

Perth and Kinross LDP3 2027 - Evidence Report

TOPIC PAPER NO. 018: DESIGN, QUALITY AND PLACE

July 2024



Figure 1: Overview of Key Considerations for LDP3 linked to NPF4 Policy 14

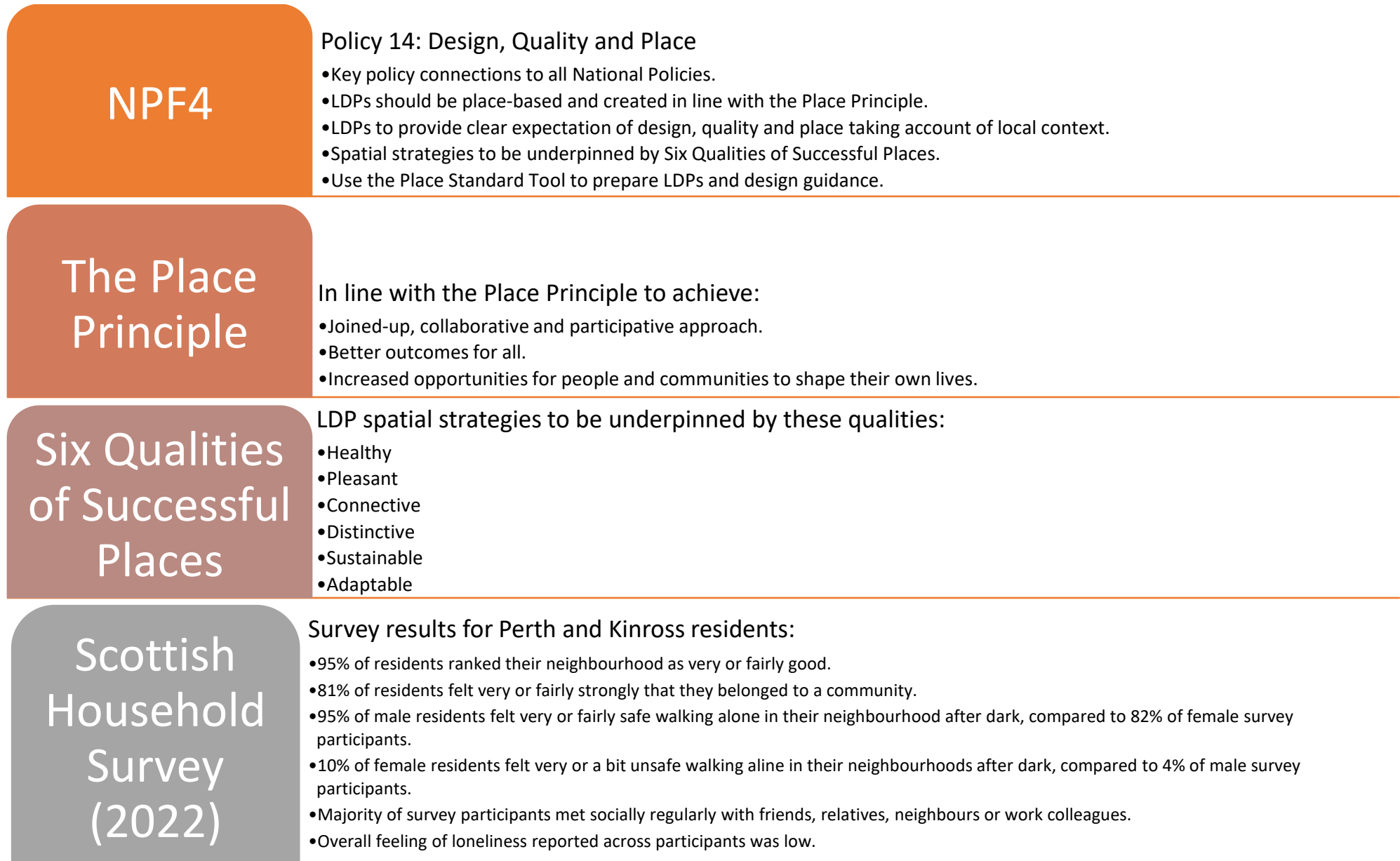


Table of Contents

Figure 1: Overview of Key Considerations for LDP3 linked to NPF4 Policy 14	3
Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations	6
1 Introduction	8
LIVEABLE PLACES – DESIGN, QUALITY AND PLACE	8
NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS	9
IDENTIFICATION OF DATASETS	9
2 Information Analysis.....	11
DATA AND INFORMATION SOURCES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PLAN	11
LDP Spatial Strategies	11
Understanding Our Local Places	19
GAPS, UNCERTAINTIES, AND KEY ISSUES RAISED	25
LDP Spatial Strategies	25
Understanding Our Local Places	25
Appendix A: Identification of Datasets and Information	26

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Climate Resilience	Is the ability to prepare for, recover from, and adapt to the impacts of climate change whilst preventing those impacts from growing worse.
Community Planning Partners	The Perth and Kinross Community Planning Partnership leads the community planning process in our area and is responsible for providing strategic direction, agreeing priorities and managing performance. The core partners involved are: Jobcentre Plus, NHS Tayside, Perth and Kinross Association of Voluntary Services (PKAVS), Perth and Kinross Council, Perth College, Policy Scotland, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, and Skills Development Scotland.
Evidence Report	A supporting document to the Local Development Plan. The Evidence Report provides a summary of the evidence base for a plan's spatial strategy, policies, and proposals. It demonstrates that consideration has been given to the issues relevant to the plan area, and that appropriate consultation and engagement has been carried out and taken account of in preparing a plan.
Gatecheck	This is an assessment of the sufficiency of the evidence base on which the Proposed Local Development Plan will be developed. It is undertaken by an appointed person from the Scottish Government's Planning and Environmental Appeals Division.
Local Development Plan (LDP)	A plan which sets out, for the land in the part of the district it relates to, a spatial strategy; any other such matters as may be prescribed by the Scottish Ministers, and any other matters which the planning authority consider appropriate to include.
National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)	NPF4 is the national spatial strategy for Scotland. It sets out the Scottish Government's spatial principles, regional priorities, national developments, and includes a suite of national planning policy. NPF4 was adopted in February 2023.
Proposed Plan	The draft stage of the Local Development Plan, which must be approved by full Council before it can move on to its consultation stage.
SIMD Datazones	These are small geographical areas covering the whole of Scotland (6,976 in total), and are ranked from the most deprived to the least deprived in respect of income, employment, health, education, access to services, crime and housing.
SIMD Quintiles	Quintiles in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation are a way of dividing Scotland into five groups of equal size (each containing 20% of Scotland's data zones) based on the level of multiple deprivation. Multiple deprivation refers to the lack of resources or opportunities in various aspects of life, such as income, health, education, and

