

Figure 1: Overview of Key Characteristics of The PKC Area

The Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) Area

12th Largest Unitary Authority in Scotland (population)

Covers an area of 5,286 Km²

A mix of urban and rural communities

A clear distinction between uplands and lowlands

Rich and varied historic, cultural, and creative characteristics and a wealth of related assets.

Population of 153,810 (2021 Mid-year Estimates)

Largest demographic group is 45-64 year olds.

More females than males living in the area.

Life expectancy for both males and females higher than at a Scotland level.

Largest share of jobs across the area are within the Tourism, Health and Social Care, Retail, and Food and Drink sectors.

% of area with access to superfast, ultrafast, and full fibre broadband is behind the national average.

Unemployment rates for the area are below the Scotland average.

The PKC Area scoring better against wellbeing indicators compared to Scotland average.

Approximately 27% of the Area is designated under local designations for landscape alone.

Approximately 36% of the area is designated under national or international legislation to protect landscape, habitats, and species.

House prices above the Scottish average for majority of property types and have steadily increased month to month during the 12 month period March 2023 to March 2024.

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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.
Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI)	In Scotland, Ancient Woodland is defined as land that is currently wooded and has been continually wooded, at least since 1750. The AWI is a provisional guide to the location of Ancient Woodland. It contains 3 main woodland categories – Ancient Woodland; Long-established woodlands of plantation origin, and Other Woodlands on 'Roy' woodland sites. The Roy Military Survey of Scotland 1747 – 1755 (also known as the 'Great Map') provides a detailed survey map of Scotland.
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.
Floodplain	Floodplains are typically flat, naturally formed areas of land close to a watercourse or the sea, where water flows to during periods of flooding, or would flow to if it was not for the presence of flood prevention measures. The functional floodplain refers to the role of floodplains as areas of storage and conveyance for flood water.
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 National Flood Risk Management Plans 2021. Target Areas are located within Potentially Vulnerable Areas (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.
Inclusive Growth	In their March 2022 publication ' Inclusive growth: what does it look like? ' the Scottish Government defines inclusive growth as 'growth that combines increased prosperity with greater equity; that creates opportunities for all; and distributes the dividends of increased prosperity fairly.'

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.
Net Migration	The difference between in-migration and out-migration.
Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs)	PVAs are geographical areas that are designated for flood management under the Flood Risk Management Act (Scotland) 2009. They show parts of catchments and coastal areas where nationally significant flood risk exists now or is likely to occur in the future.
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.
Ramsar Sites	Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance that have been designated under the criteria of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands for containing representative, rare or unique wetland types or for their importance in conserving biological diversity.
RSPB Important Bird Areas (IBAs)	The most important sites for birds are known as Important Bird Areas. The identification of IBAs is critical to bird conservation worldwide.
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	A Special Area of Conservation (SAC) protects one or more special habitats and/or species listed in the Habitats Directive (European Union Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora). In Scotland, the Habitats Directive is translated into specific legal obligations via the Conservation (Natura Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994.
Special Protection Areas (SPAs)	SPAs are part of the UK’s European site network of protected areas and are designated under the Habitats Regulations (Conservation (Natura Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994). SPAs are selected to protect one or more rare, threatened or vulnerable bird species listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conservation of wild birds), or certain regularly occurring migratory species.

Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSI)

SSSIs are designated by Nature Scot and are sites that are considered to be essential building blocks for nature conservation in Scotland. SSSIs are those areas of land and water considered to best represent our natural heritage in terms of their flora, fauna, geology, geomorphology, or a mixture of these natural features. Many SSSIs are also designated as European sites i.e. SACs or SPAs.

Wild Land

Nature Scot defines wild land areas as the most extensive areas of high wildness in Scotland.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This topic paper sets out the key information about the area which will be covered by the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 3, as required under the provisions of Section 15(5) of the Act¹. 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.
- 1.2 The purpose of an Evidence Report is to provide the local authority's interpretation of the evidence it has gathered and the likely implications of that evidence for the preparation of the LDP. The Report will provide a summary of what the evidence means for the plan, rather than contain all the detail of evidence collected.
- 1.3 In line with the requirements of the Act, this paper will provide important background information for the Plan area regarding the:
- Principal physical, cultural, economic, social, built heritage, and environmental characteristics of the district,
 - The principal purposes for which the land is used, and
 - The size, composition, health, and distribution of the population of the area.

- 1.4 This information will help to provide an overview of the Perth and Kinross area, setting the context within which LDP3 should be prepared.

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

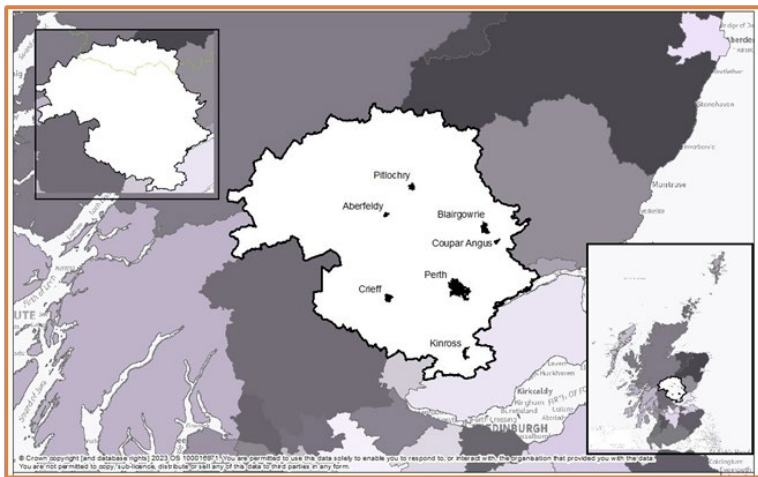
2 Summary of Evidence – The Principal Characteristics of the Area

PRINCIPAL PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND LAND USE PURPOSES

The Local Authority Area

- 2.1 The Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) Area is the 5th largest unitary authority in Scotland. Including the portion of Perth and Kinross which is within the Cairngorms National Park, the PKC Area covers a total of 5,286 Km². Excluding the National Park area, the figure reduces to 4707 Km². The area includes a mix of urban and rural communities, and Perth City is the main population centre.
- 2.2 Figure 1 shows the overall Perth and Kinross Council Area, within the context of Scotland, and the part of PKC within the National Park Area (see green boundary line in top left inset map).

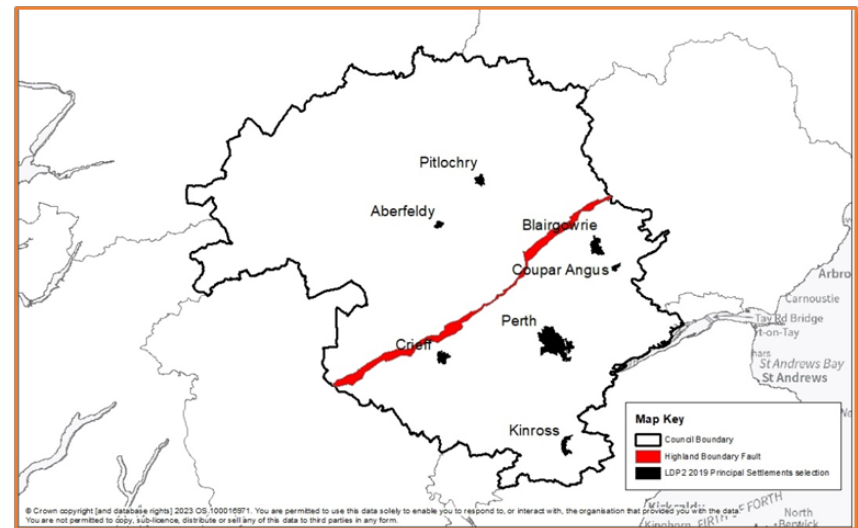
Figure 1: The Perth and Kinross Council Area



The Geology of the Area

- 2.3 The Highland Boundary Fault (Figure 2) runs across the area from the northeast to the southwest, roughly dividing the landscape of Perth and Kinross between the distinct geological areas of Highland Perthshire, and Lowland Perthshire and Kinross. The division is very much reflected in the topography, vegetation, and land use of those areas. Both are characterised by a diverse mix of rural and urban land use, which varies considerably from rich lowland arable farming to extensive upland forestry, and from the main population centre of Perth to small, remote communities, such as Kinloch Rannoch.

Figure 2: The Highland Boundary Fault Line within Perth and Kinross



- 2.4 The topography of the area is mainly a product of glacial processes working on the varying underlying geology. To the south of the Highland Boundary Fault, broad, flat, and fertile straths correspond

with the areas of soft sandstone eroded during glaciation. Glacial drift deposits and eroded material carried down by rivers from the Highland glens have resulted in the presence of the fertile soils which now cover these areas.

- 2.5 The post-glacial raised beaches of the Carse of Gowrie, between Perth and Dundee, are home to some of Scotland's richest farmland, but before it was drained for agricultural improvement, it was a wetland formed on uplifted marine clay.
- 2.6 The flooded Lowland Basin of Loch Leven was formed as a result of retreating ice sheets during the last Ice Age which scoured a hollow in the softer sandstone between the harder Lomond Hills, Cleish Hills and Ochils. The land around the loch is flat with large areas of marsh and wetland, and an area of valley peat at Portmoak at the foot of the Lomond Hills.
- 2.7 To the north of the Highland Boundary Fault, the generally harder stone, transformed from sedimentary rock, took on the form of higher elevations. This is despite being subject to similar glacial processes as occurred in the central lowlands area. A great deal of the area is covered in either moorland or blanket bog and less fertile soils. However, in those areas where upland glens have been created or expanded through glaciation, there are more fertile soils present on drift deposits which support agriculture.
- 2.8 Around the Atholl area, the landscape changes from open moorland to a large valley landform with steep sides (as a result of glacial processes), enclosing the mainly flat open floodplain of the River

Garry. Distinctly different soils and vegetation are present here, due to the glaciation of less resistant calcareous limestone, and are visibly notable through the large trees and fertile farmland around the Blair Castle Estate. Rannoch Moor, at the western end of Loch Rannoch, is an area of blanket mire on a large open flat plateau. It is one of the best examples of a blanket peat bog in Scotland.

- 2.9 The rivers and lochs of the region have played an important role in influencing where humans have settled across Perth and Kinross. The River Tay, being the most influential in this regard, is Scotland's longest river, and the largest in Britain in terms of freshwater discharge. It is fed by over 70 freshwater lochs and seven other significant rivers, including the Earn, Almond, Tummel, Garry, and Isla. It is also designated as a Special Area of Conservation under the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended). There are a number of major lochs in Highland Perthshire, most notably the lochs of Rannoch, Tummel, Earn and Lyon.

The Landscape Character Types of the Area

- 2.10 Scotland has a digitised map-based national [Landscape Character Assessment](#), which was published by Nature Scot in 2019. It shows the Landscape Character Types (LCT), which are "*areas of consistent and recognisable landscape character.*" The 10 main landscape character types present within the Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) Area are:
 - Summits and Plateaux – Tayside (22.5%)

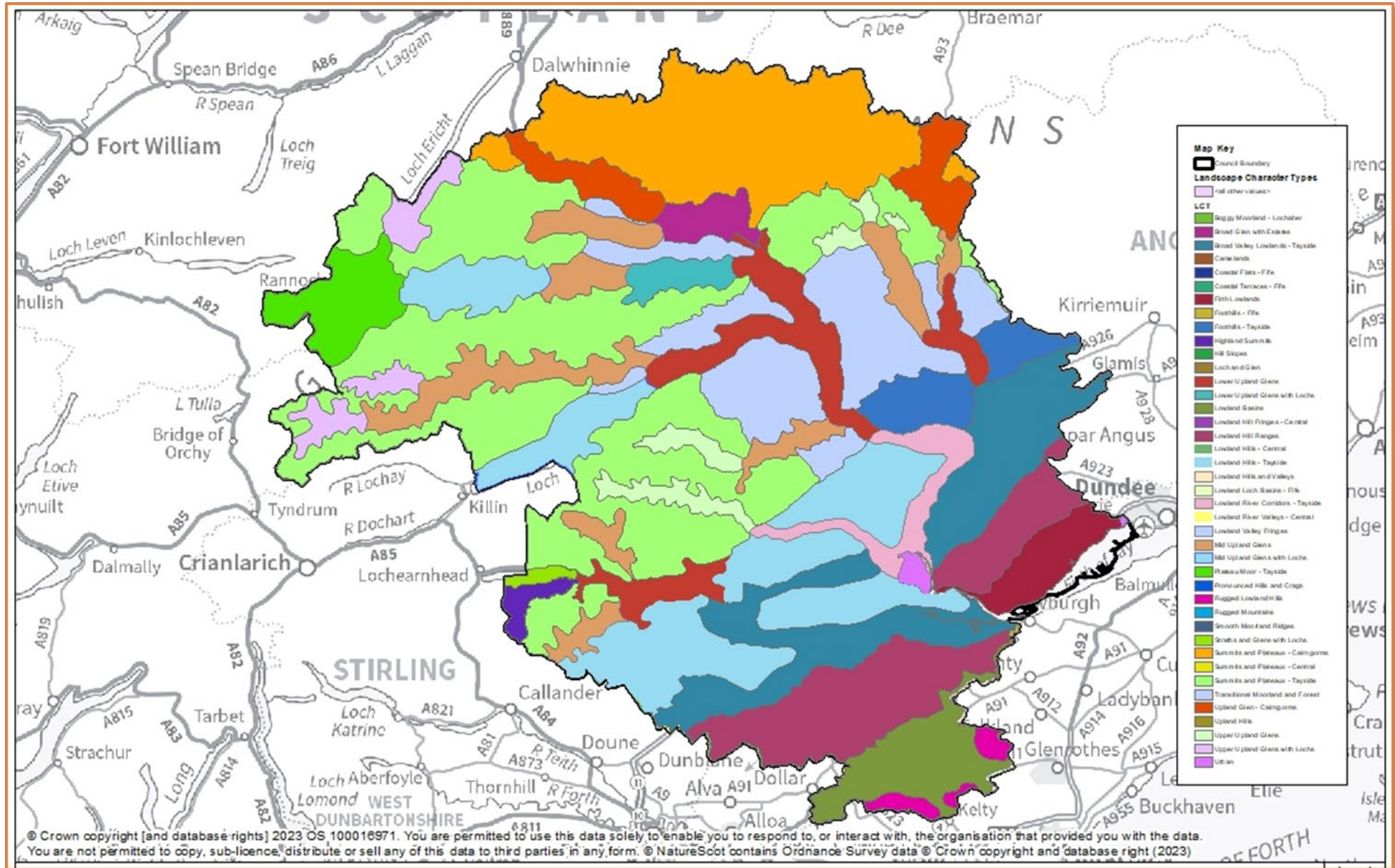
- Summits and Plateaux – Cairngorms (10.7%)
- Traditional Moorland and Forest (8.9%)
- Lowland Hills – Tayside (8.8%)
- Lowland Hill Ranges (8.6%)
- Mid Upland Glens (7.1%)
- Lower Upland Glens (6.3%)
- Mid Upland Glens with Lochs (4.7%)
- Lowland Basins (3.3%)
- Upland Glen – Cairngorms (3.0%)

2.11 Figure 3 to follow and Table B1 in Appendix B provide more detail regarding the location of the different LCTs, and a summary of their context, key characteristics (taken from Nature Scot’s Assessment), and the percentage of the PKC Area which they cover.

Box 1: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The geological, geographical and landscape context that underpins the Perth and Kinross Area provides an important basis for the development of our LDP3 Spatial Strategy.

Figure 3: Landscape Character Types within the Perth and Kinross Council Area



Historic Land Use

2.12 Historic Environment Scotland’s Historic Land Use Assessment (HLA) shows the extent of changes that have occurred to the environment. It plots those land-uses which are still in existence at a scale of 1:25,000, describing them by function and period. It maps both current, and where surviving, previous land uses. An HLA has been undertaken for a large percentage of the Council Area. Figures 4 and 5 to follow show the HLA coverage available for Perth and Kinross and main classification categories, and Table 1 below a breakdown of key historic land uses across the area.

Table 1: Key Historic Land Use within Perth and Kinross

Historic Land Use Category	Area (km ²)
Woodland & Forestry	806.6
Agriculture and Settlement	760.9
Moorland & Rough Land Grazing	503.7
Waterbody	87.0
Designed Landscapes	59.4
Built Up Area	45.5
Leisure & Recreation	33.9
Defence	19.1
Energy Extraction and waste	12.8
Rural Settlement	4.3
Transport	3.2
Spiritual & Ritual	0.4

2.13 A clear distinction can be seen in Figure 4 between the moorland and rough grazing, and woodland and forestry in the upland area, and agriculture in the lowland areas.

