
- 1.23 Placemaking is also highlighted as being important to delivery of the approach. The guidance refers to the Place Principle and the Six Qualities of Successful Places as being key to delivering good places and also local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods.
- 1.24 In terms of applying the concept to different geographies, the document recognises Scotland’s diversity, and that flexibility will be required – this is because accessing the majority of daily needs within a 20 minute walk, wheel, or cycle in remote rural or island areas may not always be achievable. However, it is still considered ‘...possible to support local living through planning for connected, attractive, sustainable places that respect the character and context of rural settings⁴, and also by considering the relationship between different settlements and the opportunities that exist to support a network of places to meet daily needs.

Box 1: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The Climate X Change and Ramboll research is incredibly useful in providing a definition of what a 20 minute neighbourhood is within a Scottish context, and outlining what the key elements of such a place are. It establishes a baseline for Scotland at a national scale, to allow us to see how close the neighbourhoods across the country are to meeting the 20 minute definition. This baseline can also be applied at a local level for our LDP3 local living and 20 minute neighbourhood analysis work. The research work also categorises neighbourhoods using residential densities from the Urban Rural Classification, to allow for the development of recommendations that can be applied to the different types of urban and rural areas.

The Scottish Government’s Planning Guidance on the subject is helpful in setting out a framework within which our work on identifying Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods across Perth and Kinross can be developed.

⁴ Page 13, The Scottish Government Planning Guidance: Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods, April 2024

1.25 The [Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2022-2027](#) sets out the Council's vision for a Perth and Kinross 'where everyone can live life well, free from poverty and inequality.' It proposes a number of key priorities for the 5-year period 2022 to 2027. It also reflects the principles of the [Perth and Kinross Offer](#).

1.26 The Corporate Plan identifies 7 priority areas which the Council feels it can directly influence and have the most impact upon, and those which are most important to delivering the Vision for Perth and Kinross. These priorities are:



1. Working in partnership with communities
2. Tackling poverty
3. Tackling climate change and supporting sustainable places
4. Developing a resilient, stronger, and greener local economy
5. Enabling our children and young people to achieve their full potential
6. Protecting and caring for our most vulnerable people
7. Supporting and promoting physical and mental wellbeing

1.27 As Council resources are limited, these priorities will act as a guide for difficult decision making about where to invest the Council's funding and staff time, and how to make the best use of other assets.

1.28 Delivery of the Corporate Plan's Priorities will be underpinned by a set of Key Principles and delivered through a range of Key Actions. Developing our Local Development Plan 3 in alignment with National Planning Framework 4, should help support the delivery of all of the Corporate Plan's Priorities, with the exception of 'Protecting and caring for our most vulnerable people' which is not within the remit of the land use planning system.

1.29 The current [Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 2 \(2019\)](#) along with its accompanying supplementary guidance documents, and research and information papers on infrastructure, provide a good basis of understanding of the local context and characteristics of the area's towns and villages, as well as Perth City. Information on the principal characteristics of the Area; sustainable transport; design, quality, and place; infrastructure; quality homes; blue and green

infrastructure; open space, play and recreation; Community Wealth Building; city, town and local centres, and retail, are all explored in more detail under the relevant subject Topic Papers.

- 1.30 The area is a mix of both urban and rural communities. The Plan’s settlement hierarchy follows the Tiers 1, 2 and 3 categories which were defined in the now revoked Strategic Development Plan – TAYPlan. This hierarchical approach focuses development on the Principal Settlements, but also recognises the extremely limited brownfield opportunities that exist across Perth and Kinross, and that the sustainable growth of the area will rely on greenfield land release also.
- 1.31 Map 1 shows the LDP2 Spatial Strategy: A Successful, Sustainable Place, representing the hierarchy of settlements, key transport connections across the area, and the Strategic Development Areas that were identified in TAYPlan. Map 2 outlines the LDP2’s Spatial Strategy for the Plan’s ‘A Connected Place’ theme, highlighting the existing and proposed key transport connections across the area. Finally, Map 3 shows the active travel connections across Perth and Kinross, including: the National Cycle Network, Rights of Way, Core Paths, the CATERAN Trail, and Signposted Routes.
- 1.32 As part of the research work carried out for the production of our LDP2, [Infrastructure Capacity Studies](#) were undertaken in 2017 for