crime. The lower the quintile, the higher the deprivation – 1 being the most deprived 20% and 5 being the least deprived 20%.

Spatial Strategy

The detailed statement (usually represented through mapping as well accompanying text) of a planning authority's policies and proposals regarding the development and use of land for the area for which the plan applies.

Sustainable Development

As defined in 1987 by the [Brundtland Report: Our Common Future](#), it is development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

A systematic way of identifying, predicting, reporting, mitigating, and monitoring the environmental effects of plans, programmes, policies, and strategies. [The Environmental Assessment \(Scotland\) Act 2005](#) provides information on the detailed stages and requirements for SEA in Scotland.

1 Introduction

1.1 Under Section 16(B) of the Act ¹, planning authorities are required to prepare an Evidence Report that contains sufficient information to enable the planning authority to move on to the next stage and prepare their Local Development Plan (LDP).

1.2 The purpose of an Evidence Report is to provide the planning authority's interpretation of the evidence it has gathered and the likely implications of that evidence for the preparation of their LDP. The Report will provide a summary of what the evidence means for the plan, rather than contain all the detail of evidence collected.

LIVEABLE PLACES – DESIGN, QUALITY AND PLACE

1.3 This topic paper sets out the key evidence relating to the NPF4 Policy 14 subject area of 'Design, Quality and Place.' It will, alongside a range of other topic papers, contribute towards the preparation of the Council's Evidence Report, which is programmed to be submitted to the Scottish Government's Planning and Environmental Appeals Division during November 2024 for the 'Gatecheck' process.

1.4 It is important to note that our LDP3 will also be prepared within the context of the Council's Corporate Plan. The current [Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2022-2027](#) sets out the Council's vision for a Perth and Kinross 'where everyone can live life well, free

from poverty and inequality.' It proposes a number of key priorities for the 5-year period 2022 to 2027. It also reflects the principles of the [Perth and Kinross Offer](#).

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

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

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

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

Figure 2: Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan Priorities



RELEVANT POLICIES

1.7 This topic is specifically covered by NPF4 Policy 14: Design, Quality and Place. However, given the nature of what this policy seeks to achieve, it has key policy connections with all of NPF4’s policies and as such will be touched upon under other relevant LDP3 Topic Papers.

NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS AND EXPECTATIONS

1.8 Policy 14 of NPF4 expects the following from LDPs:

- LDPs should be place-based and created in line with the Place Principle. The spatial strategy should be underpinned by the six

qualities of successful places. LDPs should provide clear expectations for design, quality and place taking account of the local context, characteristics, and connectivity of the area. They should also identify where more detailed design guidance is expected, for example, by way of design frameworks, briefs, masterplans, and design codes.

Planning authorities should use the Place Standard Tool in the preparation of LDPs and design guidance to engage with communities and other stakeholders. They should also where relevant promote its use in early design discussions on planning applications.

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

1.10 Section 2 to follow looks to identify relevant datasets and sources of information to satisfy the asks of NPF4 Policy 14, as well as take account of the data and information suggested in the May 2023 Guidance.

IDENTIFICATION OF DATASETS

1.11 Table A1 of Appendix A sets out the evidence which should be gathered and analysed so that the Proposed Plan can address the requirements and expectations raised in NPF4 and the Scottish Government’s Local Development Plan Guidance. It also highlights

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

2 Information Analysis

DATA AND INFORMATION SOURCES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE PLAN

1.12 To follow is a list of sources of data and information directly related to the policy subject of Design, Quality and Place, plus a summary of why that evidence is considered relevant to the Proposed Plan's preparation.

LDP Spatial Strategies

1.13 As previously highlighted under paragraph 1.4, because the policy subject matter has key policy connections with all of the policies in NPF4, this paper will be unable to cover in detail the relevant objectives for each of those policy areas. Therefore, not all sources of data and information for the subjects will be listed below. Instead, these matters will be picked up under each of the relevant individual topic papers.

1.14 In 2019 the Scottish Government and COSLA agreed to adopt a [Place Principle](#) to help overcome organisational and sectoral boundaries to encourage better collaboration and community involvement. The Place Principle promotes a shared understanding of place, and the need for communities, public organisations, and businesses to work together to achieve better outcomes for people and communities.

1.15 The Place Principle says that we recognise that:

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

1.16 The Principle requests that:

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

Box 1: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

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

1.17 The current [Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 2 \(2019\)](#) along with its accompanying supplementary guidance documents provide a good basis of understanding of the local context and characteristics of the Perth and Kinross Area, as well as connections within and into and out of the Area. Information on the principal characteristics of the Area is explored in greater detail within Topic Paper 001: The Plan Area.

1.18 [NPF4: Annex D – Six Qualities of Successful Places](#) - NPF4 Policy 14 expects that LDP spatial strategies are underpinned by these six qualities:

1. **Healthy:** Supporting the prioritisation of women’s safety and improving physical and mental health.