Figure 4: HLA for the Perth and Kinross Area (Land Uses/ Function)

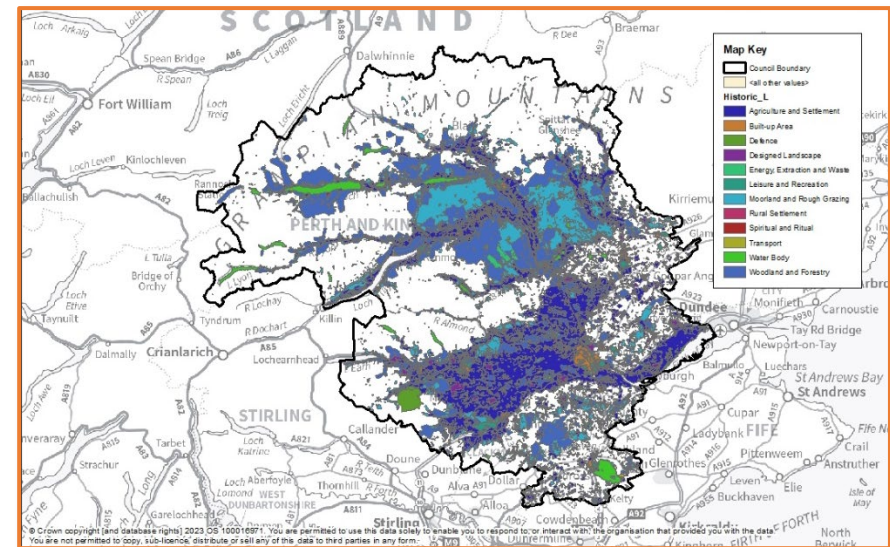
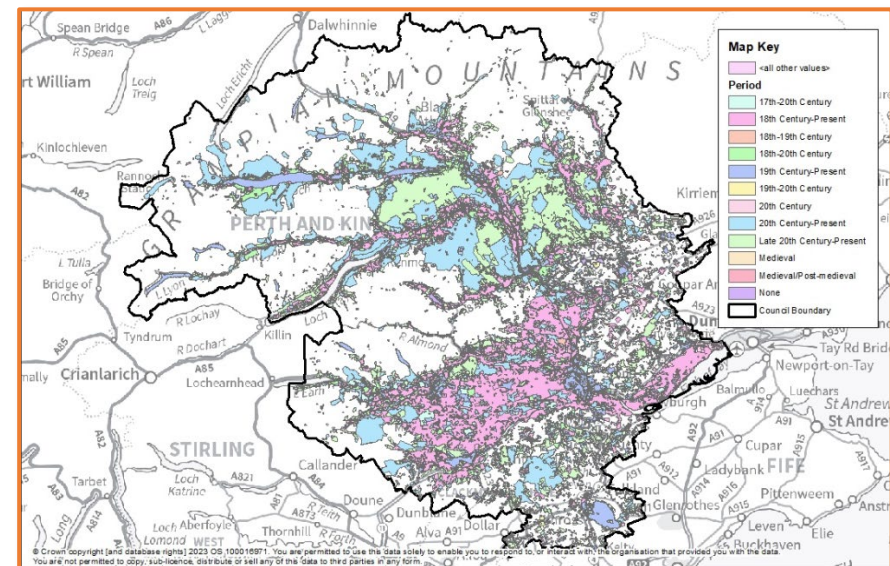


Figure 5: HLA for the Perth and Kinross Area (Time Periods)



Box 2: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The HLA provides us with a picture of how land use across our area has evolved over time and highlights that there is a clear distinction between the upland area with its predominantly moorland, rough grazing, woodland and forestry, and the agricultural and populated lowlands. This has and continues to form the main basis of the Plan’s Spatial Strategy.

2.14 [Nature Scot’s Habitat Map of Scotland \(HabMoS\)](#) is the publication of all available habitat data and uses [The European Nature Information System](#), or EUNIS to standardise that data in order to map habitats and land use across Scotland. Table 2 and Figure 6 identify the main land cover categories covering Perth and Kinross. As with HLA Map, Figure 6 shows a clear distinction between moorland, heathland, scrub, and vegetated land in the upland area in the northwest, and agricultural land in the lowland areas of the southeast and river valleys.

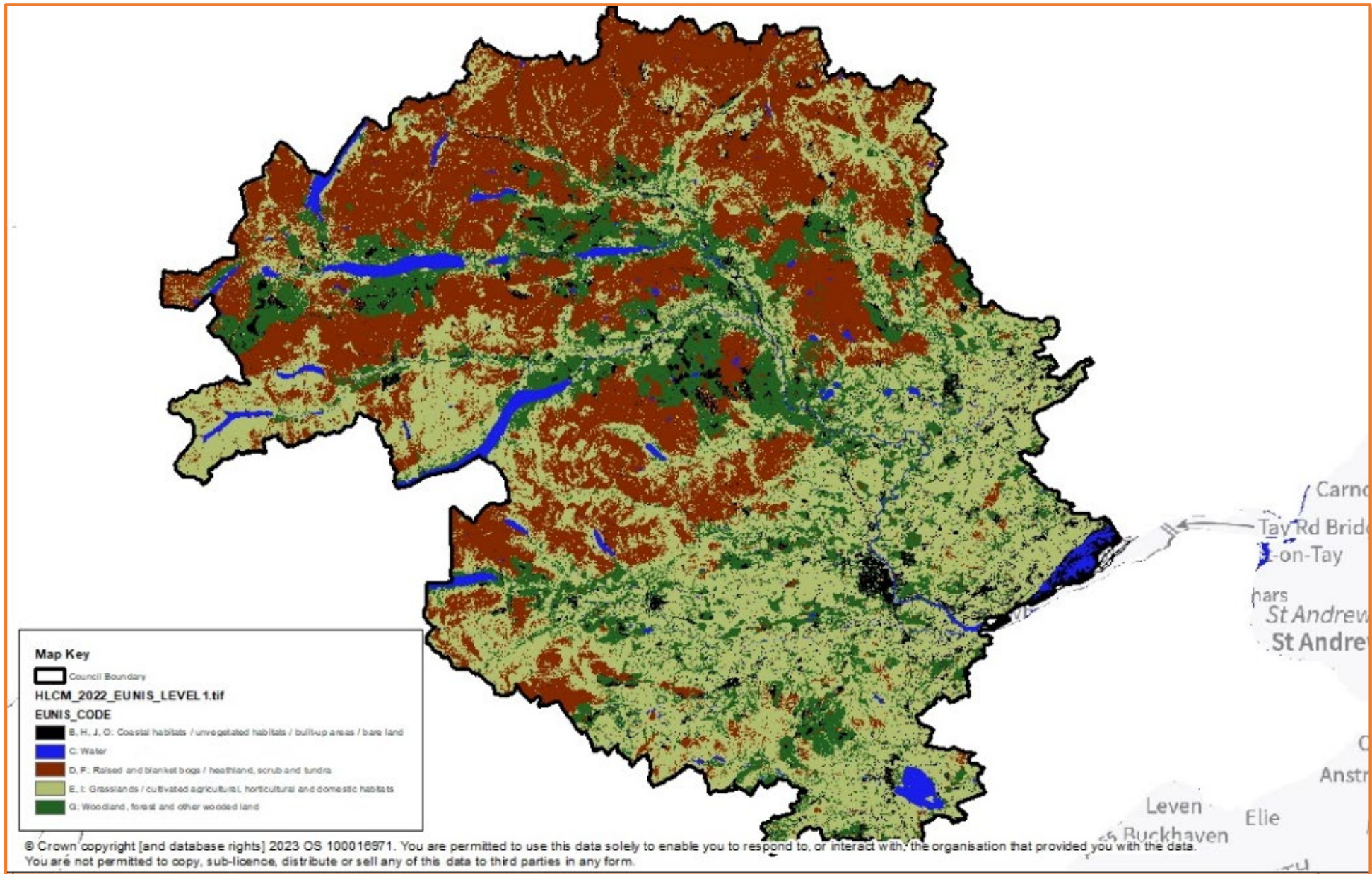
Box 3: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

Understanding the different habitat types across the Plan Area helps to direct our LDP3 Spatial Strategy to ensure we protect, enhance and/or restore those areas which are important natural assets. This is important in our efforts to help tackle the climate and nature crises.

Table 2: Breakdown of HabMoS Key Land Cover Types within PKC Area

Land Cover Type and EUNIS Codes	Area (Km²)	% of Perth and Kinross
A - Marine Habitats	3.84	0.07%
B – Coastal Habitats	0	0
C – Inland Surface Waters	113.84	2.15%
D – Mires, Bogs, and Fens	371.55	7.03%
E – Grasslands and Lands Dominated by Forbs, Mosses, or Lichens	481.31	9.11%
F - Heathland, Scrub and Tundra	443.57	8.39%
G - Woodland, Forest, and Other Woodland Land	1190.59	22.52%
H – Inland Unvegetated, or Sparsely Vegetated Habitats	30.62	0.58%
I – Regularly, or Recently Cultivated Agricultural, Horticultural, and Domestic Habitats	1162.33	21.99%
J – Constructed, Industrial, and Other Artificial Habitats	2.67	0.05%

Figure 6: Habitat Map of Scotland – The Perth and Kinross Council Area



2.15 The [National Land Capability for Agriculture in Scotland Map](#), which was produced by the Macaulay Institute for Soil Research during the 1980's, provides a land classification system, ranking land on the basis of its potential productivity and cropping flexibility.

2.16 Land Classes 1 to 3.1 are typically referred to as 'Prime Agricultural Land' and are capable of being used to produce a wide range of crops. Classes 3.2 to 4.2 are regarded as land capable of supporting mixed agriculture, which can be used to grow a moderate range of crops, including potatoes and cereals, forage crops and grass. Historically the Development Plan has sought to protect the loss, through development, of land within Classes 1, 2, 3.1 and 3.2. There is no Class 1 land within the Perth and Kinross Council Area. Table 3 and Figure 7 show the scale and distribution of Classes 2, 3.1, and 3.2 across the area.

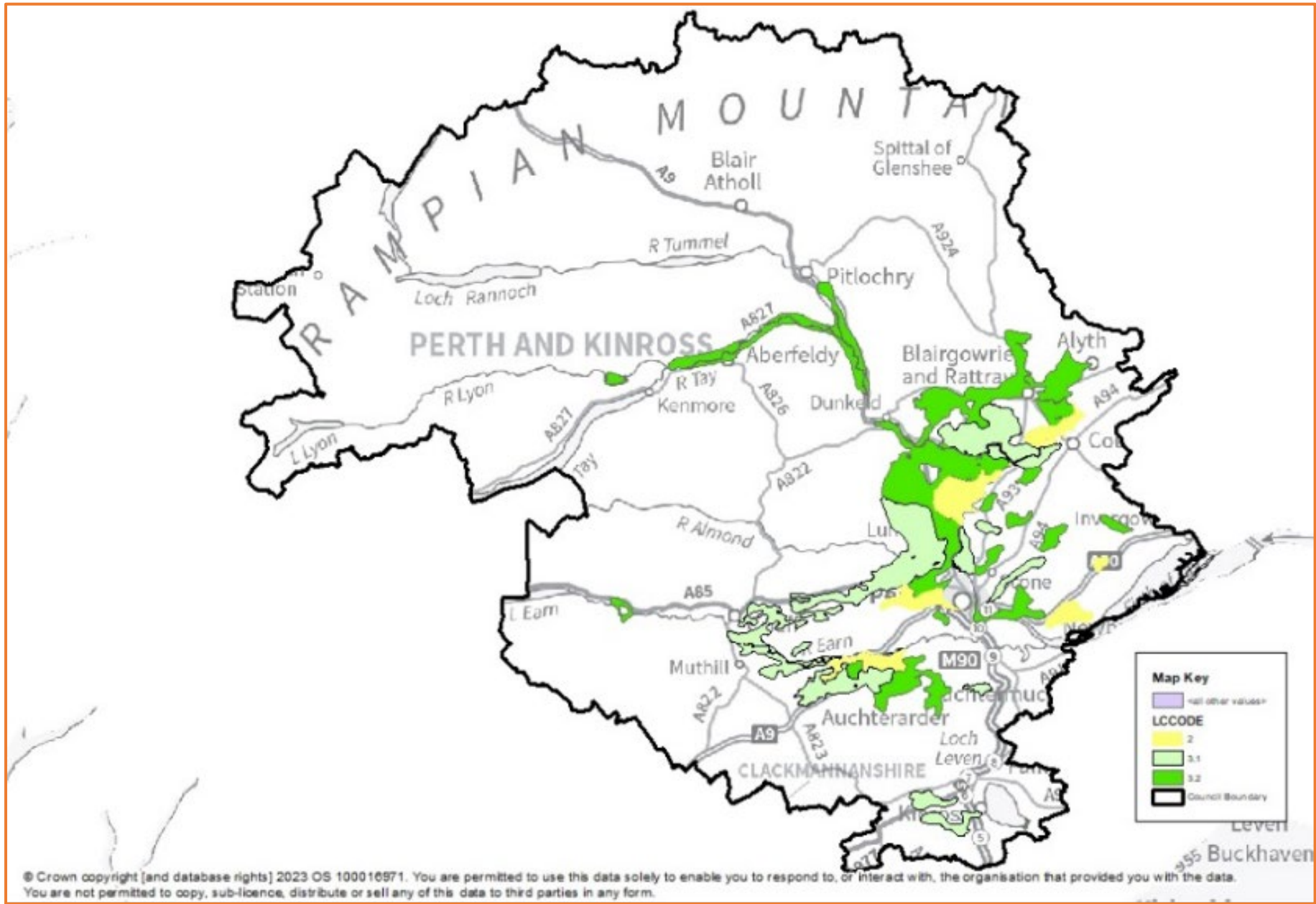
Table 3: Breakdown of Classes 2, 3.1 and 3.2 within PKC

Map Key	Class	Area (Km ²)	% of Perth and Kinross
	Class 2 - Land capable of producing a wide range of crops.	66.21	1.25%
	Class 3.1 – Land capable of producing consistently high yields of a narrow range of crops and/or moderate yields of a wider range. Short grass leys are common.	163.80	3.10%
	Class 3.2 – Land capable of average production though high yields of barley, oats and grass can be obtained. Grass leys are common.	216.20	4.09%

Box 4: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The Land Capability for Agriculture in Scotland mapped data is important to the Plan's Spatial Strategy as it helps identify where the area's most productive soils are located to allow us to protect them from irreversible loss through development. The Plan Area's soils are explored in more detail via Topic Paper 006.

Figure 7: National Land Capability for Agriculture Map - Classes 2-3.2



2.17 The [National scale Land Capability for Forestry Map](#) provides information on the potential for land across Scotland to grow trees based on a number of factors, including soil, climate, and topography. The map was produced by the Macauley Land Use Research Institute, and also uses a classification system of Classes F1 through to F7 in terms of capability. Classes F8 and F9, represent, respectively, built-up areas and areas of inland water.

2.18 Figure 8 and Table 4 to follow show the location of those classes within Perth and Kinross and provide a breakdown of that coverage. The total amount of the PKC area which is covered by Classes F1 – F4, i.e. land which is excellent through to that with moderate flexibility for the growth and management of tree crops, is 2,044 Km², which equates to 38.66% of the total Council Area. A more in depth look at forestry, woodlands and trees across the area will be undertaken as part of Evidence Report Topic Paper 007.

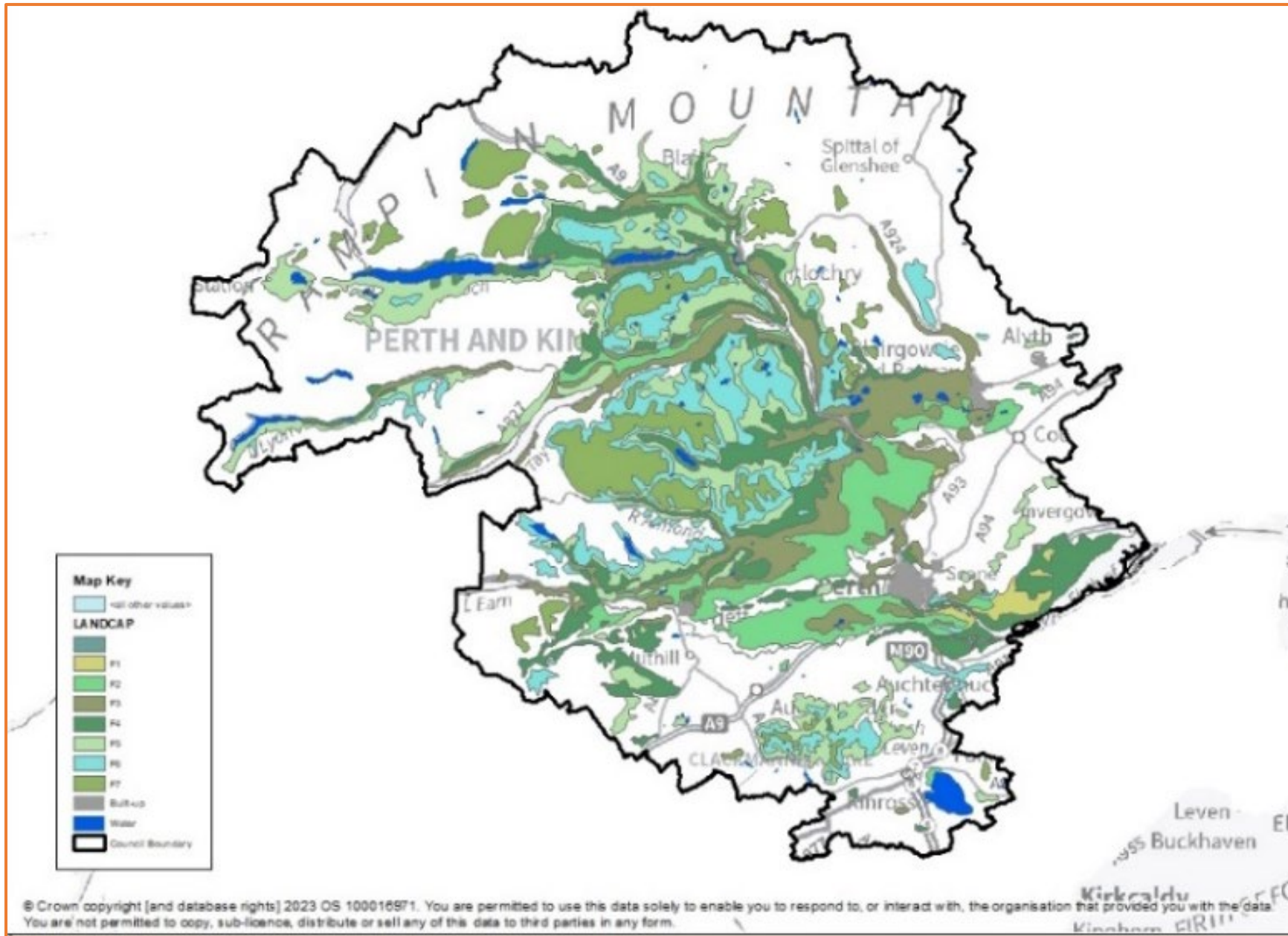
Table 4: Breakdown of Land Capability for Forestry within PKC

Map Key	Class	Area (Km ²)	% of Perth and Kinross
	F1 – Land with excellent flexibility for the growth and management of tree crops	23.27	0.44%
	F2 – Land with very good flexibility for the growth and management of tree crops	247.04	4.67%
	F3 – Land with good flexibility for the growth and management of tree crops	342.28	6.48%
	F4 – Land with moderate flexibility for the growth and management of tree crops	374.68	7.09%
	F5 – Land with limited flexibility for the growth and management of tree crops	451.34	8.54%
	F6 – Land with very limited flexibility for the growth and management of tree crops	338.14	6.40%
	F7 – Land unsuitable for producing tree crops	266.94	5.05%

Box 5: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

This Land Capability for Forestry Map dataset provides information on the potential for land across Scotland to grow trees. This is incredibly useful for our Forestry, Woodlands and Trees spatial framework and helping Scotland reach national tree planting targets by directing the planting of the right trees in the right places.