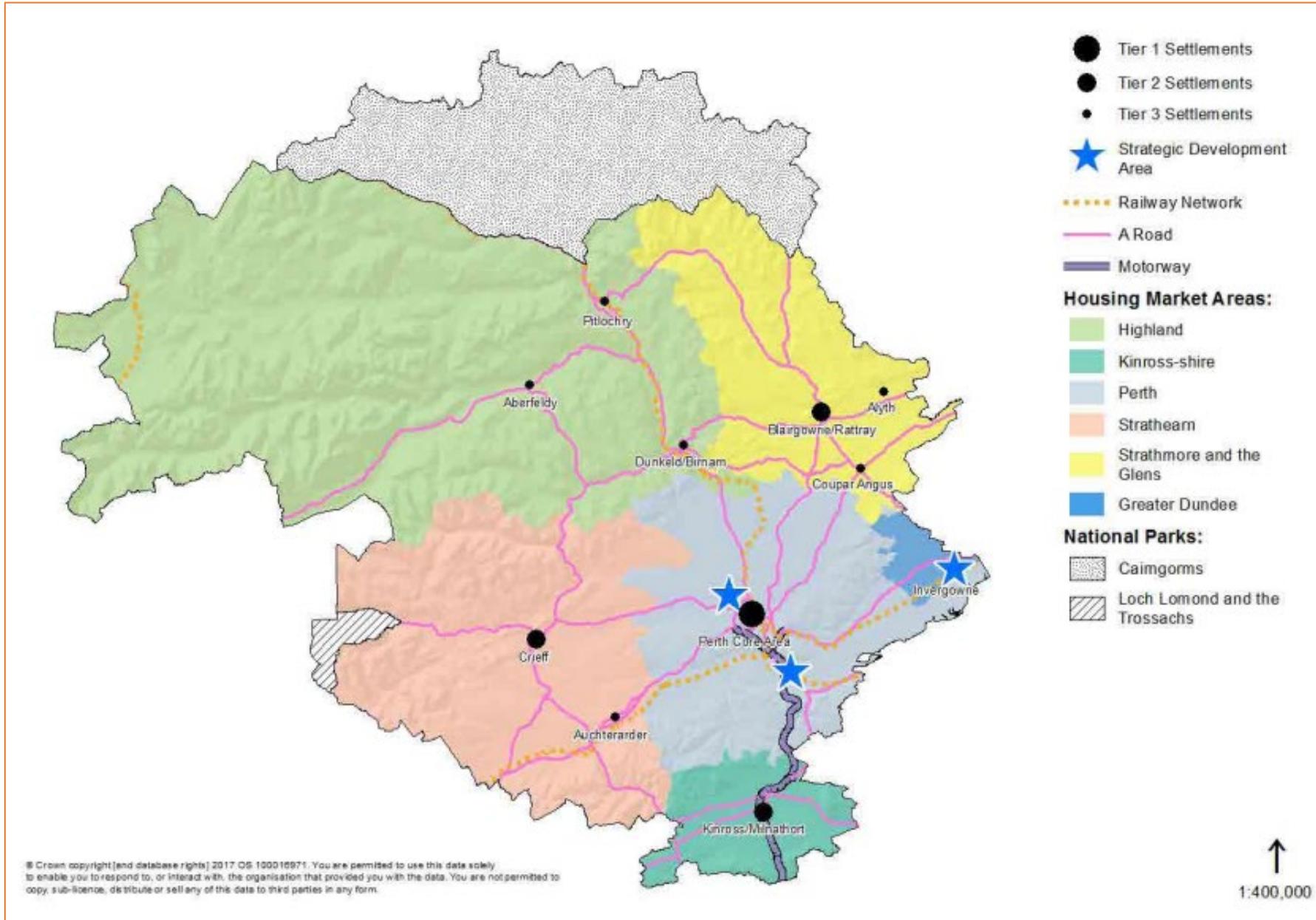
the larger settlements within the PKC Area. These studies include information on population growth, community facilities, open space, transport infrastructure, education, and health as well as energy and water infrastructure. The information contained within the studies will be updated as part of our Evidence Report, infrastructure audits, and settlement audit work to inform the Proposed Plan.

Box 2: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

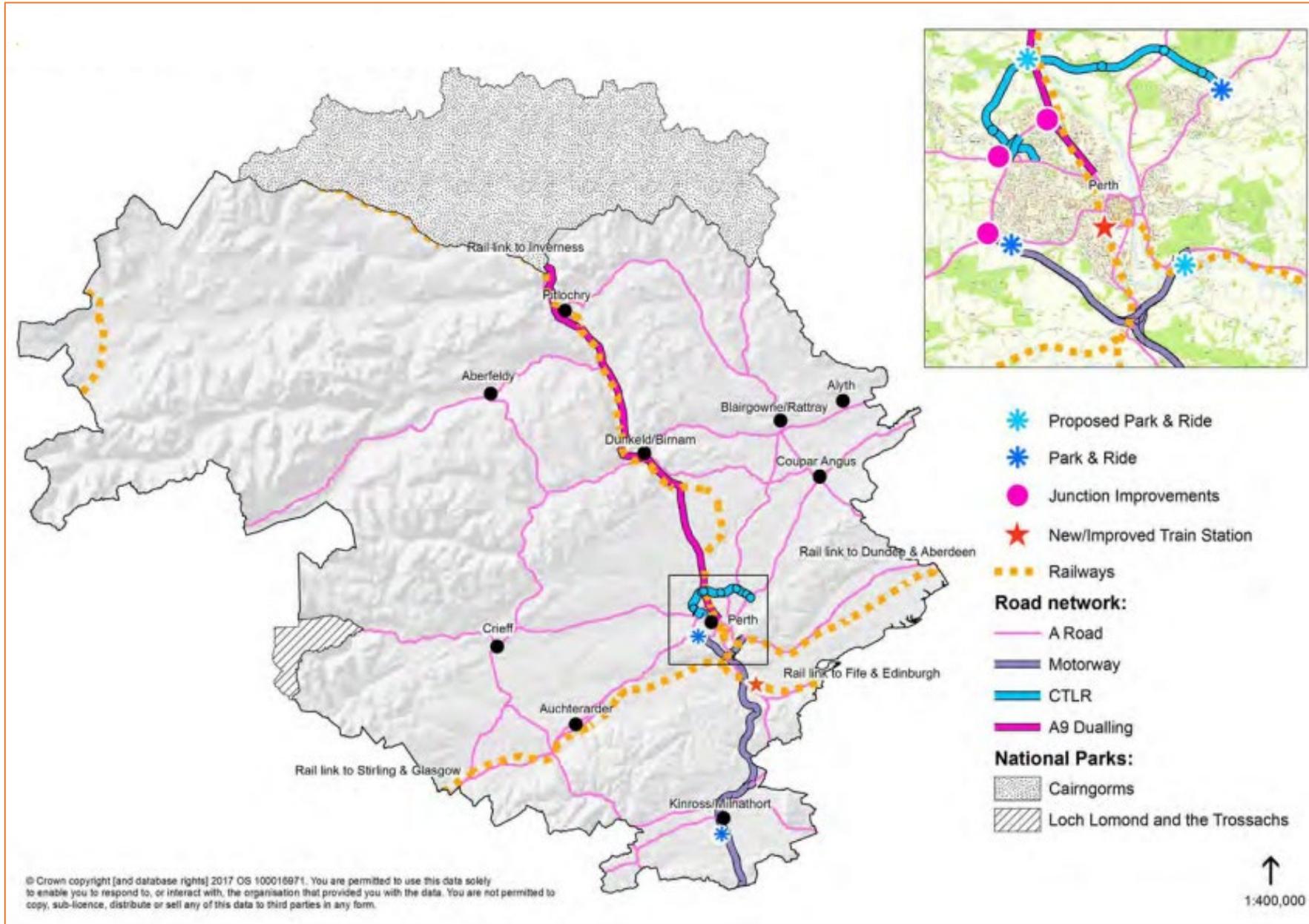
When starting any Local Development Plan review, it is important to recognise that we are not starting from scratch. A wealth of information and evidence already exists regarding physical, social, cultural, economic, and environmental aspects, to help us understand the existing key characteristics of our Plan Area, as well as the connections and interactions between our places, and the needs and ambitions of our communities. The current Perth and Kinross LDP2 brings those different matters together under its spatial strategies to help create successful, sustainable, low-carbon, natural and resilient, and connected places.