Designing for:

- **Lifelong wellbeing** through ensuring spaces, routes and buildings feel safe and welcoming e.g. through passive surveillance and use of physical safety measures.
- **Healthy and active lifestyles**, through the creation of walkable neighbourhoods, food growing opportunities and access to nature and greenspace.
- **Accessibility and inclusion** for everyone regardless of gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, and culture.
- **Social connectivity** and creating a sense of belonging and identity within the community.
- **Environmentally positive places** with improved air quality, reactivating derelict and brownfield land, removing known hazards and good use of green and blue infrastructure.

2. **Pleasant:** Supporting attractive natural and built spaces.

Designing for:

- **Positive social interactions** including quality of public realm, civic spaces, streets and ensuring a lively and inclusive experience.
- **Protection** from the elements to create attractive and welcoming surroundings, including provision of shade and shelter, mitigating against noise, air, light pollution, and undesirable features, as well as ensuring climate resilience, including flood prevention and mitigation against rising sea levels.
- **Connecting with nature** including natural landscape, existing landforms and features, biodiversity and eco-systems, integrating blue and green infrastructure and visual connection.
- **Variety and quality** of play and recreation spaces for people of all ages and abilities.
- **Enjoyment**, enabling people to feel at ease, spend more time outdoors, and take inspiration from their surroundings.

3. **Connected:** Supporting well connected networks that make moving around easy and reduce car dependency.

Designing for:

- **Active travel** by encouraging more walking, wheeling, and cycling together with reliable, accessible, public transport and shared transport hubs that allow for simple modal shifts.
- **Connectivity** including strategic cycle routes, local cycle routes, footpaths, pavements, active travel networks, desire lines, destinations, permeability, accessibility and catering for different needs and abilities.
- **Convenient connections** including local and regional interconnection, infrastructure, sustainable travel,

interchange between public transport and active travel and supporting easy modal shifts in transport.

- **Pedestrian experience** including safe crossing, pedestrian priority, reduced vehicular speed and noise, inclusive design and surfaces, assistive technology, reduced street clutter, catering for suitable vehicular parking and management of loading/unloading and deliveries and refuse collections.

4. **Distinctive:** Supporting attention to detail of local architectural styles and natural landscapes to be interpreted into designs to reinforce identity.

Designing for:

- **Scale** including density, building heights, massing, orientation, building lines and legibility.
- **Built form** including mix of typologies, types, uses, sizes, and tenures.
- **Sense of place** including design influences, architectural styles, choice of materials and finishes, detailing, landscape design, active frontages, and cultural context.

5. **Sustainable:** Supporting the efficient use of resources that will allow people to live, play, work and stay in their area, ensuring climate resilience and integrating nature positive biodiversity solutions.

Designing for:

- **Transition to net zero** including energy/carbon efficient solutions, retrofitting, reuse, and repurposing and sharing of existing infrastructure and resources.
- **Climate resilience and nature recovery** including incorporating blue and green infrastructure, integrating nature positive biodiversity solutions.

- **Active local economy** including opportunities for local jobs and training, work spaces, enabling working from home, supporting community enterprise and third sector.
- **Community and local living** including access to local services and facilities, education, community growing and healthy food options, play and recreation and digital connectivity.

6. **Adaptable:** Supporting commitment to investing in the long-term value of buildings, streets, and spaces by allowing for flexibility so that they can meet the changing needs and accommodate different uses over time.

Designing for:

- **Quality and function** ensuring fitness for purpose, design for high quality and durability.
- **Longevity and resilience** including recognising the role of user centred design to cater for changing needs over time and to respond to social, economy, and environmental priorities.
- **Long-term maintenance** including effective engagement, clarity of rights and responsibilities, community ownership/ stewardship, continuous upkeep and improvements.

- 1.19 The Council adopted its [Perth and Kinross Placemaking Guide Supplementary Guidance](#) in March 2020. It was developed to support Policy 1 of the Perth and Kinross LDP2 and is used in the assessment of planning applications and to assist in the placemaking process.
- 1.20 The Guide further develops the placemaking criteria and provides more detailed guidance on how to achieve the policy requirements in

[LDP2](#). It also provides clear explanations as to how to achieve high quality development that responds to the unique setting of Perth and Kinross.

- 1.21 Policy 1: Placemaking of LDP2 and the Placemaking Guide were developed on the basis of the Scottish Government’s six qualities of successful place contained in [Scottish Planning Policy \(2014\)](#). Those qualities (Distinctive, Safe and Pleasant, Welcoming, Adaptable, Resource Efficient, and Easy to Move Around and Beyond) have been updated slightly for the current set of qualities at Annex D of NPF4, however the key elements and objectives remain the same.
- 1.22 Whilst the content of the Council’s Placemaking Guide remains relevant, the guidance will require a review and some minor updates,

Box 2: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

Applying these six qualities in the development of the Plan’s Spatial Strategy, particularly the allocation of proposals in LDP3 should help to foster healthy, pleasant, connected, distinctive, sustainable, and adaptable places. Bringing these qualities through in the LDP’s Settlement Audit and Site Appraisal templates should ensure all elements are given the appropriate level of consideration prior to any site proposals being allocated in the Plan.

The Council’s Placemaking Guide is still very relevant. Its continued use, particularly during the Site Appraisal stage for the Proposed Plan, will help to ensure the Scottish Government’s Six Qualities of Successful Places are realised on the ground across Perth and Kinross, and that these qualities are framed within a local context.