Figure 8: Land Capability for Forestry in Scotland



PRINCIPAL CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS

2.19 The [Perth and Kinross Council Culture Strategy 2023-2028](#) explores in detail the cultural context for Perth and Kinross, as well as its people and places. It sets out how culture will contribute to the Corporate Priority to develop a stronger and greener economy, and also the vision for culture in Perth and Kinross as one where:

“We will enable creative communities and outstanding creative work to thrive in Perth and Kinross, through partnership.”

2.20 In developing its cultural vision, the Council engaged with communities across Perth and Kinross through public consultation sessions; held workshops with key cultural organisations from across the area and connected with Creative Scotland and Museums Galleries Scotland.

2.21 The communities helped carry out a SWOT analysis looking at the key strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats facing the current and future cultural offer for Perth and Kinross. This information was then used to create the Council’s 9 high-level ‘Cultural Pledges’, each with their own set of actions to help deliver the Vision.

2.22 The Council’s Cultural Pledges are:

1. We will celebrate our cultural diversity and make culture in Perth and Kinross accessible for everyone.
2. We will ensure culture and heritage are integral to Placemaking decisions.

3. We pledge to make co-creation with local communities central to our cultural programmes.
4. We pledge to develop new partnerships locally, nationally, and internationally and strengthen the ones we have, bringing significant culture and new work to local audiences.
5. We pledge to maximise spaces and places for creative activity across all our localities.
6. We pledge to use data and evidence collaboratively to shape programmes which are well tailored to audiences and increase participation by growing new audiences.
7. We pledge to make culture count in tackling the climate emergency.
8. We pledge to support young people to learn, work and grow skills through culture.
9. We pledge to support and develop our small creative and craft businesses.

2.23 Culture is at the heart of every community in Perth and Kinross. Historically and culturally Perth and Kinross has played an important role at the heart of Scotland. It is home to some of most beautiful countryside in the world linked by the Rivers Tay, Earn, Almond, Garry, and Isla. Ancient drove roads and the Wade Roads built following the Jacobite Risings of the early 18th Century criss-cross the land, which is also rich in designated and undesignated heritage assets. The area around Forteviot, to the east of Perth, was known as the ‘Cradle of Scotland’, and is the place where Picts, Gaels and Scots came together to create the Kingdom of Alba in the time after the Romans left.

2.24 Perth and Kinross Council has been a local authority since local government reorganisation in 1996. Perth regained its City Status

in 2012 and became Scotland's 7th city. Perth College is part of the University of the Highlands and Islands (UHI) and boasts 650 culture and creative industry students.

- 2.25 The area has a mix of nationally recognised creative organisations who produce innovative and exciting new work for and about the people of Perth and Kinross and bring global artists and creative work to the area. This nationally and internationally important work connects with homegrown talent in the form of artists, makers, writers, musicians, poets, and actors who live and work here.
- 2.26 Local museum collections represent past generations who lived on and worked the land, and events at local pubs and community halls keep alive traditional music, stories, and song.
- 2.27 There are a number of festivals held to celebrate some of the area's greatest cultural figures, including the Neil Gow Festival (Birnam), the Soutar Scots Language and Literature Festival, Perth Festival of the Arts, and Blairgowrie's Bookmark Festival.
- 2.28 The area's communities have always been rich and diverse, and this has been further strengthened in recent years with people from all over the world making Perth and Kinross their home, bringing with them a range of cultural traditions and creativity. Our Gypsy Traveller communities have roots here, dating back centuries.
- 2.29 There are two major producing theatres in the area, several museums of UK and national significance, including the new Perth

Museum which houses the Stone of Destiny, the Scottish Crannog Centre, and the Black Watch Museum. The area's cultural venues are mostly run by charities and community-led organisations, many of which are revenue or grant-funded by the Council.

- 2.30 The Council works closely with neighbouring local authorities, including through the Tay Cities Deal – a £150 million agreement between the UK and Scottish Governments to make the region smarter and fairer through investment in innovation, international links, and cultural tourism.
- 2.31 Topic Paper 030: Culture and Creativity explores in more detail the cultural profiles for each of the localities within Perth and Kinross.

Box 6: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

It is important to understand the cultural context for Perth and Kinross so that LDP3's Spatial Strategy can develop in a manner that will help contribute to the realisation of the vision for culture in Perth and Kinross.

PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

- 2.32 In the years immediately preceding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Perth and Kinross economy had experienced growth, with higher than average rates of employment (particularly through self-employment), very low unemployment, and higher than the national level increases for VAT business registrations. Tourism revenue had also grown, with tourism related employment accounting for 13% of the total workforce of the area.
- 2.33 Tables 5 to 13 to follow provide an overview of the economic performance within the Perth and Kinross area across a number of key economic performance indicators. These indicators mirror those reported in the [Tay Cities Regional Economic Strategy \(2019 – 2039\)](#). The relevant links to evidence sources for the following

Box 7: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The Tay Cities Region Economic Strategy provides the framework for the Region’s economic growth and contains detailed proposals for programmes and projects in relation to the Tay Cities Deal. The 2019-2039 review document provides an update on the statistical analysis which underpins the economic challenges within the national and strategic context. It is important that our LDP3 Spatial Strategy takes account of these challenges as they relate to the Area, and that it reflects the key proposals. Using similar indicators to the Tay Cities Region Economic Strategy also allows us to see how Perth and Kinross is performing comparative to the rest of the Tay Cities Region.

information have been provided in [Table A3 of Appendix A](#) to this paper.

Productivity and Earnings

- 2.34 The figures in Table 5 show that in terms of productivity, the Gross Value Added (GVA) in the Perth and Kinross Area is better than the Scottish average; the average workplace weekly wage is lower than the Scottish average, but the average resident weekly wage for the area is slightly higher.

Table 5: Overview of Economic Performance within Perth and Kinross

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
GVA per head of population (2021)	£27,755.02	£27,361.45
GVA per job (2021)	£55,441.56	£52,869.53
GVA per hour worked (£)	£39.50	£36.90
Growth in total GVA (2017 - 2021)	+1.4%	+6.9%
Employment rate (16 to 64 years) (12 months to September 2023)	76.9%	75.2%
Employment rate growth (2018 – 2023, percentage points)	-0.1	+0.9
Average (median) workplace weekly wage (2023)	£671.90	£702.80
Average (median) resident weekly wage (2023)	£727.70	£702.40

Box 8: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

This data provides us with a picture of the state of the Area’s economic performance in relation to earnings and employment rates and will be helpful in understanding any challenges experienced by our people and for our places as a result of socio-economic factors.

Business Base

2.35 The business base for the area tends to mirror that of Scotland as a whole. However, with the exception of the number of businesses per 10,000 of the working age population - which is significantly higher than the national average, and the growth in number of businesses between 2018 and 2023, which has experienced less of a decline during that period than Scotland as a whole.

Table 6: Business Base within Perth and Kinross (2023)

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
No. of businesses per 10,000 working age population (2023)	646	481
Growth in no. of businesses (2018 – 2023)	-0.7%	-1.9%
Business births per 10,000 working age population (2022)	53.9	53
5-year business survival rate (2017 - 2022)	49.5%	40.5%
% micro-businesses (0-9 employees) 2023	87.7%	87.4%
% SME businesses (10-249 employees) 2023	12.1%	12.2%
% large businesses (+249 employees) 2023	0.2%	0.3%

Box 9: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The business base statistics provide a good understanding of the health of business growth across the area, how attractive Perth and Kinross is to business investors, and what the spread of the share looks like across micro-businesses, small medium enterprises, and large businesses. This data all contributes to building the profile of our places to help develop our LDP3 Spatial Strategy. Alongside other data and information about business and employment needs, investment opportunities and priorities, we will be more informed when identifying new and safeguarding existing business and employment land proposals.

Employment and Growth Sectors

2.36 Table 7 shows that the largest share of jobs across the area are in the Tourism, Health and Social Work, Retail, and Food and Drink sectors, which is to an extent similar to the national picture, which sees the majority of jobs located within the Health and Social Work, Financial and Business Services, Education, Retail, and Tourism sectors.

Table 7: Top Employment Sectors and Scottish Government Growth Sectors within Perth and Kinross (2022)

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Health and Social Work	8,000	394,000
Retail (excluding Motor Trades)	7,000	227,000
Financial and Business Services	6,000	322,000
Tourism	9,000	216,000
Education	5,000	220,000
Manufacturing	4,500	173,000
Public Admin. and Defence	4,000	163,000
Construction	4,500	148,000
Food and Drink	7,000	125,000
Creative Industries (including Digital)	1,325	88,000
Energy (Including Renewables)	4,000	68,000
Life Sciences	400	23,000

Box 10: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

This data provides us with an understanding of which industries in Perth and Kinross have the largest share of jobs, and how that compares to the national picture. Our LDP3 Spatial Strategy should support through the protection of existing and identification of new business, industrial and employment land proposals to allow for the continued growth of our strongest sectors and facilitate the growth especially of the Tay Cities Region Key Business Sectors.

2.37 In terms of the Scottish Government’s identified ‘Growth Sectors’ i.e. those sectors where Scotland is considered to have a distinct comparative advantage, Table 8 to follow highlights that the Perth and Kinross Area is performing well above the Scottish average in respect of its percentage share of jobs within the Food and Drink, Energy (including Renewables), and Sustainable Tourism sectors. However, it is below the Scottish average for percentage share of jobs in the Financial and Business Services, Creative Industries, and Life Sciences. It is perhaps worth noting that the Tay Cities Region Economic Strategy identifies the Key Business Sectors for the Region as being - Tourism and Culture; Food and Drink; Engineering and Manufacturing; Energy; Digital and Creative Industries; Biomedical, Life Sciences and MedTech, and Construction.

Table 8: Scottish Government Growth Sectors – Percentage Share of All Jobs within Perth and Kinross

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Food and Drink	10.1%	4.8%
Financial and Business Services	5.8%	9%
Life Sciences	0.6%	0.9%
Energy (Including Renewables)	5.8%	2.6%
Sustainable Tourism	13%	8.7%
Creative Industries (including Digital)	1.9%	3.4%

Box 11: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

Scotland's Economic Strategy (2015) identified those sectors where Scotland has a distinct comparative advantage, and the Growth Database and BRES data allow us to understand how well Perth and Kinross is doing in terms of not only the national growth sectors, but most importantly the Tay Cities Region Key Business Sectors.

Currently the Area is below the Scottish average for percentage share of jobs in two of the Tay Cities Key Sectors (Creative Industries and Life Sciences). The Perth and Kinross Area is also below the Scottish average for Financial and Business Services.

Understanding where and how well the Perth and Kinross Area is performing relative to the different sectors lets us develop our LDP3 Spatial Strategy in a direction which continues to support those sectors in which we are performing well, but also look to help facilitate opportunities in those other sectors for which we are below the Scottish average, particularly for the Tay Cities Deal Key Business Sectors.

2.38 In respect of 'Inclusive Growth', the most recent data available (see Table 9) related to employment shows that, whilst the employment statistics across the three occupation levels (higher, mid, and lower) look similar to the national picture for two out of three of the levels, Perth and Kinross was performing at a lower rate in terms of employment in the lower-level occupations during the 12 month period to December 2022.

2.39 The relationship between broadband investment and economic growth is widely regarded as a significant one. Digital connectivity

policy in Scotland contributes to a number of key cross-cutting Scottish Government policy statements and ambitions. The most recent data (see Table 9) relating to percentage of premises with access to superfast, ultrafast, and full fibre broadband within Perth and Kinross highlights that the area is lagging behind the national average. The percentage area coverage with mobile data service is on a par with the national average.

Table 9: Inclusive Growth within Perth and Kinross

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Employment in higher level occupations (12 months to Dec 2022)	35,500 (48.4%)	1,299,200 (48.3%)
Employment in mid-level occupations (12 months to Dec 2022)	21,200 (28.9%)	700,400 (26%)
Employment in lower-level occupations (12 months to Dec 2022)	13,200 (18%)	632,200 (23.5%)
% employee jobs paid below Living Wage (2023, provisional data)	10.4%	10.1%
Participation rate for 16-19 year olds (2023)	94.7%	94.3%
% premises able to access superfast broadband (>=30Mbit/s) (2023)	87%	95%
% premises able to access ultrafast broadband (>=100Mbit/s) (2023)	42%	71%
% premises able to access full fibre broadband (2023)	14%	52%
% area coverage with mobile data service (2023)	90%	94%

Box 12: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The inclusive growth data in Table 9 tells us how the Perth and Kinross Area is performing in terms of the three occupation levels comparable to the national picture. It also provides information on the percentage of the population who are being paid below the Living Wage, the rate of participation in employment for 16-19 year olds, and access to different types of broadband across the area. The relationship between broadband investment and economic growth is widely regarded as a significant one and helps us understand the Area is in lagging behind the national average. Our LDP3 Spatial Strategy should continue to support increased digital connectivity, this will be important to the success of Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods across the Area also.

Unemployment

2.40 The figures in Table 10 below show that the unemployment rate for the area is estimated to be below the Scottish average. However, it is important to note that the Office of National Statistics Annual Population Survey data collection process has been severely affected since the Covid-19 pandemic. For this reason, many of the measures have been either unreliable as estimates or unavailable entirely due to sample size and sample availability. This is pronounced at the local authority level.

² Estimate unreliable.

Table 10: Labour Market within Perth and Kinross (12 months to September 2023)

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Unemployment rate 16+ (modelled)	2.8%	3.4%
Unemployment rate (16 to 64 years)	2.5% ²	3.4%
Male unemployment	N/A	3.9%
Female unemployment	N/A	2.9%
% working age population with no qualifications	N/A	N/A

Claimant Count

2.41 The total number of claimants in Perth and Kinross during March 2024 was a significantly small proportion (1.9%) of the overall number across Scotland at this time. The highest number of claimants was in the 25-49 age group, and the lowest in the age 16-24 group. The national claimant rate for age 16+ was 3.1%, compared to a 2.3% rate for Perth and Kinross. Finally, there was a higher percentage rate of males claiming compared to females in the 16+ age group during the same month.

Table 11: Claimant Count and Rate by Sex and Age Group (March 2024)

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Claimant Count, age 16+	2,140	109,890
Claimant Count, aged 16-24	355	19,910
Claimant Count, aged 25-49	1,320	63,680
Claimant Count, aged 50+	465	24,300

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Claimant Count, age 16+, male	1,290	65,640
Claimant Count, age 16+, female	850	44,250
Claimant Count rate, age 16+	2.3%	3.1%
Claimant Count rate, age 16+, male	2.8%	3.8%
Claimant Count rate, age 16+, female	1.8%	2.5%

Box 13: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The unemployment and claimant count data provides us with an indication of the levels of unemployment within Perth and Kinross, and the number of people across different age, and both male and female groups, who are claiming benefits within the Perth and Kinross Area. This information, alongside the other data sources explored in this section, helps us to better understand the socio-economic profile of the area, and where inequalities may lie.

2.42 The Office of National Statistics personal wellbeing indicators relate to overall estimates of life satisfaction; the feeling that the things done in life are worthwhile; happiness, and anxiety. Please note for the figures in Table 12, for the Anxiety indicator, a lower score is better, and for the Happiness, Life Satisfaction, and Worthwhile indicators, a higher score is better.

2.43 Encouragingly, in 2022/23, the Perth and Kinross Area scored lower than the Scottish average for the Anxiety wellbeing estimate, and higher for the Life Satisfaction and Worthwhile scores. However, in

terms of the Area’s Happiness score, it was estimated to be slightly lower than the national average.

Table 12: Wellbeing Measures (2022/23)

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Anxiety score	3.02	3.21
Happiness score	7.33	7.39
Life satisfaction score	7.56	7.49
Worthwhile score	7.91	7.74

Box 14: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The annual Office for National Statistics dataset along with the Scottish Household Survey and ScotPHO data provide an indication of the health and wellbeing, and satisfaction levels, of the population of Perth and Kinross. These data sources help us to understand in which areas, and on what issues, improvements should be sought. The datasets will allow us to identify issues and priorities across the Council Area, and we can in turn develop our LDP3 Spatial Strategy to provide a land use planning response where appropriate.

2.44 Table 13 shows that the average house price for all types of property in Perth and Kinross (February 2024) was £57,253 above Scottish average prices for the same period. The average house price across all of the individual house types (detached, semi-detached, and terraced), apart from flats or maisonettes, was also

higher in Perth and Kinross for the same period. The average house price (all types of property) has steadily increased month on month (apart from during January 2024) during the 12 month period March 2023 to February 2024, which an overall percentage increase of 5% on the March 2023 figure.

Table 13: Housing Market (February 2024)

Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scotland
Average house price (all types of property)	£245,253	£188,000
Detached house price average	£375,855	£338,000
Semi-detached house price average	£236,304	£201,000
Terraced house price average	£180,246	£157,000
Flats or Maisonettes	£126,897	£130,000

Box 15: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The UK Price Index is a monthly report showing the average house prices for Scotland and the UK. This data indicates that currently the housing market within Perth and Kinross is performing well and average house prices have steadily increased across all property types during the 12 month period March 2023 to February 2024. This data source alongside other data relating to housing supply, demand, and affordability will be explored in more detail under those Topic Papers which relate to homes and housing land requirement.

PRINCIPAL BUILT HERITAGE CHARACTERISTICS

- 2.45 The Perth and Kinross Area has a rich, strong, and varied human past which is demonstrated through the number and quality of sites of historic, architectural, archaeological, and cultural importance. These sites include a diverse range of archaeological sites, conservation areas, designed landscapes, historic battlefields, listed buildings, palaces, and stately homes.
- 2.46 The following table and maps outline some of the key statistics for the Perth and Kinross Area’s built heritage assets and their distribution. Please note that Topic Paper 008: Historic Assets and Places, will provide a more detailed review of the area’s historic environment and assets for the purposes of the Evidence Report for LDP3.