It is also necessary to monitor how successful the implementation of LDP2 has been to date to understand if the existing spatial strategies are fit for purpose. However, this should be viewed within the context of the changes to national planning policy under the 2019 Planning Act and NPF4, and updates to the Council’s Corporate as well as Community Planning plans and strategies.

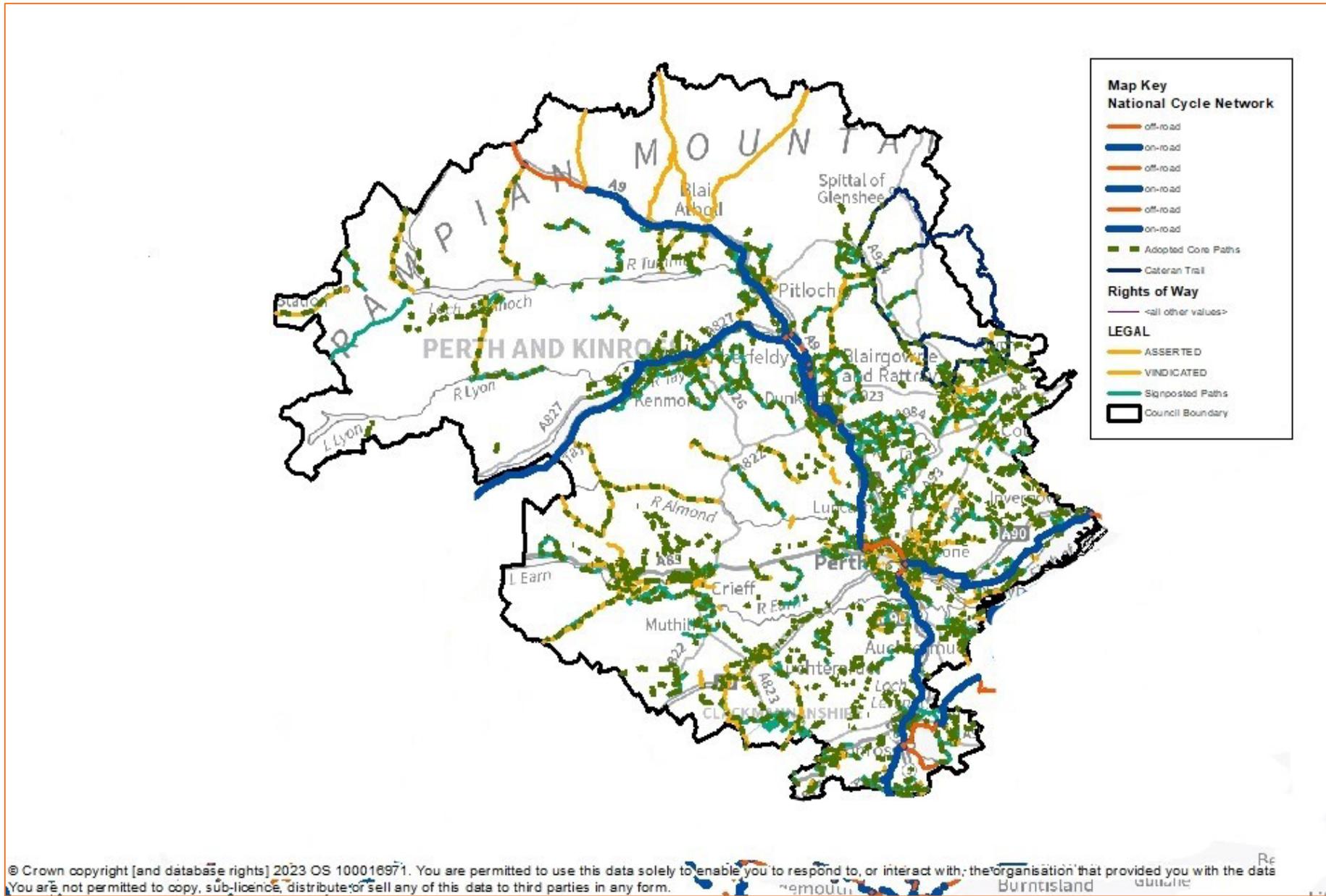
Map 1: LDP2 Spatial Strategy: A Successful, Sustainable Place