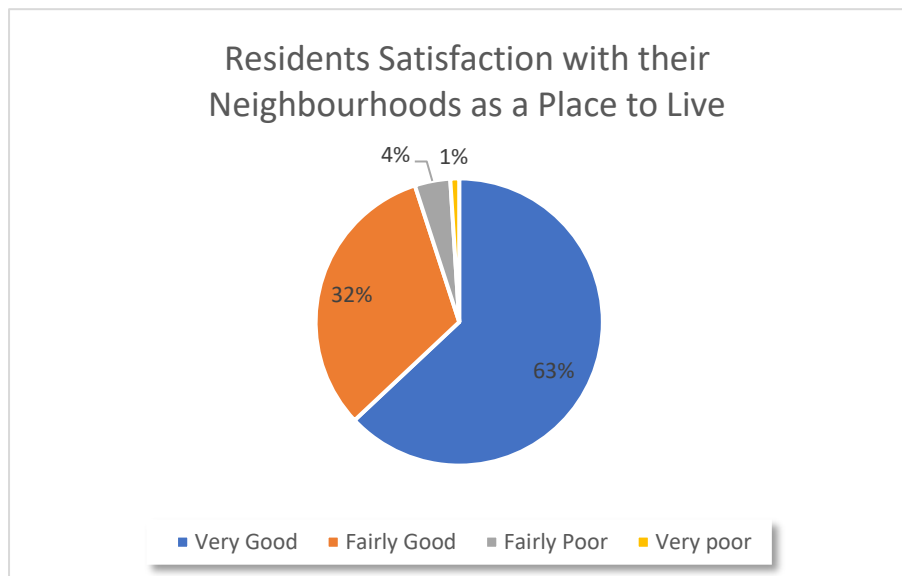
to ensure the references contained within it and terminology used are in line with NPF4, to allow for its continued use.

- 1.23 The [Scottish Household Survey \(SHS\)](#) is an annual survey of the general population in Scotland, and has been carried out since 1999. The survey aims to collect reliable and up to date information on a number of topics, including neighbourhoods, via a random sampling of people in private residences. Participation is voluntary and is important in helping the Scottish Government make representative estimates for Scotland. The most recent publication is the 2022 SHS.

Neighbourhood Satisfaction

- 1.24 The SHS Neighbourhoods and Communities data provides a picture of how residents rate their neighbourhoods as a place to live. In 2022, the data reports that the percentage residents of Perth and Kinross who rated overall their neighbourhood as very/fairly good was 95%, which is the same as the Scotland figure. 63% of residents ranked their neighbourhood as very good; 32% as fairly good; 4% as fairly poor, and 1% as very poor. These percentages also closely mirror the Scotland figures for each of the rankings. The percentages for the Perth and Kinross Area have also remained similar throughout the years since the first survey undertaken in 1999.

Figure 2: SHS (2022) Residents Satisfaction with their Neighbourhoods



Feeling of Belonging to a Community

1.25 The Survey asked other questions relating to feeling of belonging to a community; experience (by adults) of neighbourhood problems; perceptions of safety when walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark; frequency of social interactions, and how often adults had felt lonely within the previous week time period. The percentage results of those survey questions, where available, are set out below.

1.26 The results of the survey question regarding ‘Strength of feeling of belonging to a community’ are broken down further to provide figures by sex, age, ethnicity, SIMD quintiles, and housing tenure. The figures overall for Perth and Kinross were fairly similar to those of the Scotland average for the same survey questions.

1.27 In the Perth and Kinross Area:

- 37% of participants felt very strongly in terms of belonging to a community (Scotland average – 38%).
- 44% felt fairly strongly (Scotland average – 45%).
- 14% felt not very strongly about belonging (Scotland average - 13%).
- 3% felt not at all strongly (Scotland average – 4%), and
- 2% didn’t know (Scotland average – 1%).

1.28 When we look at those results closer in terms of breakdown between male and female participants in the area:

- 40% of males and 35% of females felt very strongly in terms of belonging to a community (Scotland averages – 36% and 39%).
- 36% of males and 53% of females felt fairly strongly (Scotland average – 45% and 44%).
- 21% of males and 7% of females felt not very strongly about belonging (Scotland averages - 13% and 12%).
- 2% of males and 4% of females felt not at all strongly (Scotland averages – 4% and 4%), and
- 2% of males and 1% of females didn’t know (Scotland averages – 1% for both sexes).

1.29 There were no recorded survey participants in the age categories from 16 through to 59, or for the 75 and over group. Figures for the 60-74 age group show that:

- 44% of participants felt very strongly in terms of belonging to a community (Scotland average – 46%).
- 42% felt fairly strongly (Scotland average – 41%).
- 12% felt not very strongly about belonging (Scotland average - 10%).
- 1% felt not at all strongly (Scotland average – 2%), and

- 2% didn't know (Scotland average – 1%).

1.30 Apart from survey data for the 'White: Scottish' ethnic group, there are no survey results for any of the other reported ethnicity groups for the Perth and Kinross Area. For that group the results were: 43% felt very strongly; 45% felt fairly strongly; 10% felt not very strongly; 1% felt not at all strongly, and 1% didn't know.

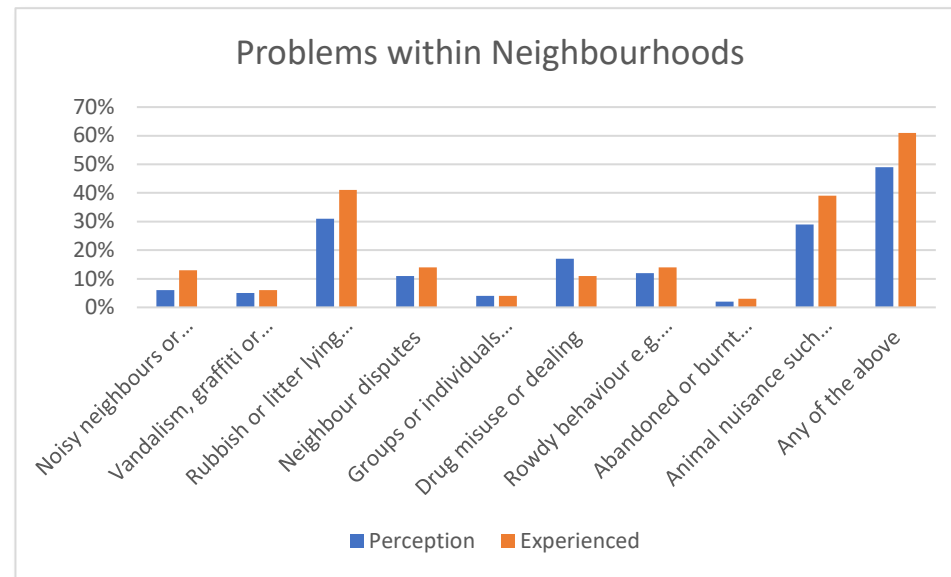
1.31 Survey data is available for those [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation \(SIMD\)](#) areas in Perth and Kinross which are within Quintiles 3 (41-60% most deprived) and 4 (61-80% most deprived). Note that Quintile 1 is the 20% most deprived data zones in Scotland, and Quintile 5 the 20% least deprived. For Quintile 3 the results were: 34% felt very strongly; 58% felt fairly strongly; 5% felt not very strongly; 3% felt not at all strongly, and 0% didn't know. These figures differ only slightly from those of the Scotland average for the same Quintile. In terms of Quintile 4: 44% felt very strongly; 35% felt fairly strongly; 15% felt not very strongly; 1% felt not at all strongly, and 4% didn't know. Again, these figures were fairly similar to the Scotland average results.