Table 14: Built Heritage within the Perth and Kinross Area

Built Heritage Asset Type	Total Number	Data Year
Designated Conservation Areas: Aberfeldy, Abernethy, Baledgarno, Birnam, Blair Atholl, Blairgowrie, Cleish, Comrie, Coupar Angus, Crieff, Dunkeld, Dunning, Errol, Forgandenny, Fortingall, Fowlis Wester, Grandtully & Strathtay, Inchturre, Kenmore, Kinnesswood, Kinross, Kinrossie, Knapp, Longforgan, Meikleour, Muthill, Moulin, Perth Central, Perth Kinnoull,	36 ³	2024

³ Conservation Area Appraisals and guidance are available for 22 out of 36 of the designated Conservation Areas. There is currently a rolling review programme in place which is expected to be completed during 2024-2025.

Built Heritage Asset Type	Total Number	Data Year
Pitcairngreen, Pitlochry, Rait, Scotlandwell, Spittalfield, St. Fillan’s, Wester Balgedie		
Listed Buildings: Category A: 160; Category B: 1402; Category C: 1492	3054	2024
Listed Buildings on the Buildings at Risk Register	115	2024
Designated Scheduled Monuments	683	2024
Gardens and Designed Landscapes: Abercairny, Aberuchill Castle, Balmanno, Battleby, Blair Adam, Blair Castle, Bolfracks, Braco, Branklyn, Castle Menzies, Cleish Castle, Cluny House, Craighall Rattray, Drumkilbo, Drummond Castle, Dunira, Dunkeld House, Dupplin Castle, Errol Park, Falls of Bruar, Fingask Castle, Glendoick, Gleneagles Hotel and Golf Courses, Grantully Castle, Inchyra, Invermay, Keillour Castle, Kinfauns Castle, Kinross House, Meggernie Castle, Megginch Castle, Meikleour, Methven Castle, Monzie Castle, Murthly Castle, Ochertyre, Rossie Priory, Scone Palace, Stobhall, Taymouth Castle, The Hermitage	41	2024
Inventory of Historic Battlefields Sites: Battle of Dunkeld, Battle of Dupplin Moor, Battle of Killiecrankie, Battle of Tippermuir	4	2024
Undesignated Archaeological Sites/Remains on Council’s Historic Environment Record	15,472	2023

Figure 9: Location of Conservation Areas within the PKC Area

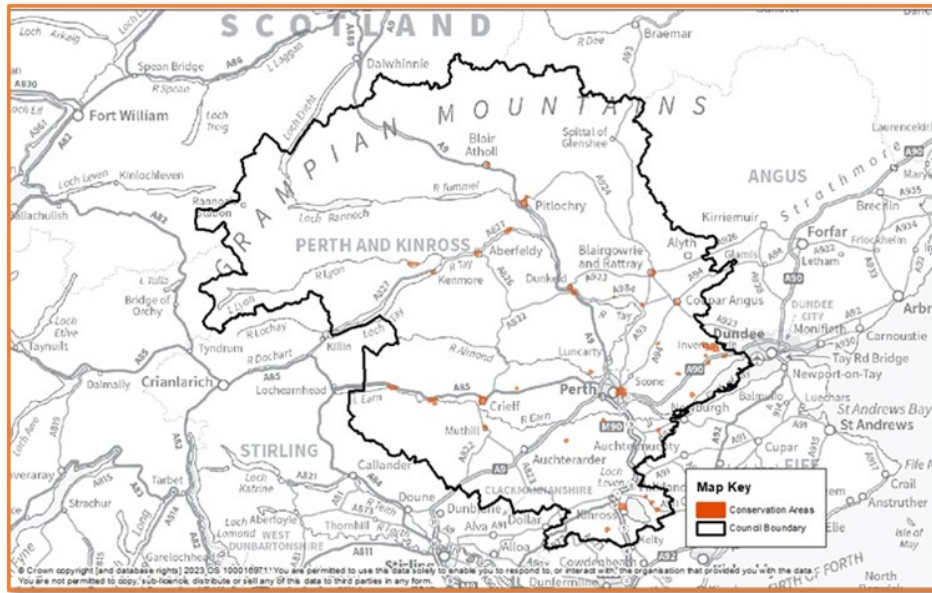


Figure 10: Location of Listed Buildings within the PKC Area

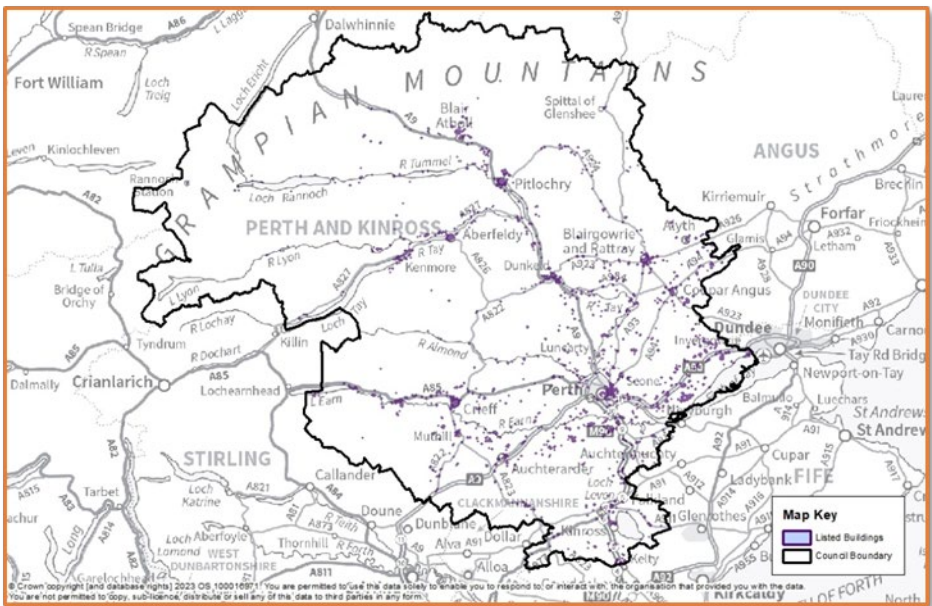


Figure 11: Location of Scheduled Monuments within the PKC Area

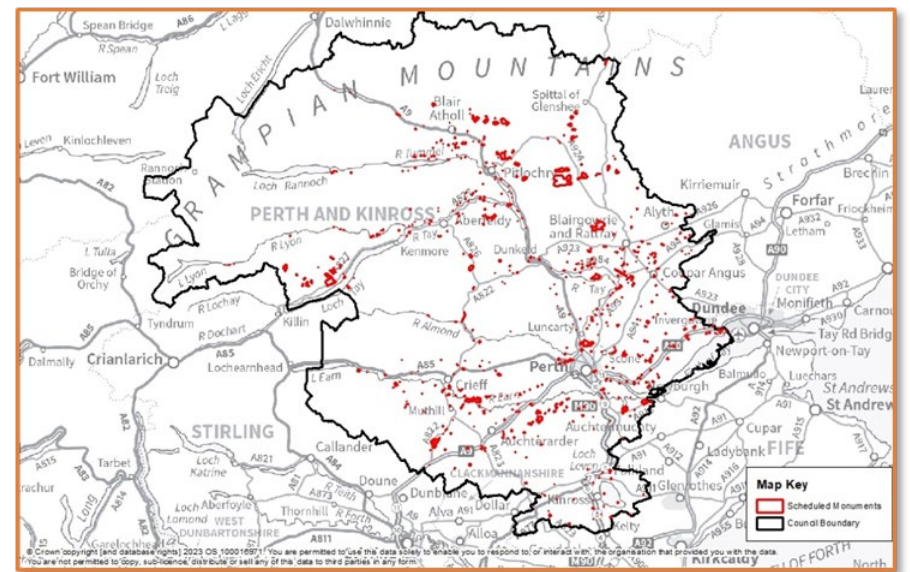
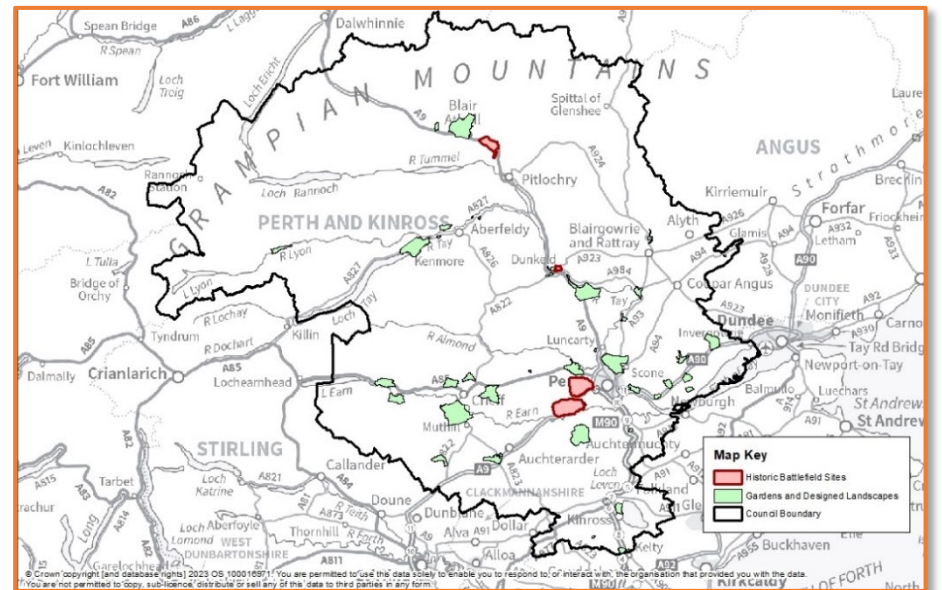


Figure 12: Location of Gardens and Designed Landscapes and Historic Battlefields Sites



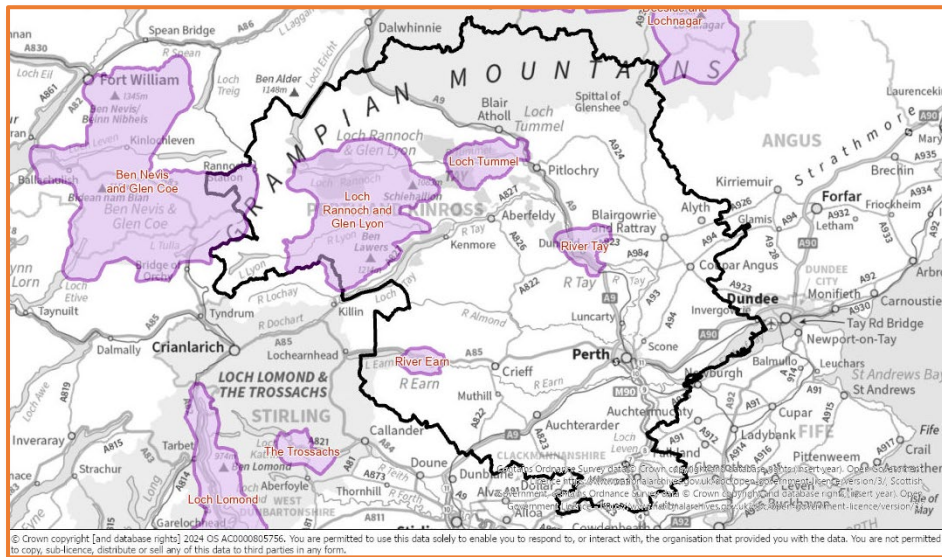
Box 16: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

These historic environment related data sources provide us with information on the location, type, and status of our heritage assets within Perth and Kinross to allow us to identify, protect, and where appropriate enhance valued historic assets and places across the area in line with NPF4 Policy 7: Historic assets and places.

PRINCIPAL ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS

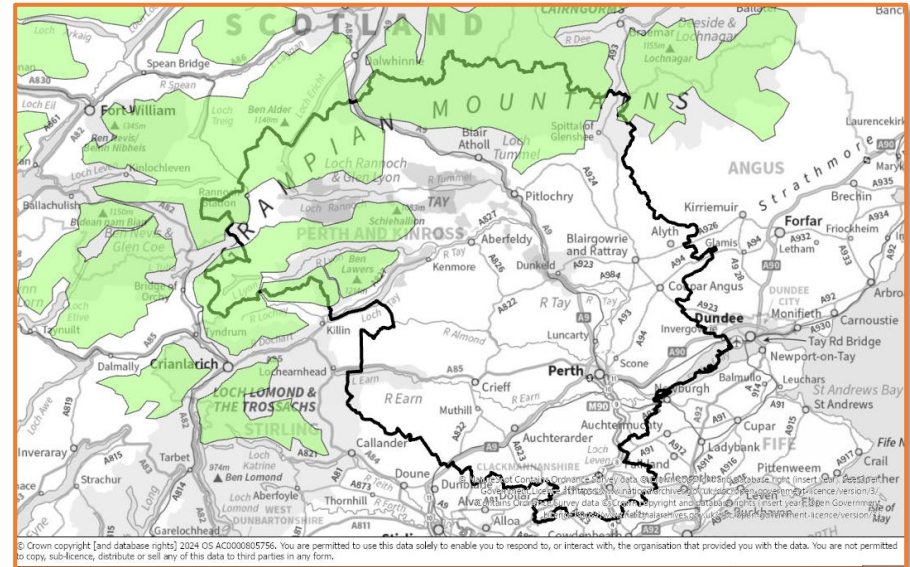
- 2.47 The environment of Perth and Kinross is rich and varied, which is evidenced through its many designated sites. Approximately 36% of the area is designated under national or international legislation to protect landscape, habitats, and species, and around 27% is designated under a local designation for landscape alone.
- 2.48 The range of designations covering the area are listed below along with maps showing their location and distribution:

Figure 13: National Scenic Areas



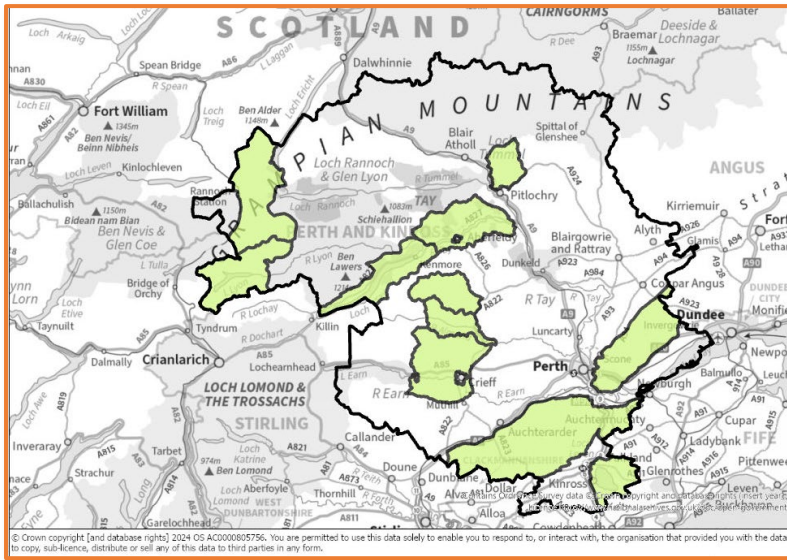
There are 4 National Scenic Areas (NSA) - Loch Rannoch and Glen Lyon, Loch Tummel, River Tay, and River Earn. The Ben Nevis and Glen Coe NSA is also partially within the area.

Figure 14: Wildland Areas



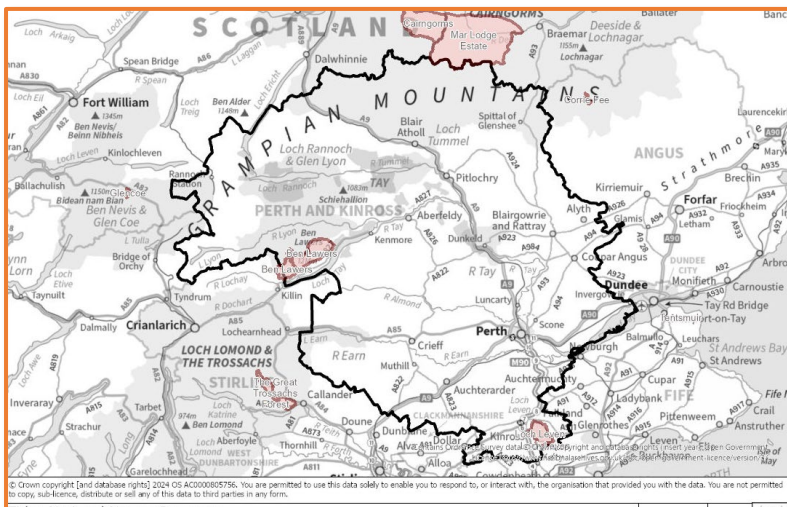
There are 5 Wild Land Areas as identified in Nature Scot's 2014 Wild Land Areas Map, which are within or intersect the Council Area - Breadalbane/ Schiehallion, Lyon/ Lochtay, Ben Lawers, Pitlochry/ Rannoch/ Nevis/ Mamores/ Alder, and Cairngorms. These areas are considered to be the most extensive areas of high wildness in Scotland.

Figure 15: Local Landscape Areas



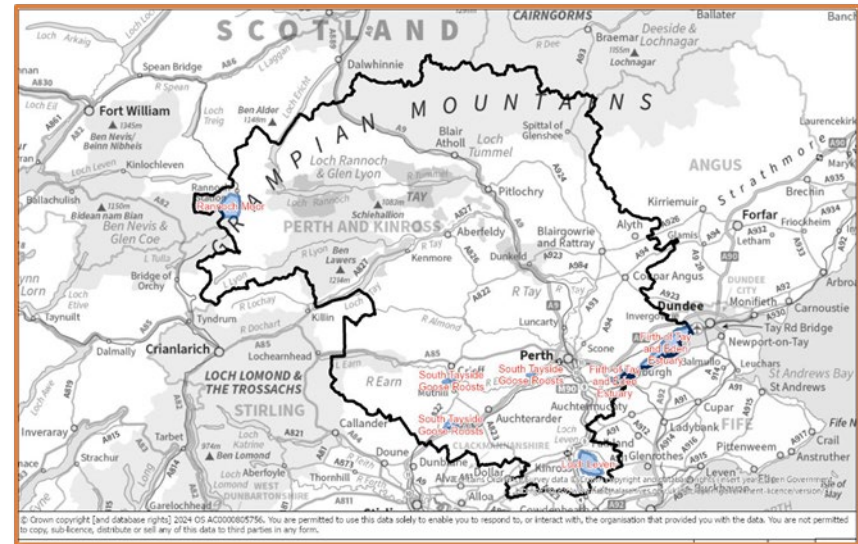
The area has 11 designated Local Landscape Areas (LLAs) covering 1,444 Km².