Map 2: LDP2 Spatial Strategy: A Connected Place



Map 3: Key Active Travel Connections within Perth and Kinross



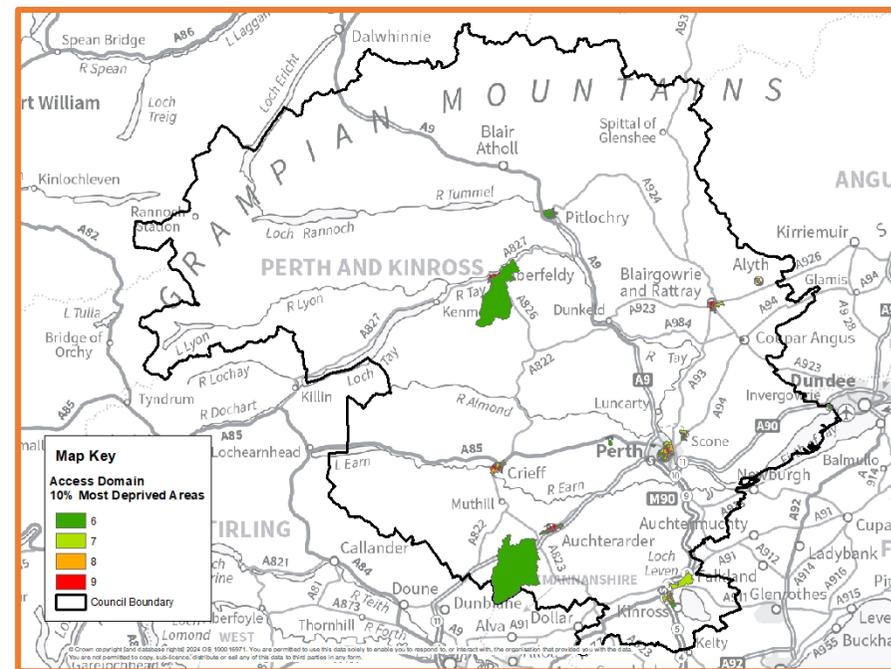
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1.33 As previously highlighted in Topic Paper 018: Design, Quality and Place, the 2020 [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation](#) (SIMD) data tells us that 39 out of 186 (21%) of all datazones in the Perth and Kinross Area are ranked overall in the 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 of 186 (24%) are within the 20% least deprived areas in Scotland. The 10% most deprived areas in Perth and Kinross can be found in Perth (Muirton, and Hillyland, Tulloch and Inveralmond), and Blairgowrie East (Rattray).

1.34 Specifically in terms of the ‘Access’ domain, 67 out of 186 (36%) of all datazones in Perth and Kinross are ranked in the 20% most deprived areas in Scotland; 38 out of 186 (20.4%) are within the 10% most ‘Access’ deprived areas, and 16 out of 186 (8.6%) are within the 5% most ‘Access’ deprived areas in Scotland.

1.35 Map 4 shows the location of the SIMD 10% most ‘Access’ deprived areas within Perth and Kinross.

Map 4: SIMD 10% Most Access Deprived Areas



1.36 The Council carried out its ‘[Big Place Conversation](#)’ exercise to kick start the LDP3 process across Perth and Kinross communities during most of 2023. This was a substantial exercise involving over 100 events throughout the Council Area. The events ranged from drop-in information sessions, meetings, and online surveys to workshops and online sessions using the Place Standard Tool to capture the views of local communities about different aspects of their places. There were also targeted sessions held with schools, service user groups, and minority groups.

1.37 The results of the Big Place Conversation will be summarised as part of a separate report on the outcomes and findings across the different locality areas. This summary of the results, and the identified place-based actions to be taken forward as part of the development of the Proposed Plan, will be provided as part of LDP3's Evidence Report under the required statement of steps taken by the Council in preparing the report to seek the views of various stakeholders, as prescribed by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019.

1.38 The [Perth and Kinross Community Plan \(Local Outcomes Improvement Plan\) 2022-32](#) was approved by the Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership in September 2022. It contains an ambition for the area to 'be the best place in Scotland **for everyone to live life well, free from poverty and inequality.**' The Plan sets out 5 Strategic Priorities for the area, which are:

1. **Reducing Poverty** (child, food, and fuel)
2. **Physical and Mental Wellbeing** (evidence shows a major increase in demand for mental health wellbeing support post Covid-19)
3. **Digital Participation** (issues of connectivity, technology and individual capacity identified across the area)
4. **Learning and Development** (supporting individuals and communities to build their skills, confidence, and resilience)
5. **Employability** – (an enhanced focus on upskilling for those seeking employment and supporting young people in a fast-changing job market, enabling people to enter, sustain and progress in work.)

1.39 The Community Plan also provides a summary profile for the area of relevant data and trends linked to those Strategic Priorities. This helps build a stronger picture of the key characteristics and challenges of the Area which the Council, along with our Community Planning Partners, are seeking to address through a number of area-wide actions. These actions have all been linked to corresponding National and Local Outcomes too.

1.40 Although there are no specific actions in the Community Plan attributed to the Local Development Plan, there are actions which LDP3 and the land use planning system can help support the coordinated delivery of, such as: enhancing sustainable and active travel connections via new developments; improving the quality and provision of green and blue infrastructure (including open spaces, community allotments, natural water management solutions etc.); identifying housing and employment land in sustainable locations, and facilitating the delivery of quality energy efficient homes in a range of tenures.

1.41 [Design Charettes](#) – Between 2014 and 2016, Perth and Kinross Council worked in partnership with a number of local Community Councils to undertake a series of community design workshops in key settlements across the area. The objective was to work with local communities and key stakeholders, in identifying a town's strengths, weaknesses, as well as opportunities to help mitigate the social, environmental, and economic challenges towns across Scotland are

facing. In total, 5 charettes were undertaken for [Aberfeldy](#), [Auchterarder](#), [Bridgend](#), [Blairgowrie](#), and [Crieff](#).

1.42 Although some time has lapsed since these reports were produced, their content still provides a good source of information on the community's views of their local assets, their aspirations, areas for improvement, and a vision for the future of their place. The charette reports should be considered as part of the Settlement Audit work for the Proposed Plan to understand which elements have or have not been realised to date, if they are still relevant, and where LDP3 can help support the implementation of the key priorities identified within them.

1.43 [The Perth City Plan 2015-2035](#) is a document that was prepared on behalf of the Perth City Development Board. The Board consists of senior representatives of the private and public sector in Perth and Kinross, and the wider region.

1.44 The Plan sets out a long term vision for Perth as one of Europe's great small cities, along with a framework for investment in strategic infrastructure. It also includes a 5 year delivery plan for economic development and placemaking.

1.45 It focuses on the concept of smart growth, i.e. that Perth City 'uses digital and environmental technologies, thoughtful design and next generation concepts to make... [it] a place where:

- People live well, work in quality jobs and play in a great environment – a prosperous, balanced community not a commuter dormitory;
- Environmental technologies will be a key driver of economic growth and innovation;
- The city will grow in a responsible way, reducing car dependency and encouraging the use of public transport;
- We take full advantage of digital technologies to create a city which is efficient and connected;
- Low-carbon will be a way of life, founded on energy-efficient homes and businesses;
- The unique characteristics of the historic city centre and Perth's natural setting will be celebrated and enhanced.'