Problems within Neighbourhoods

1.32 Participating adults were asked whether a particular set of problems was very or fairly common in their neighbourhood over the 12 month period preceding the survey. Those problems related to noisy neighbours or regular loud parties; graffiti or other deliberate damage to property; rubbish or litter lying around; neighbour disputes; intimidation or harassing of others by individuals; drug

misuse or dealing; drunkenness, hooliganism, or loutish behaviour; abandoned or burnt out vehicles, and animal nuisance (noise or dog fouling). The results were reported in terms of both perception and personal experience.

Figure 3: SHS (2022) Problems within Neighbourhoods



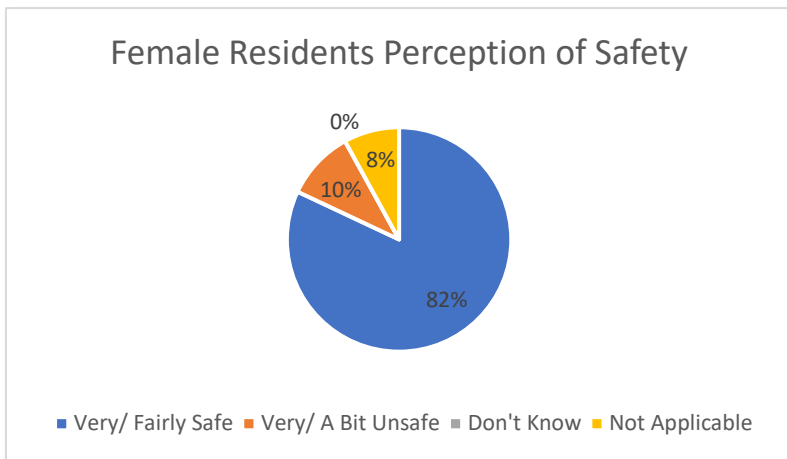
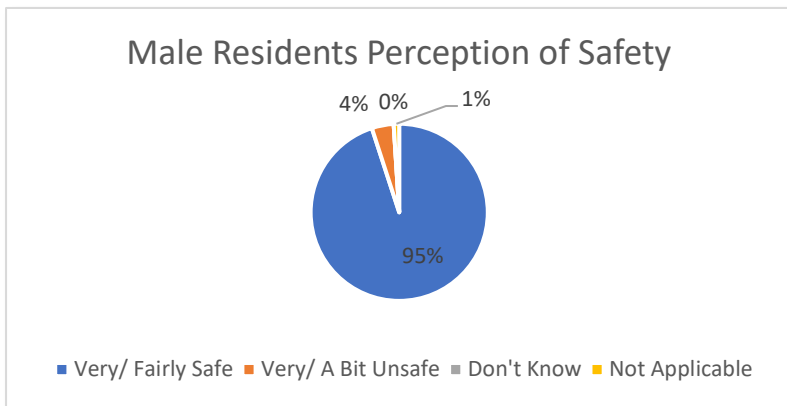
Perceptions of Safety

1.33 The SHS Neighbourhoods and Communities Survey also asked participants about their perceptions of safety when walking alone in their neighbourhoods after dark. The results have been reported by sex, age, SIMD, sexual orientation, ethnicity, religious belonging, and disability.

1.34 Figures 4 and 5 to follow show that 13% more male participants felt very or fairly safe walking in their neighbourhoods after dark

compared to female survey participants (95% compared to 82%), and 10% of females felt very or a bit unsafe compared to 4% of male survey participants.

Figures 4 and 5: SHS (2022) Perceptions of Safety by Sex



1.35 It is difficult to provide further analysis in terms of age groups and their perceptions as results have only been reported for the Age 60-74 group. The lack of reported results is mostly due to the sample

size being too small and therefore considered to be insufficiently reliable for publication. This is the same for the SIMD Quintiles, Sexual Orientation, and Ethnicity categories, for the Perth and Kinross Area, making it difficult to get a full picture of perception of safety across the different categories.

Social Interaction and Feeling of Loneliness

1.36 The SHS asked participants how frequently they meet socially with friends, relatives, neighbours, or work colleagues. The results reported for the following options were fairly similar across both categories, and to the Scotland average also:

- At least once per week – 64% of males and 70% of females.
- At least once or more – 25% of males and 23% of females.
- A few times per year/ very rarely – 10% of males and 6% of females.
- Never – 1% of males and 1% of females.

1.37 When we then look at the breakdown for those persons who classify themselves as either disabled or non-disabled, the figures are fairly similar across both categories, and to the Scotland average also:

- At least once per week – 64% of Disabled Persons and 68% of Non-Disabled Persons.
- At least once or more – 28% of Disabled Persons and 23% of Non-Disabled Persons.
- A few times per year/ very rarely – 6% of Disabled Persons and 9% of Non-Disabled Persons.
- Never – 2% of Disabled Persons and 1% of Non-Disabled Persons.