Figure 16: National Nature Reserve Areas



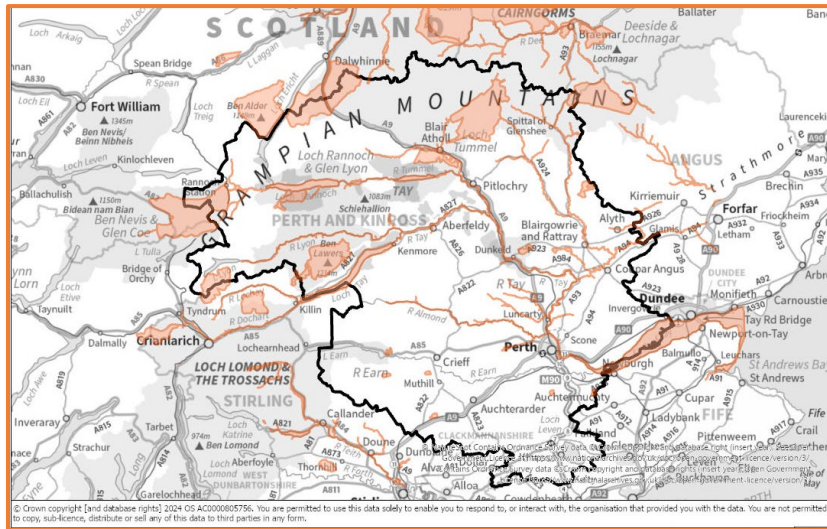
There are 3 National Nature Reserve Areas wholly or partially within the area - Ben Lawers, Loch Leven, and Mar Lodge.

Figure 17: Ramsar Sites



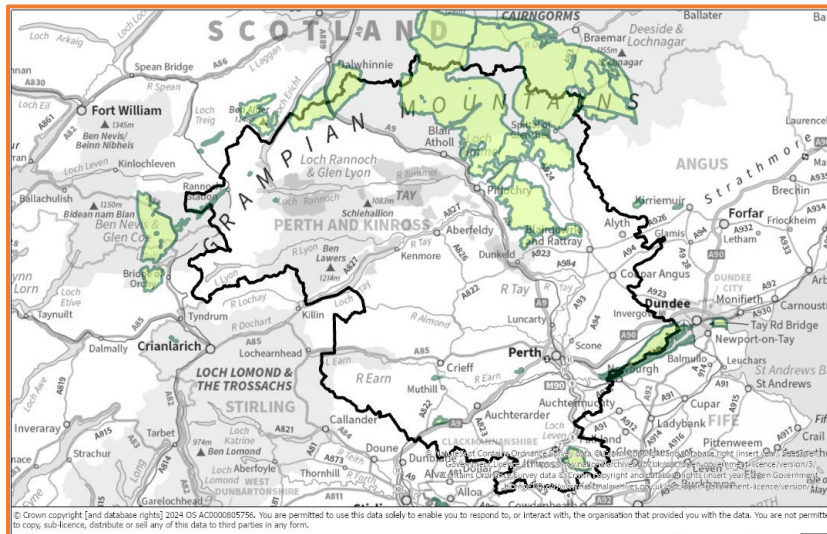
The area contains 4 Ramsar sites, also known as “The Convention on Wetlands” sites. These are - Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary, Loch Leven, Rannoch Moor, and the South Tayside Goose Roosts.

Figure 18: Special Areas of Conservation



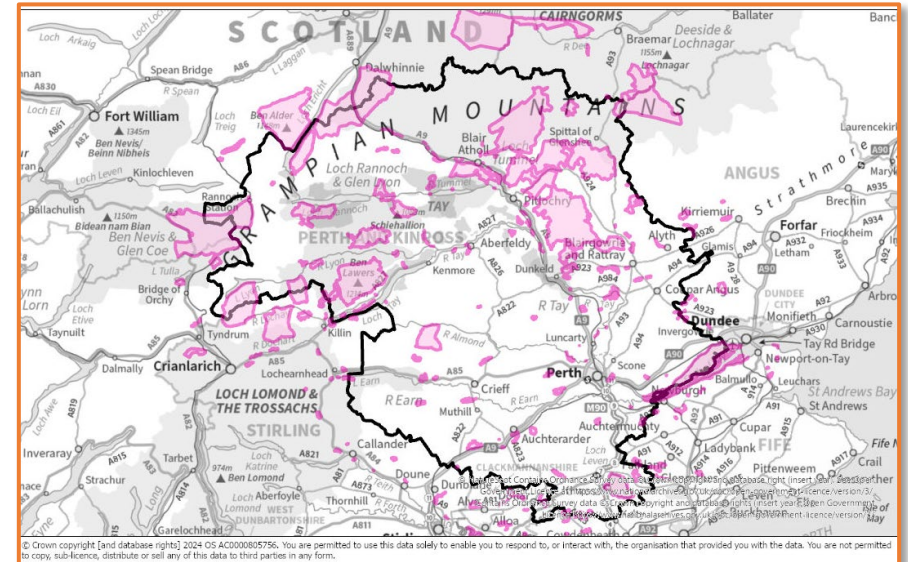
There are a total of 22 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) either wholly or partially within Perth and Kinross and covering 756.91 Km².

Figure 19: Special Protection Areas



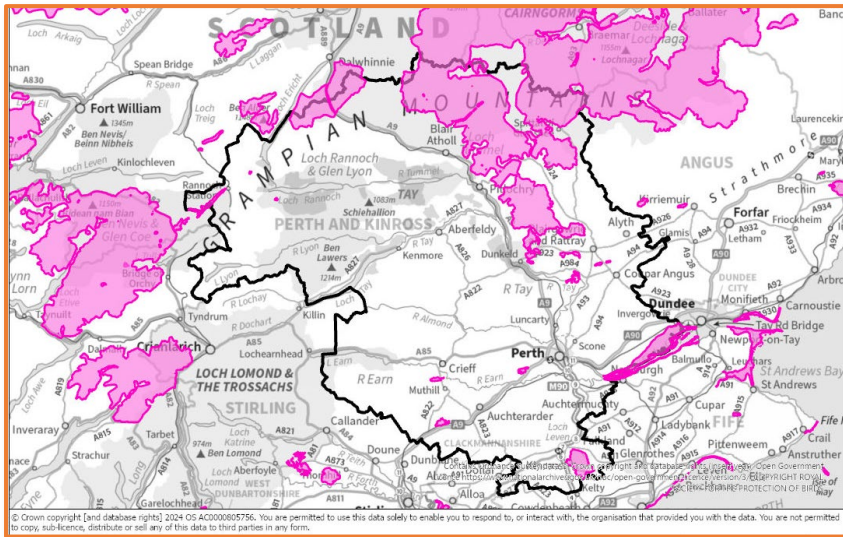
There are 8 Special Protection Areas (SPAs) either wholly or partially within Perth and Kinross covering 2323.18 Km². This includes Cairngorms Massif SPA, only part of which is within the Perth and Kinross Council Area.

Figure 20: Special Sites of Scientific Interest



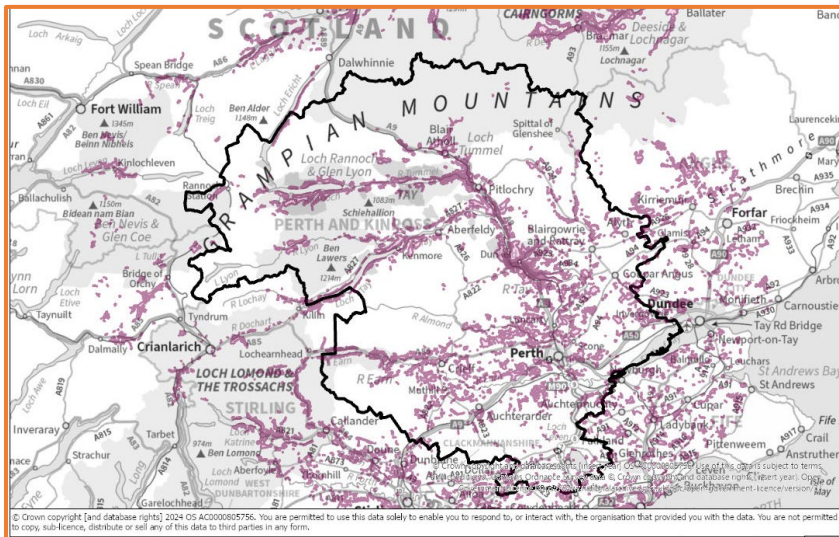
There are 112 Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSIs) within Perth and Kinross, covering a total area of 710.08 Km². 92 of those sites are designated for biological reasons, 13 for geological reasons, and 7 are mixed.

Figure 21: RSPB Important Bird Areas



The Perth and Kinross Area contains or adjoins 7 Important Bird Areas (IBAs), covering nearly 440 Km².

Figure 22: Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI)



Scottish Forestry (formerly the Forestry Commission) identified approximately 570 Km² of Ancient and Semi-Natural Woodland within Perth and Kinross (2006) as part of their Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI).

2.49 In addition to the above, the Perth and Kinross Area also boasts the following:

- 18.8% of the total land area, or 992.2 Km² is covered by woodland. Of that 992.2 Km², 54% is Conifers, 24% is Broadleaved, 57% is Native Woodland, and 1% is Nearly Native Woodland.
- As classified in the National Soil Map of Scotland, there are 589.8 Km² of the Scotland's Class 1, Nationally Important Soils within Perth and Kinross, 294.4 Km² of Class 2, and 226.9 Km² of Class 5 Soils.
- Approximately 293.1 Km² of wetlands (natural water-storage features).

2.50 In terms of the state of the environment of the area:

- 75.3% of protected biological and mixed SSSI features within Perth and Kinross are in favourable condition (June 2022).
- 75.5% of protected nature sites within the area are in favourable condition (June 2022).
- 51.4% of all 1 Km grid squares covering the area had recordings of protected species (protected by European and UK legislation) (June 2022).
- In 2020, approximately 9% of surface waters in Perth and Kinross were classified as having high quality water status; 35% were classified as good status; 29% as having moderate status; 19% as having poor status, and 8% as having bad water quality status. Areas in the North, North West, East and South contained rivers of moderate, poor and bad status.

- The entire Council Area is a ground water protected area.
- The floodplain in the area remains relatively undeveloped, and the majority of watercourses affect only agricultural or hill land.
- In 2018 there were 21 Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) within, overlapping or immediately adjoining the Perth and Kinross Council Area.
- In 2021, there were 22 Flood Risk Management Target Areas within Perth and Kinross.
- There are currently 2 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) in Perth and Kinross in Perth and Crieff. Pollution levels within the Crieff AQMA have remained within objectives for several years.
- In 2022, Atholl Street, Perth was identified as Scotland's most polluted street for Particulate Matter (PM₁₀), and the third most polluted street for Nitrogen Oxide (NO₂).
- In 2019, all four Perth and Kinross monitored air quality locations fell below the annual mean targets for NO₂ and PM₁₀.

Box 17: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

Understanding the types and locations of the numerous protected areas and important natural assets across Perth and Kinross, as well as the environmental state of these areas, is incredibly important to the development of our LDP3 Spatial Strategy to allow us to protect and where appropriate enhance these sites.

2.51 A number of driving forces and pressures leading to change on the area's environmental characteristics were identified in the Council's [Perth and Kinross State of the Environment Report 2007](#), including:

- Deforestation and afforestation (shading of the ground, particularly by conifers, can affect species richness).
- Poor past design or new commercial woodlands has prevented integration with surrounding habitats causing woodland to act as a barrier.
- Threats to soil functions such as erosion and compaction related to land management, contamination, sealing, loss of biodiversity, acidification from acid rain, climate change, and loss of organic matter.
- Increased greenhouse gas emissions levels, particularly through transport related activities.
- Agricultural change, including extensification and intensification of lowland farms.
- Changes in hydrology through ground or surface water extraction, which can seriously affect habitats and reduce biodiversity.
- Impacts on inland waters quality and quantity as a result of climate change.
- Development and road improvements linked to commercial forestry and renewable energy installation.
- Threats to semi-natural and ancient woodlands.
- Impacts on habitats as a result of climate change (rising temperatures).
- Demand for greenfield sites on the periphery of settlements, next to strategic roads, and demands for isolated developments in the countryside (residential, agricultural, and tourism related).

- Changes in land use and land management to increase carbon sequestration may also affect the area's landscapes.
- Development which is unsympathetic to historic and cultural assets across the area.
- Lack of maintenance and repair of historic environment assets.
- Changes in the amount and quality of open space and natural and semi-natural habitat will significantly impact on species and habitat diversity.

2.52 Although a significant amount of time has elapsed since the publication of the Council's State of the Environment Report, more recent data, and information highlights that these pressures are still relevant, and the increasing issues surrounding the climate and nature crises has exacerbated many of the issues further. Implementation of the key NPF4 policy requirements and expectations for LDPs should help to address these driving forces and pressures across Perth and Kinross.

Box 17: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The Council's State of the Environment Report and updated indicator data are key tools in helping inform the environmental baseline for the Plan Area upon which the LDP3 Spatial Strategy can be developed, and the success of its implementation monitored. It is a very useful tool in particular for the Plan's SEA.

3 Summary of Evidence - size, composition, health, and distribution of the population of the area

POPULATION - ESTIMATES, PROJECTIONS AND PROFILE

3.1 In the most recently published [National Records of Scotland 2021 mid-year population estimates](#), the population of Perth and Kinross was calculated as being 153,810 residents, which is an increase of 1.3% from 151,910 in 2020. Over the same period, the population of Scotland increased by 0.3%. Perth and Kinross had the 12th highest population in 2021, out of all 32 council areas in Scotland.

3.2 Between the period 2018 to 2028, the population of Perth and Kinross is projected to increase by 1.0% from 151,290 to 152,779, which compares to a projected increase of 1.8% for Scotland as a whole.

3.3 Some of the key figures from the mid-year estimates for Perth and Kinross tell us that in 2021:

- There were more females (50.8%) than males (49.2%) living in the area.
- The largest age group was the 45 to 64 group, with a population of 43,806.
- The smallest age group was the 16 to 24 group, with a population of 13,838.
- In 3 out of the 6 age group ranges i.e. 0 to 15, 16 to 24, 25 to 44, 45 to 64, and 75 and over, more females lived in Perth and Kinross than males.
- Between 2001 and 2021 the 0 to 15 age group saw the largest percentage decrease (-5.2%), and the 75 and over group saw the largest percentage increase (+48.9%).

- Between 2018 and 2028 the average age of the population of the area is projected to increase as the 'baby boomer' generation ages and more people are expected to live longer.
- Between 2018 and 2028 the 0 to 15 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-8.1%), and the 75 and over age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+30.8%). The 45 to 64 age group is expected to remain the largest group.

Box 18: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

Understanding the demographic profile of the Perth and Kinross Area allows us to develop a Spatial Strategy for LDP3 which responds to the current and likely future needs of the area's population.

POPULATION – URBAN RURAL SPLIT

3.4 The Scottish Government's Urban Rural Classification establishes a consistent means of defining urban and rural areas across Scotland. The classification is based on the two main criteria of population and accessibility. Issues around transport, education and health can have a significant impact on rural communities, and this dataset will help us in developing a fit for purpose LDP3 Spatial Strategy for our different places, particularly in respect of delivering the concept of Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods.

3.5 The most recent publication is the [Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification 2020](#), which was released in May 2022. It groups settlements into 4 categories:

1. **Large Urban Areas** – populations of 125,000 or more
2. **Other Urban Areas** – populations of 10,000 to 124,999
3. **Small Towns** – populations of 3000 to 9999
4. **Rural Areas** – populations of less than 3000

3.6 The classification is available in different formats, including a 6-fold classification which makes the distinction between urban, rural, and remote areas through 6 categories, and an 8-fold classification which goes further to make the distinction between remote and very remote regions.

3.7 Accessibility is measured in respect of drive times to an urban area. This is undertaken by calculating 30 and 60 minute drive times from the Large or Other Urban Areas with a population of 10,000 or more. The results are then classified in terms of accessibility by the 3 categories:

1. **Accessible** – areas within 30 minute drive of a settlement with a population of 10,000 or more.
2. **Remote** – areas that are more than a 30 minute drive (6 fold classification) or areas that have a drive time of between 30 and 60 minutes (8-fold classification) from a settlement with a population of 10,000 or more.
3. **Very Remote** – areas that are more than a 60 minute drive time from a settlement with a population of 10,000 or more (8-fold classification only).

3.8 Table 15 to follow show the percentage of population in each 6-fold Urban Rural category, and Table 16 for the 8-fold categories, for the Perth and Kinross Council Area, as reported in Tables 5.2 and 5.3 of

the May 2022 Scottish Government publication. This data coupled with Figure 23 clearly highlights the predominately rural nature of Perth and Kinross.

Box 19: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The Scottish Government’s Urban Rural Classification provides a consistent method of defining urban and rural areas across the country. This will help us in development the LDP3 Spatial Strategy particularly for issues around housing, access to services and facilities, infrastructure, and employment, through aiding our understanding of the issues facing different communities, especially our more remote places.