1.46 Figure 3 on the following page shows the Plan's Framework, which is based on 4 strategic themes and 8 'Big Moves' to help promote investment in economic development, learning skills, placemaking, and tourism.

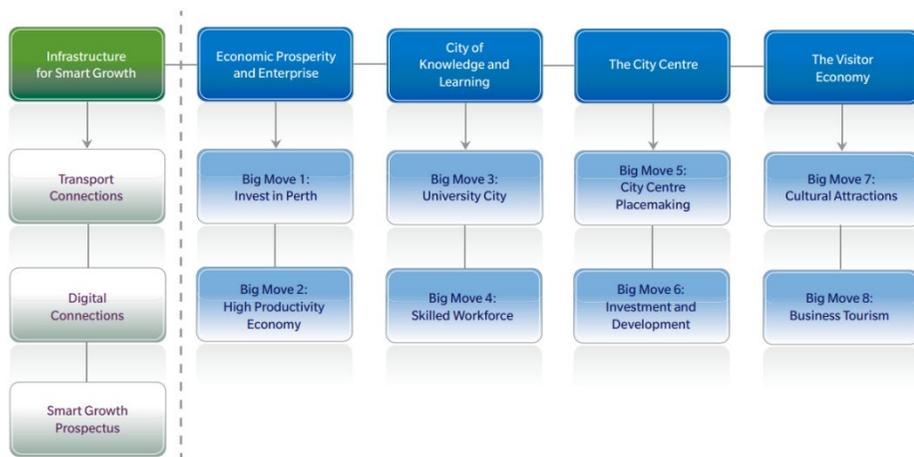
1.47 The [Placemaking Programme](#) linked to the Perth City Plan seeks to enhance the quality, vitality and vibrancy of Perth City Centre and key rural settlements, encouraging increased use and longer time spent in these locations, contributing to sustainable economic growth. A series of initiatives have been identified to help create high quality public spaces, deliver sustainable active travel routes, and promote use of the area's natural assets. The priorities and principles the Council are committed to are:

- Developing a strategy for traffic, access, and movement, which prioritises the pedestrian.

- Creating a hierarchy of streets, public spaces, and walking/ cycling routes.
- Improving the environmental quality of key streets/ public spaces, promoting natural assets, and building architecture.
- Establishing a framework of green infrastructure.
- Creating attractive points of arrival and ensuring key landmarks, natural assets and streets are better connected.

1.48 Projects to be delivered under the Council’s Placemaking Programme include - City Greening; Green Networks; Aberfeldy; Alyth; Golden Route; Tay Street and South Street (Perth).

Figure 3: Perth City Plan – The Framework



1.49 The [Invest in Perth: Smart Investing Now and for the Future](#) document sets out the investment opportunities being delivered through 3 key pillars (energy, mobility, and digital) to realise a ‘Smart

Perth’. The aim of the Smart Perth programme is to make Perth one of the most sustainable small cities in Europe. A city with a net zero future that will be inclusive, sustainable, grow the economy, create jobs, and improve quality of life.

1.50 The programme’s flagship investment project is Perth West, which will incorporate Perth Eco Innovation Park, the Perth Innovation Highway, and a logistics, mobility, and refuelling hub. Wider opportunities for smart investing include - Perth and Kinross Strategic Energy Partnership; EV Charging Infrastructure; Circular Economy and Binn Eco Park, and Gigabit Connected Perth.

1.51 The [Perth Cycle Network Masterplan](#) is a key part of the Perth City Plan, building on the vision of creating a hierarchy of streets, public spaces, walking and cycling routes across the city region. The Masterplan outlines a framework for investment in active travel through identifying 8 cycle corridors which will help link the city centre to its surrounding communities and those areas identified in LDP2 for development to the north and west of Perth.

1.52 The Council has recently developed its [Consultation Draft Mobility Strategy](#). The Draft Strategy is a Local Transport Strategy for the Perth and Kinross Area and 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. The

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.

- 1.53 The Draft Strategy is also accompanied by a [Draft Action Plan](#) which includes a number of actions which are of direct relevance to our Local Development Plan 3 Spatial Strategy, including those relating to: connected neighbourhoods and centres; green and blue infrastructure; open spaces and opportunities for play, and the identification of sustainable future site allocations.
- 1.54 There are 5 [Local Action Plans](#) (LAP) covering the 7 localities within the Perth and Kinross Area. Each LAP contains a profile of the locality/localities; information on the relevant Community Action Partnerships; data and information on the Key Inequalities for the area under the themes of: SIMD, Child Poverty, Crime, Income, Employment, Housing, Health and Wellbeing, Fairness Commission key themes, and lessons learned so far, and a list of Key Issues Identified, with accompanying statements on ‘What needs to change’ and the actions required to bring about those changes, when and by whom. However, as the LAPs were all published in 2017 the statistical data reported within them require to be updated.
- 1.55 There are currently 11 Community Action Plans (CAPs) in Rural Perth and Kinross, for [Meigle and Ardler](#), [Stanley](#), [Alyth](#), [Coupar Angus](#), [Dunkeld and Birnam](#), [Crieff](#), [Blairgowrie and Rattray](#), [Pitlochry and](#)

[Moulin](#), [Muthill and Tullibardine](#), [Auchterarder and Aberuthven](#), and [St. Fillans](#). There is also a CAP development process due to start for Comrie once the necessary funding has been secured. Community Action Plans are community-led and focus on identifying a common vision, key themes, priorities and actions needed to enhance a place over the period of the CAP and beyond.

- 1.56 The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 introduced a new type of plan called Local Place Plans (LPPs). These are plans prepared by a Community Council or community-controlled body, and supported by the community, that describe their vision for the future of their local area. LPPs set out proposals for the “development and use of land”, which can be proposals for new buildings, or other changes in the way land is used, such as walking or cycling routes, historic building preservation, affordable housing, or improved open spaces. When preparing an LPP, the community body must have regard to the Local Development Plan, National Planning Framework, and the Locality Plan for the area.
- 1.57 In December 2023, Perth and Kinross Council advertised [an invitation to create LPPs](#), stating that community bodies can prepare LPPs for their area and submit to the Council for registration at any time. Any LPPs that are registered with the Council by 31 January 2025 will have the greatest opportunity to be taken into account when preparing our LDP3, as work on preparation of the Proposed LDP3 is programmed to begin in early 2025. To date there have been some

expressions of interest in preparing an LPP from community bodies within Perth and Kinross, but there are currently no registered LPPs.