1.38 In terms of how often adult participants felt lonely within the week preceding the survey being carried out, again results have only been reported for the age group 60-74. This makes it difficult to form any picture of loneliness felt in Perth and Kinross across the different age groups. However, results are available for SIMD Quintiles 3 and 4, and for those participants who classify themselves as either disabled or non-disabled. The results are as follows for the different survey answer options:

- None or almost none of the time – SIMD 3: 75%; SIMD 4: 74%; Disabled Persons: 76%, and Non-Disabled Persons: 82%.
- Some of the time – SIMD 3: 22%; SIMD 4: 24%; Disabled Persons: 20%, and Non-Disabled Persons: 17%.
- Most, almost all of the time – SIMD 3: 3%; SIMD 4: 2%; Disabled Persons: 4%, and Non-Disabled Persons: 1%.
- Don't know – SIMD 3: 0%; SIMD 4: 0%; Disabled Persons: 0%, and Non-Disabled Persons: 0%.

Box 3: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The SHS is useful in providing us with a picture of how residents of Perth and Kinross feel or perceive different aspects of their neighbourhoods and communities, which will help with developing some aspects of the Spatial Strategy, particularly around creating safe and inclusive places.

The 2022 results tell us that typically the majority of residents are happy with their neighbourhoods as a good place to live. However, some perceived there to be or they have experienced problems within their neighbourhoods, mostly linked to issues that are not within the influence of the land use planning system, e.g., littering and animal related noise, neighbour disputes, rowdy behaviour etc., with the results all being quite similar to the Scotland average for these answers.

Overall, a large percentage of participants indicated that they felt like they belong to a community, which is a good representation of the feeling of community experienced across the area. The majority of both males and females, disabled and non-disabled persons, met socially with others at least once per week or more, with the figures mirroring the Scotland averages also. The reported feeling of loneliness across the participants group was quite low, which is very positive considering the rural nature of large parts of the Council Area.

In terms of perception of safety when walking alone after dark, a higher percentage of males over females felt very or fairly safe, and a higher percentage of females than males felt very or a bit unsafe. Overall, the majority of participants felt reasonably safe.

It is important that the Spatial Strategy follows the six qualities of successful places so that Perth and Kinross continues to rank highly and that further improvements can be made across the Area.

Understanding Our Local Places

- 1.39 The Scottish Government’s LDP Guidance highlights for NPF4 Policy 14, that it will be useful to develop an understanding of how local places are experienced, in the context of wider data about socio-economic and environmental characteristics, and that a place-based approach which identifies the links between design, quality and place, as well as other topical policy areas, will support this.
- 1.40 The ‘Step by step guide - Evidence Reports’ in the Guidance suggests the Place Standard Tool, Design Charettes, Local Place Plans (LPPS), other community-led plans, and Creating Places as relevant sources of information which planning authorities may wish to prepare or review for their spatial implications. There are currently no Local Place Plans covering any part of the Perth and Kinross Council Area, but the other information sources are explored in more detail in the paragraphs to follow.
- 1.41 The [Place Standard Engagement Tool](#) provides a simple framework to help structure conversations about a place. It contains 14 themes under 4 thematic groups. It allows users to think about the physical elements of a place, like buildings, spaces, and transport connections, as well as the more social aspects, such as whether or not people feel they have a say in decision making about their place.
- 1.42 The Council carried out its [‘Big Place Conversation’](#) exercise to kick start the LDP3 process across Perth and Kinross communities during most of 2023. This was an enormous exercise involving over 100 events throughout the Council Area. The events ranged from drop-in

information sessions, meetings, and online surveys to workshops and online sessions using the Place Standard Tool to capture the views of local communities. There were also targeted sessions held with schools, service user groups, and minority groups.

- 1.43 The results of the Big Place Conversation are currently being collated to produce a separate report on the outcomes and findings across the different locality areas. Figures 6 to 8 to follow show some of the outcomes of our Big Place Conversations in various locations using the Place Standard Tool. However, a summary of the results of the exercise, and the place-based actions to be taken forward as part of the development of the Proposed Plan, will be provided as part of LDP3’s Evidence Report, under the statement of steps taken by the Council in preparing the report to seek the views of various stakeholders, as prescribed by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019.