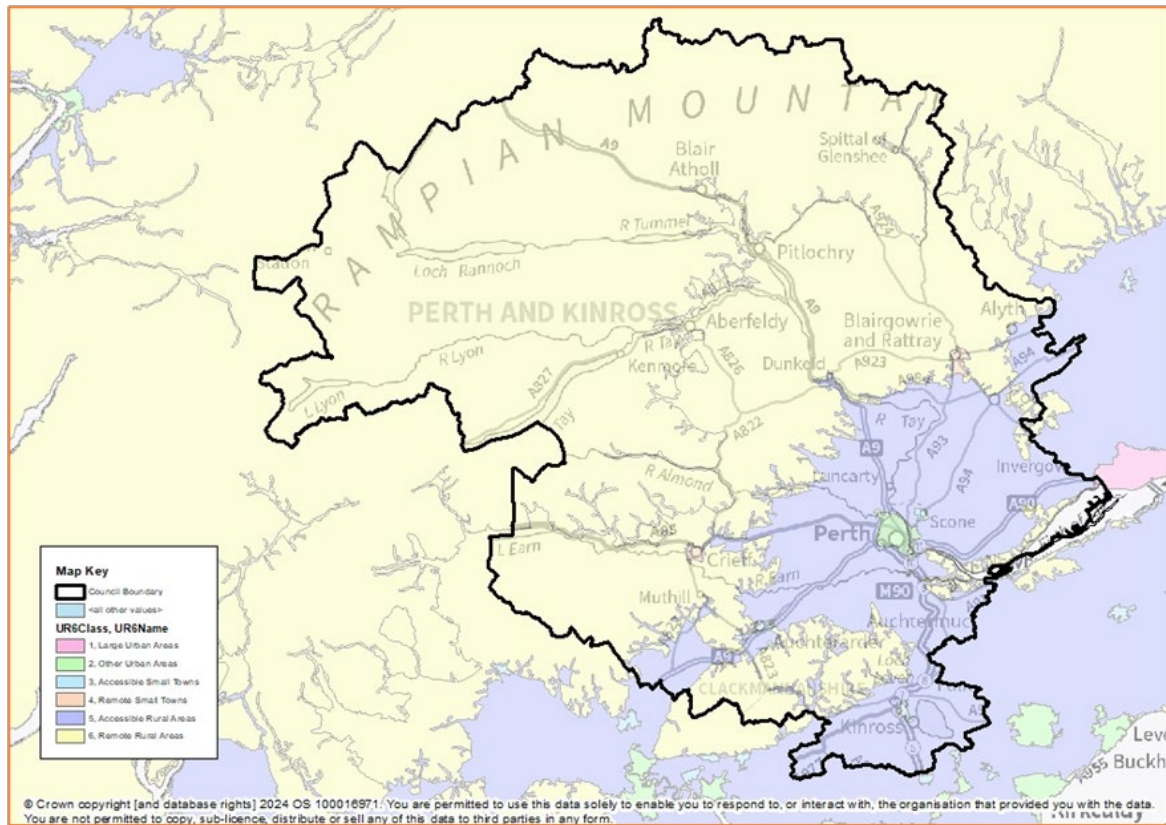
Table 15: Percentage of PKC Population in each 6-fold Category

Large Urban	Other Urban	Accessible Small Towns	Remote Small Towns	Accessible Rural	Remote Rural
1.2	31.2	11	10.9	35	10.9

Table 16: Percentage of PKC Population in each 8-fold Category

Large Urban	Other Urban	Accessible Small Towns	Remote Small Towns	Very Remote Small Towns	Accessible Rural	Remote Rural	Very Remote Rural
1.2	31.2	11	10.9	0	35	10.9	1.3

Figure 23: Perth and Kinross 6-fold Urban Rural Classification



POPULATION – MIGRATION

- 3.9 During the period 2020-21, the level of in-migration i.e. people moving into the Perth and Kinross area, was 7930⁴, which was a 49.9% increase from the period 2019-20 (5290). The level of out-migration, which is people moving away from the area, was 5400 – an increase of 18.2% from 4570 in 2019-20. In 2020-21, Perth and Kinross had the 3rd highest level of net migration out of the 32 council areas, with a total net migration of 2530 people. During this period, the net migration in the area was higher for females (1307) than for males (1223), and the age group with the highest level of total net migration was the 30 to 34 group (296). Notably, the age group with the lowest level of net migration was 15 to 19 (-151).

POPULATION – BIRTHS, DEATHS, AND LIFE EXPECTANCY

- 3.10 In 2022, there were 1153 births in Perth and Kinross - 49.1% of which were female, and 50.9% were male. This is a decrease of 3.4% on the 1194 births in 2021. The standardised birth rate for the Council Area decreased from 9.7 per 1000 population in 2021, to 9.2 in 2022. As a comparison, the rate in Scotland overall decreased from 8.7 to 8.6 during that same period.
- 3.11 The most common age group of mothers in 2022 was the 30 to 40 group (400 births), which was the same as in 2002. The least common age group was the 0 to 19 group (24 births) – a change from the 40 and over group which was the least common age group in

2002. Between 2002 and 2022, the 0 to 19 age group has seen the greatest percentage decrease in births (-68.8%), and the 40 and over group the greatest percentage increase (+16.2%).

- 3.12 The total fertility rate of the area has decreased from 1.44 in 2021 to 1.4 in 2022. Perth and Kinross had the 22nd highest rate in 2022 out of the 32 council areas, and it was higher than the rate for Scotland as a whole (1.28).
- 3.13 In 2022, there were 1922 deaths in Perth and Kinross. This represented a 5.5% increase from the 1821 deaths recorded for 2021. Of these 1922 deaths, 945 (49.2%) were female, and 977 (50.8%) were male. The standardised death rate for the area decreased from 12.0 per 1000 of the population in 2021, to 10.0 in 2022. During the same period, the rate in Scotland overall decreased from 11.6 to 11.5.
- 3.14 In 2022, the 90 and over age group saw the highest number of total deaths (427), and the 5 to 9 ages group saw the fewest (0). The most common age group for females was the 90 and over (259), and the 80 to 84 group (170) for males.
- 3.15 An analysis by the National Records of Scotland of the leading cause of death in Perth and Kinross, found that for males in 2022, Ischaemic heart diseases was responsible for 11.1% of all deaths, followed by Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease (7.8%). This mirrors the leading cause of death for males in Scotland overall, with 14.0%

⁴ Note: totals have been rounded to the nearest 10 at council level.

being attributed to Ischaemic heart diseases, followed by Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease at 6.8%.

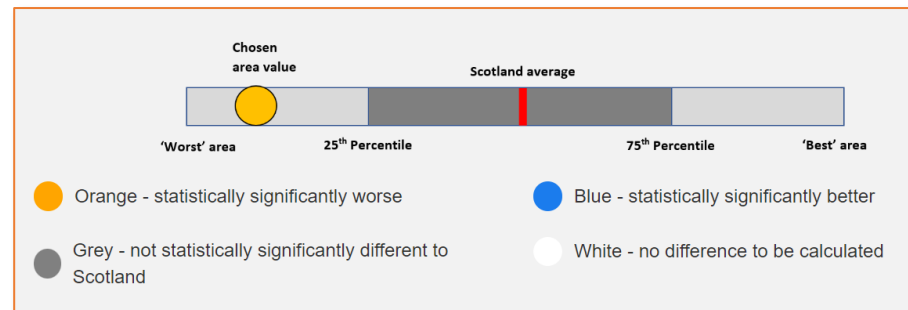
3.16 In terms of females in the area, the same analysis identified the leading cause of death in 2022 was Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease (12.7% of all female deaths), followed by Cerebrovascular disease (7.9%). For comparison, in Scotland overall for the same period, Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease was the leading cause of death for females (13.1%), followed by Ischaemic heart diseases (8.7%).

3.17 In terms of life expectancy in Perth and Kinross, at birth, the life expectancy for females is higher than for males, at 82.7 years and 78.9 years respectively (2019-2021). However, male life expectancy at birth has increased at a faster rate than that for females between 2001-03 and 2019-21. The life expectancy at birth in Perth and Kinross is higher than at a Scotland level for both females and males.

POPULATION – HEALTH AND WELLBEING

3.18 Public Health Scotland’s online [ScotPHO tool](#) provides a health and wellbeing profile for Perth and Kinross across a number of indicators. Some of those headline indicators and their results are reported in the paragraphs to follow under their relevant categories, as defined on ScotPHO. An extract has also been included for each of the indicator categories to visually show how Perth and Kinross is comparing relative to the Scotland average. Figure 24 provides a key for interpreting those results tables to follow in Figures 25 to 35.

Figure 24: ScotPHO Key for Indicators Results Table



Health and Wellbeing: Behaviours

Figure 25: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile - Behaviours

Indicator	Perth & Kinross	Scotland	Spine chart
Smoking prevalence, aged 16-34 years <i>2019 survey year . Percentage</i>	13.90	18.60	
Active travel to work <i>2020 survey year . Percentage</i>	20.00	16.93	
Alcohol-specific deaths <i>2017 to 2021 calendar years; 5-year aggregates . EASR per 100,000</i>	15.49	21.11	
Alcohol-related hospital admissions <i>2021/22 financial year . EASR per 100,000</i>	426.97	611.05	
Drug-related hospital admissions <i>2019/20 to 2021/22 financial years; 3-year aggregates . EASR per 100,000</i>	205.66	228.36	
Smoking attributable deaths <i>2020 to 2021 calendar years; 2-year aggregates . EASR per 100,000</i>	179.58	270.02	
Smoking during pregnancy <i>2019/20 to 2021/22 financial years; 3-year aggregates . Percentage</i>	14.10	12.92	

3.19 Across the ‘Behaviours’ category, which includes - Smoking prevalence (aged 16-34 years); Active travel to work; Alcohol-specific deaths; Drug-related hospital admissions, and Smoking during pregnancy, Perth and Kinross was statistically similar to the rest of Scotland as a whole for most indicators and was also statistically significantly better in terms of indicators for ‘Alcohol-related hospital admissions’ and ‘Smoking attributable deaths.’ The only indicator for which the area came out as worse than the Scottish average, was for the percentage of people smoking during pregnancy, which was 14.1% compared to the national figure of 12.92% during the 3 financial year period 2019/20 to 2021/22.

Health and Wellbeing: Crime

Figure 26: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Crime

Crime	Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scottish Average	Visual Comparison
Crime	Domestic abuse <i>2021/22 financial year . Crude rate per 10,000</i>	89.14	118.26	
	Violent crime <i>2020/21 financial year . Crude rate per 10,000</i>	14.02	16.41	
	Drug crimes recorded <i>2021/22 financial year . Crude rate per 10,000</i>	28.35	50.59	
	Crime rate <i>2017 calendar year . Crude rate per 1,000</i>	16.01	28.82	
	Children referred to the Children’s Reporter for offences <i>2021/22 financial year . Crude rate per 1,000, 8-15 years</i>	3.11	4.97	
	Prisoner population <i>31st March 2014 snapshot . EASR per 100,000</i>	152.41	161.86	

3.20 The indicators reported under the ‘Crime’ category include – Domestic abuse; Violent crime; Drug crimes recorded; Crime rate; Children referred to the Children’s Reporter for offences, and

Prisoner population. For all indicators, apart from ‘Prisoner population’, Perth and Kinross came out statistically significantly better than the Scottish figure, and even then, it was slightly higher than the national value.

Health and Wellbeing: Economy

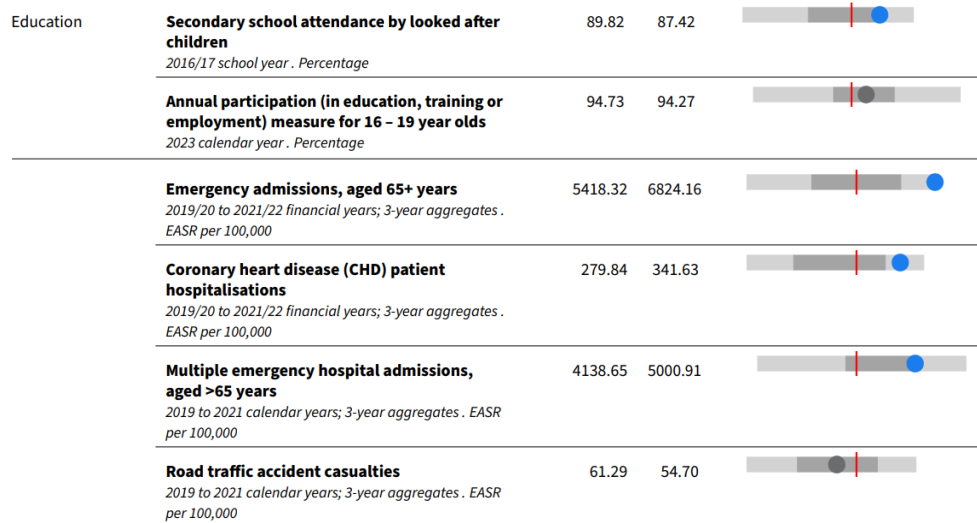
Figure 27: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Economy

Economy	Indicator	Perth and Kinross	Scottish Average	Visual Comparison
Economy	Children in low income families <i>2016 August snapshot . Percentage</i>	10.81	16.66	
	Working age population employment deprived <i>2017 calendar year . Percentage</i>	6.40	9.29	
	Population income deprived <i>2017 calendar year . Percentage</i>	7.97	12.07	
	People claiming pension credits, aged >60 years <i>2016 May snapshot . Percentage</i>	3.64	5.49	
	Working age population claiming out-of-work benefits <i>2016 May snapshot . Percentage</i>	7.50	10.56	

3.21 For all indicators under the ‘Economy’ category, the Perth and Kinross Council Area performed statistically significantly better than the Scottish average. The indicators reported under this category include – Children in low income families; Working age population employment deprived; Population income deprived; People claiming pension credits, aged 65 + years, and Working age population claiming out-of-work benefits.

Health and Wellbeing: Education

Figure 28: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Education

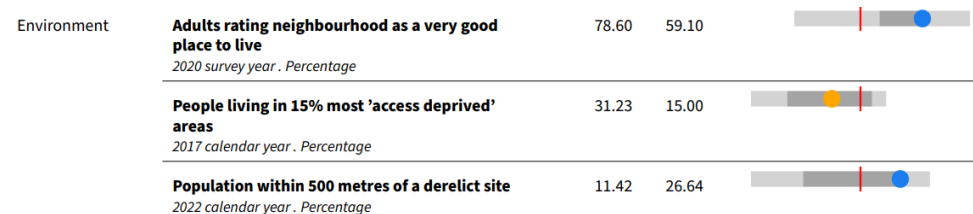


3.22 The data under the ‘Education’ category presents a slightly mixed picture for the Council Area. In terms of the indicators for: Secondary school attendance by looked after children; Working age adults with low or no educational qualifications, and Secondary school attendance in general, the area performs statistically significantly better than the Scottish average values. However, for the indicators relating to School leavers in positive destinations, and School leavers with 1 or more qualifications at SCQF⁵ Level 6, Perth and Kinross comes out statistically lower than the Scottish average. Finally, in respect of the Annual participation (in education, training,

or employment) measure for 16-19 year olds, and School leavers with 1 or more qualifications at SCQF Level 4, Perth and Kinross performs slightly better and about the same, respectively, than the Scottish average figures.

Health and Wellbeing: Environment

Figure 29: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Environment

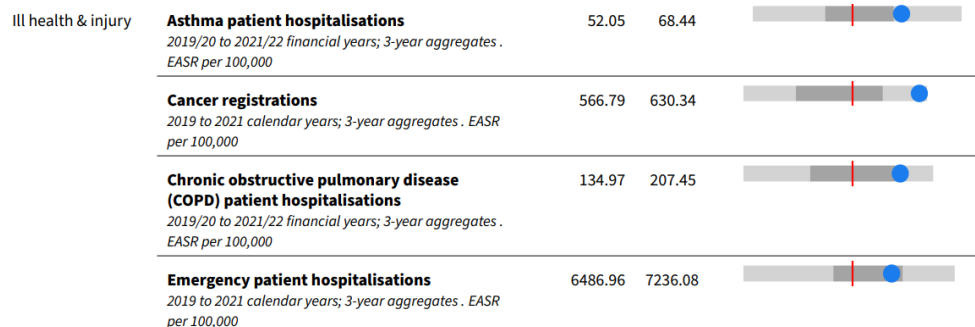


3.23 The ScotPHO indicators for the ‘Environment’ category are – Adults rating neighbourhood as a very good place to live; People living in 15% most ‘access deprived’ areas, and Population within 500 metres of a derelict site. The Perth and Kinross Area is performing statistically significantly worse compared to the Scotland average in terms of the percentage of the area’s population who are living in the 15% most ‘access deprived’ areas. In relation to the indicators on neighbourhood rating and proximity to a derelict site, the Perth and Kinross Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average figures for the same indicators.

⁵ Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework

Health and Wellbeing: Ill Health and Injury

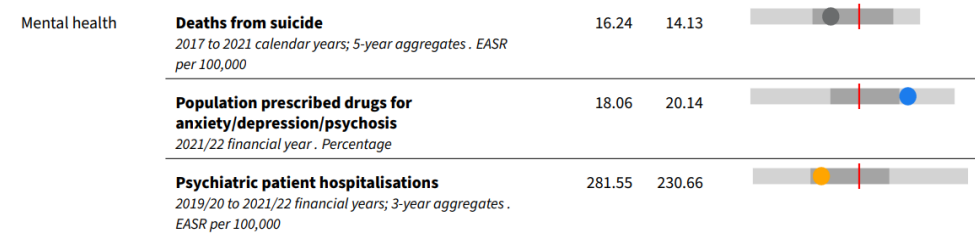
Figure 30: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Ill Health and Injury



3.24 For all indicators under the Ill Health and Injury category, the Perth and Kinross Council Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average.

Health and Wellbeing: Mental Health

Figure 31: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Mental Health

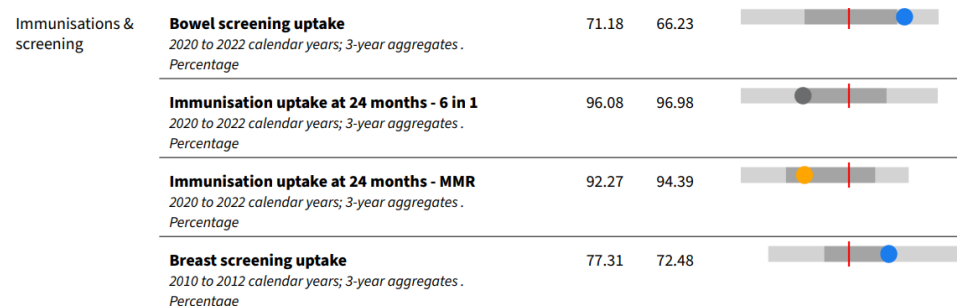


3.25 When considering the results of the Mental Health category indicators, we can see that the Council Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average in terms of the

percentage of the population who have been prescribed medication for anxiety, depression, or psychosis. However, the recorded number of deaths from suicide across the area from 2017 to 2021 per 100,000 of the population is just slightly higher than the Scotland average figure, and the level of psychiatric patient hospitalisations between 2019/20 to 2021/22, per 100,000 of the population is significantly worse than that of the Scotland average for the same period.