- 1.58 In 2022 the Council collated '[Ward Profiles](#)' for each of the 12 Council Ward Areas. The information for each area has been divided into main topics which are: population, economy, housing, education, physical environment. Information has also been included on local deprivation based on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD), where it is relevant to a local area. These profiles (with updated data where available) will be useful to our LDP3 Settlement Audit exercise.

Box 3: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

SIMD data and the above listed Perth and Kinross Council documents and profiles provide an important source of information about our places, not only relating to their key socio-economic characteristics, but also an understanding of the issues and challenges faced by our communities, and their aspirations for the future of their places. It is incredibly important that these characteristics, along with relevant environmental, physical, cultural, and built heritage characteristics are taken account of in the development of the Spatial Strategy for LDP3, to help deliver sustainable, well designed, and high quality places.

The Place Principle

- 1.59 One of the Policy Intents of NPF4 Policy 15 is to encourage, promote, and facilitate the application of the Place Principle to create connecting and compact neighbourhoods. The [Place Principle](#) was adopted by the Scottish Government and COSLA in 2019 to help overcome organisational and sectoral boundaries to encourage better collaboration and community involvement. It promotes a shared understanding of place, and the need for communities, public organisations, and businesses to work together to achieve better outcomes for people and communities.

- 1.60 The Place Principle says that we recognise that:

- Place is where people, location and resources combine to create a sense of identity and purpose and is at the heart of addressing the needs of communities and helping them realise their full potential. Places are shaped by the way resources, services and assets are directed and used by people who live in and invest in them.
- A more joined-up, collaborative and participative approach to services, land, and buildings, across all sectors within a place, helps support better outcomes for all, and increased opportunities for people and communities to shape their own lives.

- 1.61 The Principle requests that:

- All those responsible for providing services and looking after assets in a place need to work and plan together and with local communities, to improve the lives of people, support inclusive and sustainable economic growth, and create more successful places.

Box 4: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

Applying the Place Principle in the development of our LDP3 means that we will need to work collaboratively at all stages with key stakeholders, including key agencies, our communities, landowners, and developers to ensure our Spatial Strategy is coordinated, fit for purpose, and deliverable.

Location of Facilities

1.62 The Scottish Government's LDP Guidance suggests that other information which planning authorities might wish to prepare or review in relation to NPF4 Policy 15 are those which help identify the locations of facilities which are used for community functions and support services within a community for health and wellbeing, such as for the purpose of:

- Sport
- Leisure
- Arts and cultural activities, or
- To support lifelong learning or social interaction
- Visiting health services
- Clinics
- Support and advice services, and
- Childcare provision.

1.63 A more detailed audit of a number of these types of facilities (including consideration of their capacity) will be undertaken for the 'Infrastructure' topic and updated where necessary as part of the

Settlement Audit for LDP3. The audits will build on the [infrastructure capacity studies](#) undertaken for LDP2 in 2017 for the larger settlements within Perth and Kinross.

1.64 The 2017 studies included mapped information on the number and type of different community facilities and services within settlements and how accessible they were within travel zones of 5 minute intervals, from 5 minutes through to 20 minutes. The list of facilities and services looked at included:

- Community sports facilities and leisure activities.
- ATMs
- Petrol stations
- Libraries and/or mobile library services
- Community or town halls
- Post Offices
- Public houses and hotels
- Recycling points and centres
- Council offices
- Healthcare facilities and services
- Open spaces
- Education provision and capacity
- Retail and employment offer
- Energy supply and water/wastewater capacity
- Access to high speed broadband

Sport and Leisure, Arts and Cultural Activities

- 1.68 Perth and Kinross Council has an online interactive 'Open Spaces' map which contains data on the location and typology of different types of open spaces across Perth and Kinross. The map holds information on major parks, skate parks, sports pitches, burial grounds, community food growing locations, play areas, rights of way, adopted core paths, signposted paths, maintained open space, and our countryside sites. It is available both internally via our corporate GIS system and there are also publicly accessible maps under the various open space types sections on the [Leisure, Sport and Culture page](#) of our website.
- 1.69 [The Live Active website](#) provides information on the location of leisure facilities, as well as community halls available for hire, across Perth and Kinross, and the ranges of activities on offer at them.
- 1.70 [The Perth City and Towns website](#) provides information on the location of cultural and event venues across Perth and Kinross, along with what is on offer at those venues under the 'Explore and Stay' and 'Things to Do' sections. The [Visit Scotland website](#) and the Council's [Culture Strategy \(2023-2028\)](#) also provide lots of useful details about places of interest and things to do across the area.

Childcare Provision and Supporting Lifelong Learning

- 1.71 The Council maintains a record of the provision of early learning and childcare services (including childminders, children's clubs, and groups), and schools (primary and secondary) throughout the area.

This record includes details of their location and school catchment areas and is available via an interactive map on the [Council's Schools and Learning pages](#) on the website.

- 1.72 The [University of the Highlands and Islands website](#) provides information on the University's Perth Campus, including courses, their partnership working with all senior secondary schools in Perth and Kinross, and the services on offer at the campus.
- 1.73 The Perth City based [Perth and Kinross Employability Network](#) provides information on their website about the wide range of supports, and opportunities they offer to help people with additional challenges and barriers to work improve their employability skills and access meaningful volunteering or work experience placements with their Members. Information on [current Service Offers](#), including the Employment Connections Hub in Perth is also available on the Network's website.

Visiting Health Services and Clinics

- 1.74 The [NHS Inform Scotland's Service Directory](#) provides details of health and wellbeing services available across the Perth and Kinross Area. This includes information on - A&E and Minor Injuries Units; dental services; GP practices; hospitals; opticians; pharmacies; clinics, and other health and wellbeing services, like support groups.