Figure 6: Place Standard Wheel for Bertha Park High School Session

Bertha Park High School

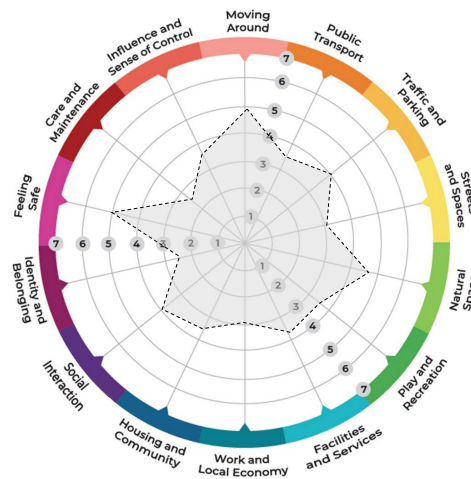


Figure 8: Place Standard Wheel for Kinross-shire

Kinross-shire

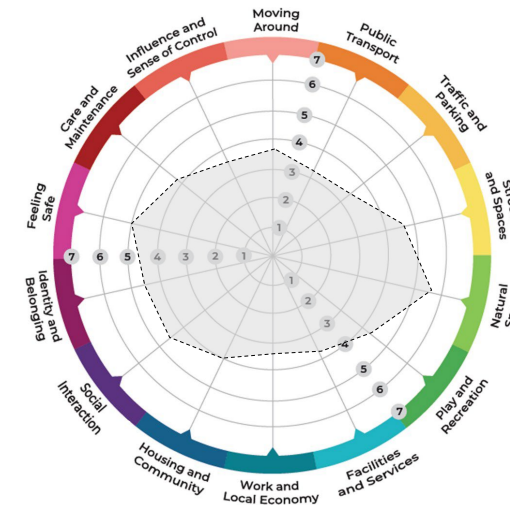
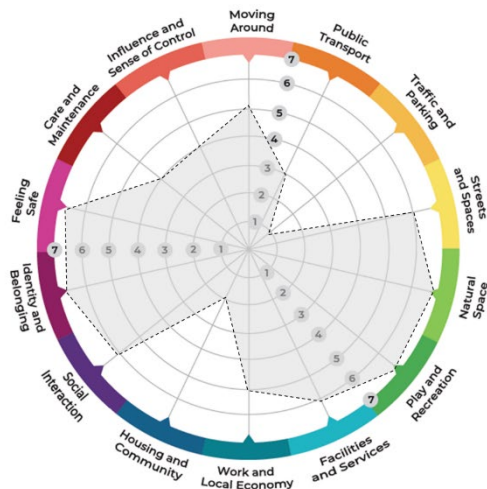


Figure 7: Place Standard Wheel for Birnam and Dunkeld Session

Birnam and Dunkeld



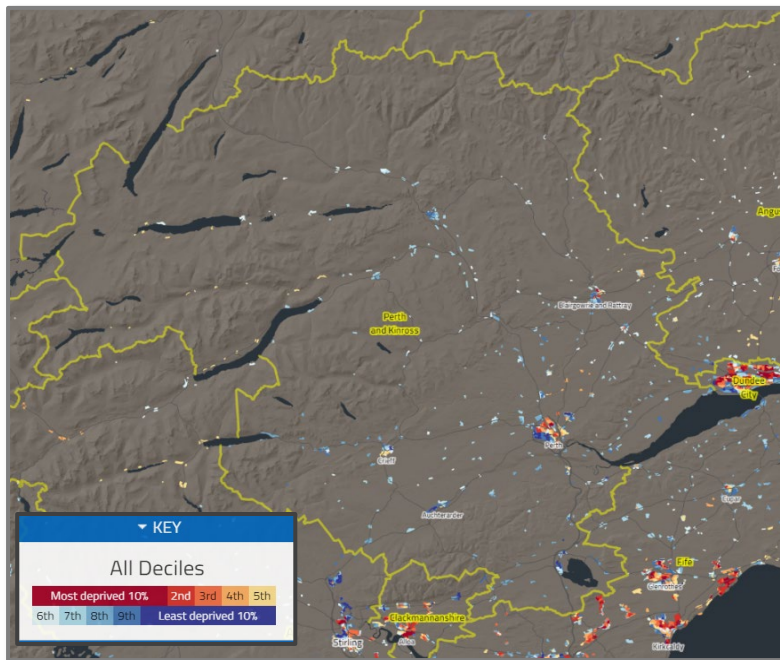
Box 4: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

The Place Standard approach has been a very useful tool in helping us to start a conversation with our local communities about their places and understand their views on how the different elements of those places are performing for the people who use them. The results will not only help to inform the development of the LDP3 Spatial Strategy, particularly through our Settlement Appraisal work, but also other Council plans and strategies, such as our Local Transport Strategy – The Mobility Strategy.

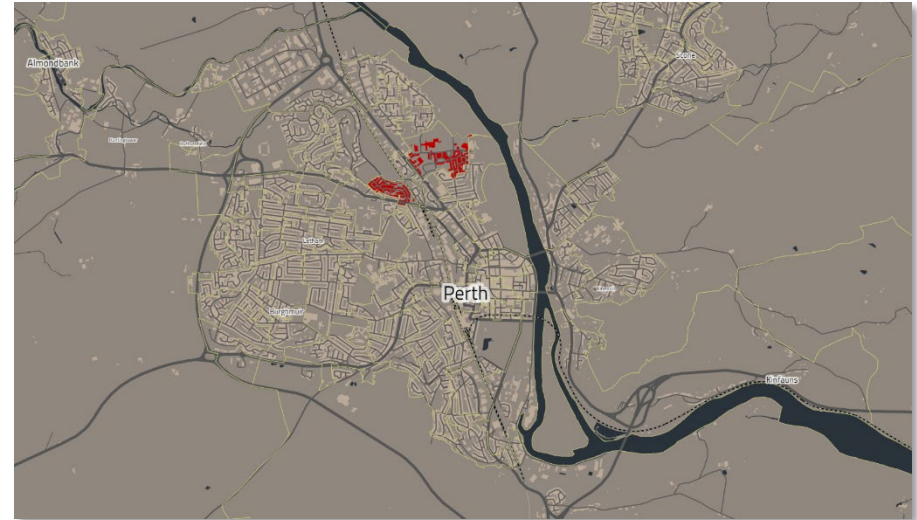
1.44 The 2020 [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation \(SIMD\)](#) data tells us that 39 out of 186 (21%) of all datazones in the Perth and Kinross Area are ranked in the 40% most deprived areas in Scotland; 7 out of 136 (4%) are within the 15% most deprived; 3 out of 186 (2%) are within the 10% most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

1.45 Map 1 shows the distribution of SIMD deciles across the Council Area, and Maps 2 and 3 show the location of the 10% most deprived areas in Perth and Blairgowrie East.