Health and Wellbeing: Immunisation and Screening

Figure 32: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Immunisation and Screening



3.26 In relation to the indicators relating to uptake of immunisations and screening programmes, the Council Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average on bowel and breast screening uptake; almost the same in terms of immunisations 6 in 1 uptake at 24 months, and statistically significantly worse for uptake of MMR immunisations at 24 months.

Health and Wellbeing: Life Expectancy and Mortality

3.27 Looking at the results for those indicators under the Life Expectancy and Mortality category, the Perth and Kinross Council Area is performing for most indicators statistically significantly better than the Scotland average, or about the same for a few of the indicators.

Figure 33: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Life Expectancy and Mortality

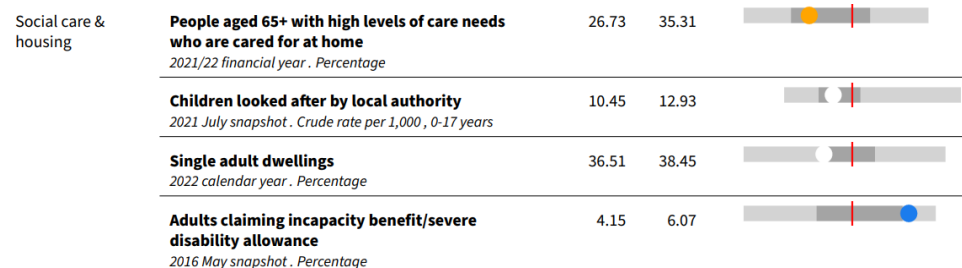


Health and Wellbeing: Social Care and Housing

3.28 For 2 out of the 4 indicators for the Social Care and Housing category ('Children looked after by the local authority', and 'single adult

dwellings'), the Council Area is performing about the same as the national average. In relation to the percentage of adults who are claiming incapacity benefit or severe disability allowance, the Area is performing statistically significantly better. However, the percentage of people aged 65+ in Perth and Kinross with high levels of care needs who are cared for at home is much lower than the Scotland average, and as such the Area is performing statistically significantly worse.

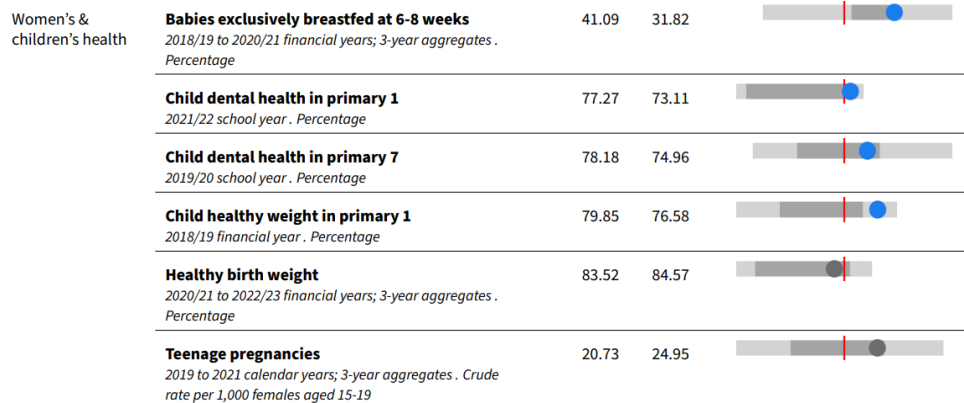
Figure 34: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Social Care and Housing



Health and Wellbeing: Women and Children's Health

3.29 For the majority of indicators in this category, the Council Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average, and for the remaining 2 indicators for 'Healthy birth weight' and 'Teenage pregnancies' it is not statistically significantly different to the Scotland average figures.

Figure 35: ScotPHO Perth and Kinross Profile – Women and Children’s Health



Box 20: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The ScotPHO data provides a picture of how well the Perth and Kinross Area is performing against national health and wellbeing indicators, relative to the rest of Scotland. The importance of this to the development of our LDP3 Spatial Strategy, is that we need consider where and how land use planning can facilitate the improving access to key facilities and services to help reduce health and wellbeing inequalities across our communities.

3.30 The ScotPHO data provides us with a very useful profile of how the health and wellbeing of the population of Perth and Kinross compares overall to that of the Scotland average. For the majority of the indicators under the Health and Wellbeing category, the Council Area is performing either statistically significantly better, or similar to that of the national average. However, for some, namely those indicators in relation to – older members of the Area’s population with high levels of care who are being cared for at home, rather than in a health or social care facility; MMR immunisations uptake; psychiatric patients hospitalisation rates; and the percentage of people living in the 15% most access deprived areas, the Perth and Kinross Area is performing statistically significantly worse than the national average figures for the same indicators.

Appendix A: Identification of Datasets and Information

Table A1: Summary of Evidence for the Principal Physical Characteristics of the Area

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Section 2 – The Local Authority Area	Perth and Kinross State of the Environment Report 2007	The James Hutton Institute	The Council’s State of the Environment Report and updated indicator data are key tools in helping inform the environmental baseline for the Plan Area upon which the LDP3 Spatial Strategy can be developed, and the success of its implementation monitored. It is a very useful tool in particular for the Plan’s SEA.	The report was first published in 2007, and the majority of the datasets and information contained within have been updated over the years since its publication to inform each new SEA. The relevant data will also be updated as part of the Council’s SEA and LDP3 Evidence Report work.
Section 2, paragraphs 2.3 – 2.9: The Geology of the Perth and Kinross Area	Perth and Kinross Archaeological Research Framework	ScARF 2022 ‘Geographical and Landscape Context’ in Strachan, D and Hall, M, Nicol, S, Spencer, H, and Woolmer-White, G. Perth and Kinross Archaeological Research Framework (PKARF)	Useful document which provides an understanding of the geological, geographical and landscape context for the Area.	
Section 2, paragraphs 2.10 - 2.11, Figure 3	Landscape Character Assessment	Nature Scot	The LCT Assessment provides a clear picture of the different landscape character types across the Perth and Kinross Area, the evolution of those landscapes and influences	

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Appendix 2 – Links to the individual LCT Assessment Sheets are provided in the first column of the table.			or pressures upon them. This dataset provides an important landscape character baseline for the Plan’s Spatial Strategy.	
Section 2, paragraphs 2.12 – 2.13, Table 1 and Figures 4 and 5	Historic Land Use Classification Scotland	Historic Environment Scotland	The HLA provides us with a picture of how land use across our area has evolved over time and highlights that there is a clear distinction between the upland area with its predominantly moorland, rough grazing, woodland and forestry, and the agricultural and populated lowlands. This has and continues to form the main basis of the Plan’s Spatial Strategy.	
Section 2, paragraph 2.14, Figure 6 and Table 2	Scotland Habitat and Land Cover Map - 2020	Nature Scot	Understanding the different habitat types across the Plan Area helps to direct our spatial strategy to ensure we protect, enhance and/or restore those areas which are important natural assets. This is important in our efforts to help tackle the climate and nature crises.	
Section 2, paragraph 2.15	Land Capability for Agricultural National Cover Map (1:250,000)	Soil Survey of Scotland Staff (1981). Land Capability for Agriculture maps of Scotland at a scale of 1:250 000. Macaulay Institute for Soil Research, Aberdeen. 10.5281/zenodo.6322683	This dataset is important to the spatial strategy as it helps identify where the area’s most productive soils are located to allow us to protect them from irreversible loss through development. The Plan Area’s soils are explored in more detail via Topic Paper 006.	

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Section 2, paragraphs 2.17 – 2.18, Figure 8	Land Capability for Forestry of Scotland (1:250,000)	Soil Survey of Scotland Staff. (1988). Land Capability for Forestry of Scotland at a scale of 1:250 000. Macaulay Land Use Research Institute, Aberdeen. 10.5281/zenodo.6322608	This dataset provides information on the potential for land across Scotland to grow trees. This is incredibly useful for our Forestry, Woodlands and Trees spatial framework and helping Scotland reach national tree planting targets by directing the planting of the right trees in the right places. A more in depth look at forestry, woodlands and trees across the Plan Area will be provided under Topic Paper 007.	

Table A2: Summary of Evidence for the Principal Cultural Characteristics of the Area

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Section 2, paragraphs 2.19 – 2.47 - Principal Cultural Characteristics	Culture Strategy 2023-2028 (pkc.gov.uk)	Perth and Kinross Council’s Culture Strategy 2023-2028. Much of this Topic Paper’s paragraphs 2.19 – have been paraphrased from that document.	It is important to understand the cultural context of the different parts of Perth and Kinross so that LDP3’s Spatial Strategy can develop in a manner that will help contribute to the realisation of the vision for culture in Perth and Kinross as one where: “We will enable creative communities and outstanding creative work to thrive in Perth and Kinross, through partnership.” It will also, in particular, help us to identify and maintain an appropriate number and range of cultural venues and facilities as per Section 15(5) of the Planning Act.	

Table A3: Summary of Evidence for the Principal Socio-Economic Characteristics of the Area

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Paragraphs 2.49 – 2.60 - Principal Economic Characteristics	Tay Cities Region Economic Strategy 2019-2039	The Tay Cities Region Deal Area (Cities of Dundee, Perth, Angus, and the north part of Fife)	<p>The Tay Cities Region Economic Strategy provides the framework for the Region’s economic growth and contains detailed proposals for programmes and projects in relation to the Tay Cities Deal.</p> <p>The 2019-2039 review document provides an update on the statistical analysis which underpins the economic challenges within the national and strategic context. It is important that our LDP3 Spatial Strategy takes into account these challenges as they relate to the Perth and Kinross Area, and that it reflects the key proposals.</p> <p>The Economic Characteristics of the Perth and Kinross Area will be considered further under those Topic Papers on Business and Industry; Retail, City, Town, and Commercial Centres; Rural Development, and Tourism.</p>	
Table 5: Overview of Economic Performance within Perth and Kinross	ONS Regional GVA (balanced) by industry: local authorities by ITL1 region 2021 ONS APS 2023 ONS ASHE 2023 NRS Mid-year population estimates 2021	Office for National Statistics (ONS) Regional Gross Value Added (balanced) by industry: local authorities by ITL1 region 2021 ONS Annual Population Survey 2023 ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2023	This data provides us with a picture of the state of the Area’s economic performance in relation to earnings and employment rates and will be helpful in understanding any challenges experienced by our people and for our places as a result of socio-economic factors. Using similar indicators to those used in the Tay Cities Region Economic Strategy also allows us to see how Perth and Kinross is performing comparative to the rest of the Tay Cities Region.	

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
		National Record of Scotland Mid-year population estimates 2021		
Table 6: Business Base within Perth and Kinross (2023)	UK Business Counts 2023 ONS Business Demography 2023 National Records of Scotland Mid-year population estimates 2021	Office for National Statistics UK Business Counts 2023 Office for National Statistics Business Demography 2022 National Records of Scotland Mid-year population estimates 2021	The business base statistics provide a good understanding of the health of business growth across the area, how attractive Perth and Kinross is to business investors, and what the spread of the share looks like across micro-businesses, small medium enterprises, and large businesses. This data all contributes to building the profile of our places to help develop our LDP3 Spatial Strategy. Alongside other data and information about business and employment needs, investment opportunities and priorities, we will be more informed when identifying new and safeguarding existing business and employment land proposals.	
Table 7: Top Employment Sectors and Scottish Government Growth Sectors within Perth and Kinross (2022)	ONS BRES 2022 Scottish Government Growth Sector database 2022	Office for National Statistics Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) 2022 Scottish Government Growth Sector database 2022	This data provides us with an understanding of which industries in Perth and Kinross have the largest share of jobs, and how that compares to the national picture. Our LDP3 Spatial Strategy should support through the protection of existing and identification of new business, industrial and employment land proposals to allow for the continued growth of our strongest sectors, and facilitate the growth especially of the Tay Cities Region Key Business Sectors.	

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Table 8: Scottish Government Growth Sectors – Percentage Share of All Jobs within Perth and Kinross	ONS BRES 2022 Scottish Government Growth Sector database 2022	Office for National Statistics Business Register and Employment Survey (BRES) 2022 Scottish Government Growth Sector database 2022	Scotland's Economic Strategy (2015) identified those sectors where Scotland has a distinct comparative advantage, and the Growth Database and BRES data allow us to understand how well Perth and Kinross is doing in terms of not only the national growth sectors, but most importantly the Tay Cities Region Key Business Sectors. Currently the Area is below the Scottish average for percentage share of jobs in two of the Tay Cities Key Sectors (Creative Industries and Life Sciences). Perth and Kinross is also below the Scottish average for Financial and Business Services. Understanding where and how well the Perth and Kinross Area is performing relative to the different sectors lets us develop our LDP3 Spatial Strategy in a direction which continues to support those sectors in which we are performing well, but also look to help facilitate opportunities in those other sectors for which we are below the Scottish average, particularly for the Tay Cities Deal Key Business Sectors.	
Table 9: Inclusive Growth within Perth and Kinross	ONS Annual Population Survey 2022 ONS ASHE 2023 Skills Development Scotland Annual Participation Measure for	Office for National Statistics (ONS) Annual Population Survey 2022 ONS Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings 2023 Skills Development Scotland Annual	The data in Table 9 tells us how the Perth and Kinross Area is performing in terms of the three occupation levels comparable to the national picture. It also provides information on the percentage of the population who are being paid below the Living Wage, the rate of participation in employment for 16-19 year olds, and access to different types of	

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
	16-19 Year Olds in Scotland OFCOM Connected Nations 2023	Participation Measure for 16-19 year olds in Scotland 2023 OFCOM Connected Nations 2023	broadband across the area. The relationship between broadband investment and economic growth is widely regarded as a significant one and helps us understand the Area is in lagging behind the national average. Our LDP3 Spatial Strategy should continue to support increased digital connectivity, this will be important to the success of Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods across the Area also.	
Table 10: Labour Market within Perth and Kinross (12 months to September 2023)	ONS APS 2023	Office for National Statistics Annual Population Survey 2023	This data provides some indication of the levels of unemployment within Perth and Kinross relative to the national picture, from September 2022 to September 2023.	ONS Annual Population Survey data collection process has been severely affected since the Covid-19 pandemic. For this reason, many of the measures have been either unreliable as estimates or unavailable entirely due to sample size and sample availability. This is pronounced at the local authority level.
Table 11: Claimant Count and Rate by Sex and Age Group (February 2024)	NOMIS Claimant Count (March 2024)	Office for National Statistics NOMIS Official Census and Labour	The Claimant Count data provides us with a picture of the number of people across different age, and both male and female groups, who are claiming benefits within the	The Claimant Count data is released on a monthly basis. The data reported in Table

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
		Market Statistics, March 2024	Perth and Kinross Area. This information, alongside other data, helps us to better understand the socio-economic profile of the area, and where inequalities may lie.	11 is from March 2024 and therefore a snapshot in time of information available at time of collecting socio-economic data for this Topic Paper.
Table 12: Wellbeing Measures (2022/23)	ONS Personal well-being estimates by local authority 2023	Office for National Statistics Personal well-being estimates by local authority	This annual ONS dataset along with the Scottish Household Survey and ScotPHO data provide an indication of the health and wellbeing and satisfaction levels of the population of Perth and Kinross to help us understand in which areas and on what issues improvements should be sought. These datasets will help us to identify issues and priorities across Perth and Kinross and allow us to develop our LDP3 Spatial Strategy to provide a land use planning response where appropriate.	
Table 13: Housing Market (February 2024)	UK House Price Index, Registers for Scotland	Registers of Scotland	A monthly report showing the average house prices for Scotland and the UK. This data indicates that currently the housing market within Perth and Kinross is performing well and average house prices have steadily increased across all property types during the 12 month period March 2023 to February 2024.	Sales volume figures have not been reported for January and February 2024.

Table A4: Summary of Evidence for the Principal Built Heritage Characteristics of the Area

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Paragraphs 2.61 – 2.62, Principal Built Heritage Characteristics	Interactive Heritage Map HES Portal Buildings at Risk Register for Scotland	Perth and Kinross Council Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust Historic Environment Scotland	These data sources provide us with information on the location, type, and status of our heritage assets within Perth and Kinross to allow us to identify, protect, and where appropriate enhance valued historic assets and places across the area in line with NPF4 Policy 7: Historic assets and places.	

Table A5: Summary of Evidence for the Principal Environmental Characteristics of the Area

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Paragraphs 2.63 – 2.66, Principal Environmental Characteristics	Nature Scot SiteLink for information on National Scenic Areas; Wildland Areas; National Nature Reserves; Ramsar Sites; Special Areas of Conservation; Special Protection Areas; Special Sites of Scientific Interest Perth and Kinross Council Supplementary Guidance - Landscape for Local Landscape Areas RSPB Important Bird Areas (February 2020)	Nature Scot Perth and Kinross Council Supplementary Guidance – Landscape RSPB Scottish Forestry Forest Research The James Hutton Institute Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) Perth and Kinross Council	Understanding the types and locations of the numerous protected areas and important natural assets across Perth and Kinross, as well as the environmental state of these areas, is incredibly important to the development of our LDP3 Spatial Strategy to allow us to protect and where appropriate enhance these sites.	For many of the internationally and nationally designated sites across our area, up to date site condition and monitoring information is currently unavailable.

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
	Ancient Woodland Inventory (Scotland) National Forest Inventory National Soil Map of Scotland Scotland Wetland Inventory SEPA Water Classification Hub SEPA Flood Maps Local Flood Risk Management Plans: Cycle 2 2022-2028: Tay Local Plan District Cycle 2 2022-2028: Forth Local Plan District Cycle 2 2022-2028: Forth Estuary Local Plan District Cycle 1 2016-2022: Tay Estuary and Montrose Basin Local Plan District Air Quality – Perth and Kinross			
Paragraph 2.67, Principal Environmental Characteristics	Perth and Kinross State of the Environment Report 2007	The James Hutton Institute	The Council’s State of the Environment Report and updated indicator data are key tools in helping inform the environmental baseline for	The report was first published in 2007, and the majority of the datasets and

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
			the Plan Area upon which the LDP3 Spatial Strategy can be developed, and the success of its implementation monitored. It is a very useful tool in particular for the Plan's SEA.	information contained within have been updated over the years since its publication to inform each new SEA. The relevant data will also be updated as part of the Council's SEA and LDP3 Evidence Report work.