Social Interaction, and Support and Advice Services

- 1.75 The [‘Your Community PK’](#) website provides an extensive list of services available (including contact information) across Perth and Kinross under the - Advice and Info; Care and Support; Children and Families; Health and Wellbeing, and Things To Do categories. The website also contains an interactive map to help identify the location of these services.

Box 5: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The above data sources provide useful information of the location of different facilities and services across Perth and Kinross which can be fed into the LDP3 Settlement Audit and Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods work to build an understanding of how well our places are currently performing in terms the Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods concept.

GAPS, UNCERTAINTIES, AND KEY ISSUES RAISED

Understanding Our Local Places

- 1.76 Our [Infrastructure Capacity Studies](#) for the larger settlements within Perth and Kinross are from 2017. The information contained in them will require an update in order to inform the Proposed Plan. This update will be undertaken as part of our Settlement Audit work for the Proposed Plan.
- 1.77 [SIMD](#) datazones in rural areas tend to cover a large land area and reflect a more mixed picture of people experiencing different levels of deprivation. This means that SIMD is less helpful at identifying the smaller pockets of deprivation found in more rural areas, compared to the larger pockets found in urban areas. SIMD domain indicators can still be useful in rural areas if analysed separately from urban data zones or combined with other data. Given the rural nature of much of Perth and Kinross, it will be important to keep this limitation in mind when considering rural areas as part of our Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods analysis work.
- 1.78 The result summaries of our LDP3 [Big Place Conversation](#) exercise (using the Place Standard Tool) for each of the localities will be available for inclusion in the Evidence Report and considered through our Settlement Audit work for the Proposed Plan.
- 1.79 Despite some time having elapsed since our [Design Charette reports](#) were produced, their content still provides a good source of information on the community's views of their local assets, their

aspirations, areas for improvement, and a vision for the future of their place. Any data or statistics contained within them which has since been updated should be reviewed as part of the LDP3 Settlement Audit work. The Audit should also consider if progress has been made against the key issues and actions identified in the charettes, and also how those issues and actions compare to the feedback gathered through the Big Place Conversation.

- 1.80 The Council's [Local Area Plans](#) and [Ward Profiles](#) also contain some data and information which is out of date. As with the Design Charette reports, they still provide useful information to help us build a picture of our localities, but they should be viewed in the light of the most up to date information available for the key characteristics and challenges for those places, whether or not progress has been made against actions identified in the Plans, and if the important local assets flagged by the communities still exist.
- 1.81 It is planned as part of the Settlement Audit work for LDP3 to develop a Localities Profile template which will set out those factors which officers need to take account of in developing their understanding of each place and its needs to satisfy the requirements of the Planning Act, Regulations, LDP Guidance and NPF4 policies. This should also help inform work on Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods required under NPF4 Policy 15. The template has yet to be developed but will be in place prior to work beginning on the Proposed Plan.

1.82 Unfortunately, not all of the information regarding the facilities and services on offer in our communities is currently mapped in GIS. This will require to be carried out as part of our LDP3 Settlement Audit work to allow for analysis in terms of local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods to be undertaken.

Appendix A: Identification of Datasets and Information

Table A1: Summary of Evidence Required or Suggested for NPF4 Policy 15

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data
NPF4 Policy 15	<p>LDPs should support local living, including 20 minute neighbourhoods within settlements, through the spatial strategy, associated site briefs and masterplans.</p> <p>The approach should take into account the local context, considering varying settlement patterns and reflect the particular characteristics and challenges faced by each place.</p>	<p>Research into 20 Minute Neighbourhoods in a Scottish Context by Climate X Change and Ramboll</p> <p>Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods: Planning Guidance</p> <p>Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 2 (2019)</p> <p>LDP2 Research and Information: Infrastructure Studies (2017)</p> <p>Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) Data</p> <p>LDP3 Big Place Conversation Results</p> <p>Community Plan (Local Outcomes</p>	<p>The Climate X Change and Ramboll research is incredibly useful in providing a definition of what a 20 minute neighbourhood is within a Scottish context, and outlining what the key elements of such a place are. It establishes a baseline for Scotland at a national scale, to allow us to see how close the neighbourhoods across the country are to meeting the 20 minute definition. This baseline can also be applied at a local level for our LDP3 Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhood analysis work. The research work also categorises neighbourhoods using residential densities from the Urban Rural Classification, to allow for the development of recommendations that can be applied to the different types of urban and rural areas.</p> <p>The Scottish Government’s draft guidance on the subject is helpful in setting out a framework within which our work on identifying Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods across Perth and Kinross can be developed.</p> <p>The current Local Development Plan 2 along with its accompanying supplementary guidance documents, and research and information papers on infrastructure, provide a good basis of understanding of the local context and</p>	<p>Our Infrastructure Capacity Studies are from 2017. The information contained in them will require an update in order to inform the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>SIMD datazones in rural areas tend to cover a large land area and reflect a more mixed picture of people experiencing different levels of deprivation. This means that SIMD is less helpful at identifying the smaller pockets of deprivation found in more rural areas, compared to the larger pockets found in urban areas. SIMD domain indicators can still be useful in rural areas if analysed separately from urban data zones or combined with other data.</p> <p>The results of the BPC are still being collated to produce summaries for each of the localities. They will be available for inclusion in the Evidence Report.</p>

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data
		<p>Improvement Plan) 2022 - 2032</p> <p>Design Charrettes</p> <p>The Perth City Plan 2015-2035 and Placemaking Programme</p> <p>Invest in Perth: Smart Investing Now and for the Future</p> <p>Perth Cycle Network Masterplan</p> <p>Draft Local Transport Strategy – The Mobility Strategy</p> <p>Community led Plans:</p> <p>Eastern Perthshire Local Action Plan (LAP) 2017</p> <p>Highland and Strathtay LAP 2017</p> <p>Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn LAP 2017</p> <p>Strathearn and Strathallan LAP 2017</p> <p>Perth City LAP 2017</p>	<p>characteristics of the area’s towns and villages, as well as Perth City. Information on the principal characteristics of the Area; sustainable transport; design, quality, and place; infrastructure; quality homes; blue and green infrastructure; open space, play and recreation; Community Wealth Building; city, town and local centres, and retail, are all explored in more detail under the relevant subject Topic Papers.</p> <p>SIMD data helps us to identify those areas which are ranked as most deprived within Perth and Kinross. We can compare this data with other information we have about our places to help us apply a place-based approach to try to address some of these issues via the land use planning system, and to ensure that we don’t make things worse for the people who live there, but rather seek improvements in a coordinated way.</p> <p>The results of the Big Place Conversation (BPC) are currently being collated to produce a separate report on the outcomes and findings across the different locality areas. A summary of the results of the BPC exercise, and the place-based actions to be taken forward as part of the development of the Proposed Plan, will be provided as part of LDP3’s Evidence Report under the required statement of steps taken by the Council in preparing the report to seek the views of various stakeholders, as prescribed by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019.</p>	<p>Our Design Charettes were only undertaken for 5 towns within Perth and Kinross, and the workshops and their reports are from between 2014 and 2016. Some of the information contained within may be out of date or require review.</p> <p>Our Local Action Plans were published in 2017 and as such the statistical data within them is now out of date.</p> <p>The information contained within the Ward Profiles which came from the mid-year population estimates is still relevant, but some of the other information sources will require updates to allow the profiles to be used as part of the Settlement Audit exercise.</p> <p>It is planned as part of the Settlement Audit work for LDP3 to develop a Localities Profile template which will set out those factors which officers need to take account of in developing their understanding of each place and its needs to satisfy the requirements of the Planning Act, Regulations,</p>

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data
		Meigle and Ardler CAP Stanley CAP Alyth CAP Coupar Angus CAP Dunkeld and Birnam CAP Crieff CAP Blairgowrie and Rattray CAP Pitlochry and Moulin CAP Muthill and Tullibardine CAP Auchterarder and Aberuthven CAP St. Fillans CAP Comrie CAP Perth and Kinross Ward Profiles Localities Profile Template LDP3 Settlement Audit	<p>The Community Plan provides a summary profile for the area of data and trends linked to those Strategic Priorities. This helps build a stronger picture of the key characteristics and challenges of the Area which the Council, along with our Community Planning Partners are seeking to address through a number of area-wide actions. Although there are no specific actions attributed to the Local Development Plan, there are actions which LDP3 and the land use planning system can help support the coordinated delivery of.</p> <p>Although some time has lapsed since our Design Charette reports were produced, their content still provides a good source of information on the community's views of their local assets, their aspirations, areas for improvement, and a vision for the future of their place. The reports should be considered as part of the Settlement Audit work for the Proposed Plan to understand which elements have or have not been realised to date, if they are still relevant, and where LDP3 can help support the implementation of the key priorities identified within them.</p> <p>Our 5 Local Action Plans and Community Action Plans provide important profiles of our places and the key issues affecting them, as well as priorities and actions for change. As with the other sources of data and information noted above, they will be important to our Settlement Audit work in helping</p>	<p>LDP Guidance and NPF4 policies. This should also help inform work on Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods required under NPF4 Policy 15.</p>

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data
			<p>to develop our understanding of our places and the issues and challenges they face. Any spatial implications, where relevant and appropriate, should be translated into the Plan’s Spatial Strategy.</p> <p>The Perth City Plan and Placemaking Programme, and the Invest In Perth document provide the framework for the future growth and development of Perth. They include details on strategic themes and ‘Big Moves’, as well as investment opportunities, which should be reflected in LDP3’s spatial strategy for the City.</p> <p>The aspirations of and any detailed projects and proposals contained within the Perth Cycle Network Masterplan and the Mobility Strategy should be reflected in LDP3 spatial strategy.</p> <p>In 2022 the Council collated ‘Ward Profiles’ for each of the 12 Council Ward Areas. The information for each area has been divided into main topics which are population, economy, housing, education, physical environment. Information has also been included on local deprivation based on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) where it is relevant to a local area. These profiles (with updated data where available) will be useful to our LDP3 Settlement Audit exercise.</p>	
NPF4 Policy 15	Encourage, promote, and facilitate the application	The Place Principle	Applying the Place Principle in the development of our LDP3 means that we need to work	The Council’s supplementary guidance on Placemaking is still

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data
Policy Intent	of the Place Principle and create connecting and compact neighbourhoods where people can meet the majority of their daily needs within a reasonable distance of their home, preferably by walking, wheeling or cycling or using sustainable transport options.		<p>collaboratively at all stages with key stakeholders, including key agencies, our communities, landowners, and developers to ensure our Spatial Strategy is coordinated, fit for purpose, and deliverable.</p> <p>The Council’s Placemaking Guide is still very relevant. Its continued use, particularly during the Site Appraisal stage for the Proposed Plan, will help to ensure the Scottish Government’s Six Qualities of Successful Places are realised on the ground across Perth and Kinross, and that these qualities are framed within a local context.</p>	relevant, but it will require a review and update to ensure it is in keeping with NPF4 in terms of policy references and terminology.
LDP Guidance	Location of facilities that are used for the purposes of sport, leisure, arts and cultural activities, or to support lifelong learning or social interaction.	PKC mapped data on open spaces Live Active website The Perth City and Towns website Visit Scotland website Culture Strategy 2023-2028 (pkc.gov.uk)	Provides useful information of the location of different facilities across Perth and Kinross which can be fed into the LDP3 Settlement Audit and Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods work.	Not all of the information is mapped and will need to be added to GIS to allow analysis work in terms of local living and 20 minute neighbourhood zones.
LDP Guidance	Locations of facilities that are used for support services within a community for health and wellbeing including: visiting health services, clinics, support and advice	PKC Early Learning, Schools and Childcare pages University of the Highlands and Islands website	Provides useful information of the location of different facilities across Perth and Kinross which can be fed into the LDP3 Settlement Audit and Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods work.	Not all of the information is mapped and will need to be added to GIS to allow analysis work in terms of Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhood zones.

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data
	services and childcare provision.	Perth and Kinross Employability Network Perth and Kinross Employability Network Current Service Offers information NHS Inform Scotland's Service Directory Your Community PK		