Table A6: Summary of Evidence – Size, composition, health, and distribution of the population of the area

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Paragraphs 3.1 – 3.3, Population – Estimates, Projections and Profile	National Records of Scotland 2021 mid-year population estimates	National Records of Scotland	Understanding the demographic profile of the Perth and Kinross Area allows us to develop a Spatial Strategy for LDP3 which responds to the current and likely future needs of the area's population.	
Paragraphs 3.4 – 3.8, Tables 15 and 16, and Figure 23, Population – Urban Rural Split	Scottish Government Urban Rural Classification 2020	The Scottish Government	The Scottish Government's Urban Rural Classification provides a consistent method of defining urban and rural areas across the country. This will help us in development the LDP3 Spatial Strategy particularly for issues around housing, access to services and facilities, infrastructure, and employment, through aiding our understanding of the issues facing different communities, especially our more remote places.	

Section and Paragraph References	Links to Evidence	Data Source	Relevance of Data to LDP3	Gaps or Uncertainties in Data
Paragraph 3.9, Population – Migration	National Records of Scotland 2021 mid-year population estimates	National Records of Scotland	Understanding the demographic profile of the Perth and Kinross Area allows us to develop a Spatial Strategy for LDP3 which responds to the current and likely future needs of the area’s population.	
Paragraphs 3.10 – 3.17, Population – Births, Deaths, and Life Expectancy	National Records of Scotland 2021 mid-year population estimates	National Records of Scotland	Understanding the demographic profile of the Perth and Kinross Area allows us to develop a Spatial Strategy for LDP3 which responds to the current and likely future needs of the area’s population.	
Paragraphs 3.18 – 3.30, and Figures 24-35, Population – Health and Wellbeing	ScotPHO tool	Public Health Scotland	The ScotPHO data provides a picture of how well the Perth and Kinross Area is performing against national health and wellbeing indicators, relative to the rest of Scotland. The importance of this to the development of our LDP3 Spatial Strategy, is that we need consider where and how land use planning can facilitate the improving access to key facilities and services to help reduce health and wellbeing inequalities across our communities.	

Appendix B: Key Landscape Character Types within the Perth and Kinross Council Area

Table B1: Details of Key Landscape Character Types

Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Summary of LCT Description and Key Characteristics	Area (KM ²)	% of PKC Area
LCT 376: Summits and Plateaux – Tayside	<p><u>Location and Context</u></p> <p>This Landscape Character Type comprises the highest and most remote upland parts of western and northern Perth and Kinross and Angus Council areas. In places they border the Cairngorms, and Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, National Parks. This is an extensive LCT present in 13 different areas.</p> <p>The West Highlands can be described as a series of comparatively discrete hills or ranges as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Forest of Glenartney, south of Loch Earn; – Ben Chonzie/Sron Mhor/Meall nam Fuaran between Strathearn and Loch Tay/Strath Tay; – Ben Lawers and Beinn Heasgarnich range south of Glen Lyon; – Cairn Gorm/Schiehallion range between Glen Lyon and Loch Rannoch; – Mean Tairneachan Group between Strath Tay and Loch Tummel; – Talla Bheith and Craiganour Forest between Lochs Rannoch and Tummel and Glen Garry. <p>A series of spurs between the principal Angus Glens, extending southwards towards Strathmore and which form part of the more continuous upland area of Mounth Highlands which extend into the Cairngorms National Park, comprise the other areas of this Landscape Character Type.</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Areas of upland incised by and separating the principal Tayside glens. • Western areas comprising distinct summits and ranges, separated by fault line lochs; the hills are sharply defined and often craggy. • Areas of the Mounth Highlands in the east comprising the southern extents of a more extensive area of upland with spurs extending southwards; the hills are more rounded than those to the west and rock outcrops are fewer. • Large scale vegetation patterns closely reflecting altitude and exposure and including heather, grassland, blanket bog, and arctic alpine plant communities; variations reflecting the underlying geology. • Most of the area managed as open moorland, with characteristic muirburn patterns. • Little or no settlement, with minor tracks used for sporting, forestry, and some recreation access, as well as newer more visible tracks for access to wind farms, pylon construction and forestry. • A few patches of semi-natural broadleaf woodland on slopes up to about 600 metres. • Remote and wild character. • Important scenic and dramatic backdrop to lower glens and straths. • Panoramic views both into and out of adjacent mountainous areas, such as the Cairngorm Massif, and lower lying areas like Strathmore. 	1191	22.5

Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Summary of LCT Description and Key Characteristics	Area (KM ²)	% of PKC Area
LCT 124: Summits and Plateaux – Cairngorms	<p><u>Location and Context</u> An extensive area of rolling uplands extending across much of the southern section of the Cairngorms National Park, south of the core mountain massifs. The LCT occurs in three main areas: the upper Angus Glens, Glen Shee, and Drumochter. There is also a small area west of the A9 between Dalwhinnie and Ardverikie.</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive ranges of mountains and hills with distinct, smooth summits and ridges, generally more rounded in the east. • Hills cut through by broad open glens. • Land cover includes heather, grassland, blanket bog, and arctic alpine plant communities. Broad scale vegetation patterns closely reflect geology, altitude, and exposure. • Much of the area managed as open moorland, with characteristic muirburn patterns. • A few patches of semi-natural broadleaf woodland on slopes up to about 600 metres. • Little or no settlement: occasional farm steadings, some derelict, and shielings in remote glens. • Tracks used for sporting, forestry, and some recreation access, as well as newer more visible tracks for access, power line construction and forestry. • Remote and wild character. • Scenic and dramatic backdrop to lower glens and straths. • Panoramic views both into and out of adjacent mountainous areas and lower lying areas. 	565	10.7
LCT 377: Transitional Moorland and Forest	<p><u>Location and Context</u> This Landscape Character Type occurs within the Perth and Kinross Council boundary. It comprises the lower, more transitional areas of Tayside moorland north of the Highland Boundary Fault, surrounding major glens. It is present in eight areas: Tummel Forest, Drummond Hill, Weem Hill/ Dunfallandy Hill, Craigvinean Forest, Forest of Clunie, Knock of Balmyle, Forest of Alyth and Obney Hills.</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spurs of moorland above major glens at the southern extent of the Perthshire highlands. • Generally up to 550 metres, although reaching over 600 in places. • Steep sides. • Some extensive areas of conifer forest on lower slopes up to about 450 metres, with interspersed rough grazing and moorland. • Occasional lochs, mostly small in size, and small reservoirs. • Very occasional dwellings, small farmsteads, and tracks on lower slopes. • Network of forest tracks. • Wind farm development. • Popular for recreation. • Prominent in views from the surrounding glens and straths, forming a scenic dark backdrop contrasting with the more settled lower ground. 	472	8.9

Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Summary of LCT Description and Key Characteristics	Area (KM ²)	% of PKC Area
LCT 380: Lowland Hills – Tayside	<p><u>Location and Context</u> This Landscape Character Type comprises a series of low ridges and hills between Strathallan and Strath Tay, separating the lowland valleys. The principal examples include the Gask Ridge west of Perth, the Keillour Ridge at Keillour Forest south of Glen Almond, the Bankfoot Hills between Glen Almond and Dunkeld, and the Knaik Hills around the river Knaik glen lying to the south of Glen Artney.</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low rounded ridges and hills separating lowland straths and adjoining the nearby uplands. • Composed of soft, red sandstones. • Transitional character with medium-scale pastures on lower slopes, giving way to rough grazing and even, open moorland higher up. • Extensive woodland, including conifer forests on less fertile soils. • Evidence of historic settlement and land use, with prehistoric standing stones, cairns, stone and hut circles, Roman forts roads and signal stations, and fortified houses and castles marking gateway points to the Highlands. • Modern settlement limited to scattered farmsteads and hamlets, with some main roads and pylons. 	466	8.8
LCT 382: Lowland Hill Ranges	<p><u>Location and Context</u> Located to the south and east of the Tayside Old Red Sandstone is a band of hard volcanic rocks which form the Lowland Hill Ranges LCT. These rocks were more resistant than the surrounding beds, and survive as the Ochil Hills which run from the boundary with Fife as far as Perth and the Sidlaw Hills which run from Perth north-east towards Forfar. The Ochils and Sidlaws represent two parts of the same geological structure. Once, a broad arch of volcanic rocks would have extended over the area occupied by the lower part of Strathearn and the Firth of Tay. Weakened by compression, the crest of this arch was eroded away, revealing the softer rocks beneath. The resulting landforms comprise a pair of scarp slopes (in the Ochils facing north, in the Sidlaws, south) and a pair of dipslopes (in the Ochils facing south, in the Sidlaws, north).</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sidlaw and Ochil Hills comprise hard volcanic rocks which appear as relatively uniform ridgelines orientated southwest to northeast, contributing to the much wider strategic grain of landscape character defined by the Highland Boundary Fault geology. • Recognisable shapes, peaks and slopes, and ridge profiles, the presence of which is emphasised by their location set within low lying agricultural landscape to the north and south. • Short burns and rivers flowing from dramatic, short steep glens. • Several large glens through the hills. • Often distinctive and conspicuous scarp and dipslopes. • Generally open medium scale landscapes of almost conical summits dominated by grass moorland and upland pasture. • Sweeping patchwork of regular but not geometric patterns on the dipslopes. 	454	8.6

Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Summary of LCT Description and Key Characteristics	Area (KM ²)	% of PKC Area
LCT 371: Mid Upland Glens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some areas of extensive forestry. • Occasional vertical features such as navigational and telecom masts, follies, and wind turbines which appear prominent in these elevated locations. • Popular use for informal recreation by nearby large centres of population. • A sense of relative tranquillity. • Importance as a backdrop to many settlements in the surrounding low lying agricultural landscapes. • Views within, across and up to this character type. <p><u>Location and Context</u></p> <p>Within the part of Tayside to the north of the Highland Boundary Fault, glens formed by the combination of glacial and river erosion provide one of the principal structural elements in the landscape. They also provide the focus for most human activity. This Landscape Character Assessment makes a distinction between the upper, mid, and lower sections of the glens. It should be noted that those glens containing large lochs are described as a separate landscape type.</p> <p>The Mid Upland Glens LCT is made up of the middle sections of the most significant glens north of the Highland Boundary Fault in Perth and Kinross and Angus. These sections of glen are distinguished by the concentration of agricultural activity on the narrow valley floor and the predominance of rough grazing, bracken, and heather moorland on the valley slopes. Within the Mounth Highlands, this landscape type occurs in Glen Esk, the valley of the West Water, Glen Clova, Glen Prosen, Glen Isla, Glen Shee and Strathardle. Within the West Highland Mountains it occurs at Glen Errochty, Dun Alastair (between Lochs Rannoch and Tummel), Strathbraan, Glen Lyon and Glen Artney.</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle sections of the principal glens, where there is a notable increase in the width of the glen floor, however the steep concave valley sides still dominate and define the glen. • Predominantly uninhabited glens of medium to small scale, with sparse scatter of isolated farms, lodges and cottage. • Important lines of communication into and through the highlands, with access by tracks or dead-end minor roads. Other infrastructure including prominent pylon lines also take advantage of the accessibility in the confining glens. • Predominantly unenclosed rough grazing, bracken, heather moorland on valley slopes with a concentration of agricultural activity on narrow but distinct valley floor of enclosed improved pasture and pockets of arable, contrasting in colour and texture with the contained steep glen sides. • Typically the rivers meander through the flatter gradients of the glen floors, the intricacy of the meander loops dictated by the narrowness of the valley sides. • Viewed from above, the river alignment draws the eye along and down the valley. • Rapids, gorges, and waterfalls where bands or harder rocks occur. 	376	7.1

Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Summary of LCT Description and Key Characteristics	Area (KM ²)	% of PKC Area
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glacial and post glacial features including morainic deposition emphasising the natural and intricate small scale character of many of the glen features. • Wind clipped native birch and oak woodland in small copses on steeper poorer ground and along river sides. Larger blocks of conifer forest on both valley sides and floor. • Scatter of small scale farmsteads and small villages located on dry site break of slopes to avoid flooding and maximise shelter and solar gain. • Proliferation of forts and castles constructed in local stone, add local points of interest, and reinforce distinctiveness of glens. • Several major mansion-houses associated with extensive designed landscapes. • Views channelled along the valley corridor. • Relatively remote due to lack of settlement and winding minor roads. 		
LCT 372: Lower Upland Glens	<p><u>Location and Context</u> In the area of Tayside to the north of the Highland Boundary Fault, the glens formed through the combination of glacial and river erosion provide one of the main structural elements in the landscape. They also provide the focus for most human activity.</p> <p>The Lowland Upland Glens LCT comprises the lower parts of the most significant glens north of the Highland Boundary Fault in the Tayside region. These sections of the glen are notable for their comparatively large scale and the particular combination of upland and lowland attributes. Most of the glens within the Mounth Highlands change quickly from upper and mid glen to the lowland and foothills, so this landscape type only occurs in Strathardle. Within the West Highland mountains, it occurs in Glen Garry around Blair Atholl, joining with Strath Tummel and Strath Tay between Aberfeldy and Dunkeld.</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower sections of the principal glens north of the Highland Boundary Fault. • Larger scale landscapes than the mid and upper reaches of these glen, which are generally wider with broader floodplains. • Combinations of upland and lowland attributes, with evidence of glaciation, but lacking many of the classic glacial features, such as corries, hanging valleys and misfit rivers, found higher up. • Broad floodplains, often with meandering rivers, interspersed with narrower, gorge like sections where harder rocks cross the glens. • The most settled parts of the glens, with transport corridors housing main roads and railways, large towns, castles, fortified manor houses, historic estates, and estate villages. • Modern expansion of larger settlements, with pockets of smaller housing development out of the main settlements. • Fertile farmland on valley floor and valley slopes with large fields separated by hedgerows with tree lines, woodland belts and post and wire fences. 	332	6.3

Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Summary of LCT Description and Key Characteristics	Area (KM ²)	% of PKC Area
LCT 374: Mid Upland Glens with Lochs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substantial and varied woodland cover - broadleaf woodlands clothing steeper slopes, around estate properties and along rivers, with conifer forests on valley sides and associated with estates. • Influence of large estates, castles, and Victorian development, with their historic buildings and parkland. • Corridor views along the valley. <p><u>Location and Context</u> Glacial over-deepening along fault lines in the Tayside West Highlands formation a number of significant lochs between 50 and 100 metres deep. Many of these cover the middle sections of upland glens and are categorised in the Landscape Character Assessment as Mid Upland Glens with Lochs. Some examples include Loch Rannoch and Loch Tay.</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansive lochs surrounded by sloping valley sides, with no valley floor. • Geological and physical structure similar to Mid Upland Glens, the glacial erosion creating relatively straight, glaciated valley cross sections. • Large-scale landscape created by the combination of the extensive lochs and large enclosing mountains. • Sparsely settled with a concentration of settlement and farming activity on lower slopes and at the ends of the lochs. • Clear transition from lower pastures through heather mid-slopes to bare upper summits. • Extensive woodland on lower slopes, including significant areas of Caledonian pinewoods. • Encircled by roads. • Planned settlements at head and foot of lochs usually with picturesque bridge crossings. • Extensive corridor views along the glens. 	246	4.7
LCT 390: Lowland Basins	<p><u>Location and Context</u> Two flooded Lowland Basins have formed in Tayside where softer, Upper Old Red Sandstone deposits, enclosed by hard volcanic or carboniferous rocks, have been eroded away. The first of these is occupied by Loch Leven in the extreme south of Tayside, enclosed by the Lomond and Cleish Hills to the east and south, and by the Ochils to the north and extending to the West up the flat valleys of the Queich River and Glendey Water and to the south east along the River Leven. The second of these is the Montrose Basin, in the Angus Council Area.</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Broad basins formed where sandstones have been eroded away leaving harder enclosing rocks. • Flat, relatively low lying landform with strong horizontal composition. • Extensive mudflats, reinforce openness and flatness of landscape, and dynamic character reinforces by presence of large populations of birds, and reflections of sky. Open, large scale, regular, tended pattern of fields on fringes of waterbodies. • Rich natural heritage, particularly migratory and wading birds. • Historic sites and associations. • Dominance of water, sky, and distant shores. 	175	3.3

Landscape Character Type (LCT)	Summary of LCT Description and Key Characteristics	Area (KM ²)	% of PKC Area
LCT 126: Upland Glen – Cairngorms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse, calm, settled and (away from main roads and other discordant elements) the quiet, calm, and balanced ambience. • Views are wide and panoramic across the basins along strong visual links to adjacent landscape types. <p><u>Location and Context</u> This LCT occurs in twelve locations: at Glen Shirra, Pattack Glen, upper Glen Spey, upper Glen Banchor; Glenlivet at Inchnacape, Delnabo and Conglass Water; Corgarff, Cockbridge, Glen Nocht, Glen Buchat and the Waters of Deskry, Carvie and Conrie in Strathdon; Upper Deeside at Glen Cairn and Glen Muick; the upper Angus Glens of Glen Esk, Glen Doll, Glen Clova, Glen Prosen and Glen Isla; Glen Shee, Glen Beag and Glen Clunie; upper Glen Garry and Glen Truim. They vary in size, woodland cover and degree of remoteness, but all provide contrast to the surrounding higher ground and most contain communication routes.</p> <p><u>Key Characteristics</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong evidence of glacial processes, including steepened sides and level floors, shattered rock faces on higher slopes, hummocks of resistant rock on some glen floors and terraces of glacial deposits at the edges of glen floors. • Often form arrival points into the Cairngorms National Park. • Size varies from large open passes to narrower, more secluded glens. • Enclosed predominantly by steep slopes. • Frequently differing land-use on one side of the glen to the other - linked to aspect. • Improved, grazed fields on glen floors and floodplains. • Mostly settled, some only sparsely, but often extensive evidence of past settlement, including prehistoric hut circles and associated field systems, pre-improvement townships, and seasonal shielings. • Some landmark historic buildings. • Access varies from narrow roads, estate, and forestry tracks to main routes, but most have some form of road running through them. • Varied experience when passing through glens from open and expansive to sheltered and secluded. • Views to adjacent uplands; from which parts of the glens are visible and provide contrast. 	157	3.0