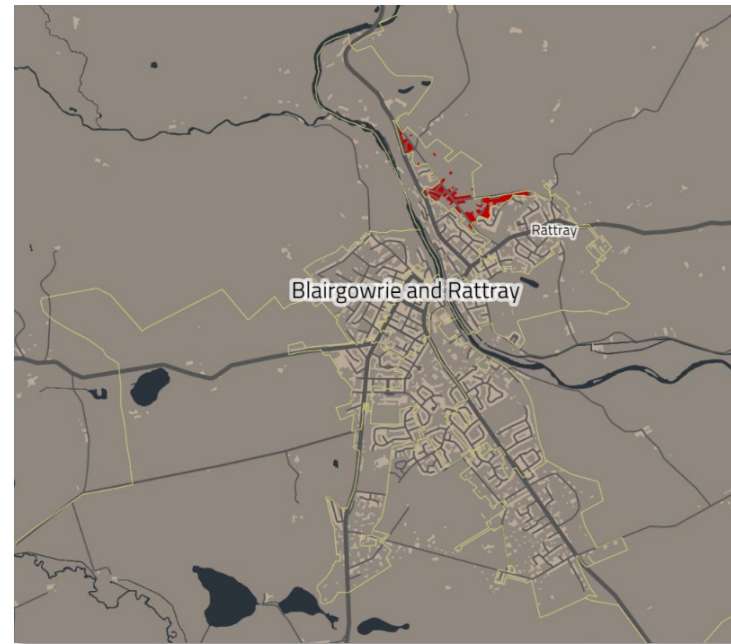
Map 1: SIMD Map for the Perth and Kinross Council Area (2020)



Map 2: SIMD 10% Most Deprived Areas in Perth City (2020)



Map 3: SIMD 10% Most Deprived Areas at Blairgowrie East (2020)



1.46 We know from SEPA flood risk management data that there are also Potentially Vulnerable Areas covering the Blairgowrie East and Perth City SIMD areas, and an Air Quality Management Area covering Perth City too. This all helps build a picture of the area's most vulnerable places and people to help us in developing our Spatial Strategy.

Box 5: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

It is important to understand in the developing of the Plan's Spatial Strategy where the most vulnerable people and places are across Perth and Kinross, to ensure that we don't exacerbate existing problems, but rather can help bring about improvements, in a coordinated manner, to these places for the people who live and work there, and also for those who visit them. This will help support Sustainable Development and a Just Transition. The SEA for the Plan will be an important piece of work in developing a Spatial Strategy which aims to deliver these outcomes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1.52 There are 5 [Local Action Plans](#) (LAP) covering the 7 localities within the Perth and Kinross Area. Each LAP contains a profile of the locality/localities; information on the relevant Community Action Partnerships; data and information on the Key Inequalities for the area under the themes of: SIMD, Child Poverty, Crime, Income, Employment, Housing, Health and Wellbeing, Fairness Commission key themes, and lessons learned so far, and a list of Key Issues Identified, with accompanying statements on 'What needs to change' and the actions required to bring about those changes, when and by

whom. However, as the LAPs were all published in 2017 the statistical data reported within them require updates.

1.53 An Action Plan was also developed specifically for [Coupar Angus](#) in 2023. It outlines what Coupar Angus was like at the start of 2023; what matters most to the people who live, work, and visit the town, and the key themes, priorities and actions needed to enhance the town over the proceeding 5 years.

1.54 The Action Plan was informed by an extensive consultation process between November 2022 and March 2023. Community views were gathered via a survey which was completed by 171 individuals, and in-depth discussions with representatives of more than a dozen community groups and organisations. Some local businesses (7) also contributed to the exercise via the survey and meetings. Input was also sought from Community Planning Partners, the Regional Transport Partnership (TACTRAN), and young people attending the local primary school.

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

Box 6: Summary of Importance of Evidence to LDP3

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

GAPS, UNCERTAINTIES, AND KEY ISSUES RAISED

LDP Spatial Strategies

- 1.56 As noted under paragraph 1.19, the Council's [Placemaking Guide](#) is still relevant, but it will require a review and update to ensure it is in keeping with NPF4 in terms of policy references and terminology.

Understanding Our Local Places

- 1.57 The results of our LDP3 [Big Place Conversation](#) exercise (using the Place Standard Tool) are being collated to produce summaries for each of the localities. These summaries will be available for inclusion in the Evidence Report and considered through our Settlement Audit work for the Proposed Plan.
- 1.58 Despite some time having elapsed since our [Design Charette reports](#) were produced, their content still provides a good source of information on the community's views of their local assets, their aspirations, areas for improvement, and a vision for the future of their place. Any data or statistics contained within them which has since been updated should be reviewed as part of the LDP3 Settlement Audit work. The Audit should also consider if progress has been made against the key issues and actions identified in the charettes, and also how those issues and actions compare to the feedback gathered through the Big Place Conversation.
- 1.59 The Council's [Local Area Plans](#) and [Ward Profiles](#) also contain some data and information which is out of date. As with the Design Charette reports, they still provide useful information to help us

build a picture of our localities, but they should be viewed in the light of the most up to date information available for the key characteristics and challenges for those places, whether or not progress has been made against actions identified in the Plans, and if the important local assets flagged by the communities still exist.

- 1.60 It is planned as part of the Settlement Audit work for LDP3 to develop a Localities Profile template which will set out those factors which officers need to take account of in developing their understanding of each place and its needs to satisfy the requirements of the Planning Act, Regulations, LDP Guidance and NPF4 policies. This should also help inform work on local living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods required under NPF4 Policy 15. The template has yet to be developed but will be in place prior to work beginning on the Proposed Plan.

Appendix A: Identification of Datasets and Information

Table A1: Summary of Evidence Required or Suggested for NPF4 Policy 14

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
NPF4 Policy 14	<p>LDPs should be place-based and created in line with the Place Principle.</p> <p>An understanding of local context, characteristics, and connectivity.</p>	<p>The Place Principle</p> <p>Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 2 (2019)</p>	<p>Applying the Place Principle in the development of our LDP3 means that we need to work collaboratively at all stages with key stakeholders, including key agencies, our communities, landowners, and developers to ensure our Spatial Strategy is coordinated, fit for purpose, and deliverable.</p> <p>The current Local Development Plan 2 along with its accompanying supplementary guidance documents provide a good basis of understanding of the local context and characteristics of the Perth and Kinross Area, as well as connections within and into and out of the Area. Information on the principal characteristics of the Area is explored in greater detail within Topic Paper 001: The Plan Area.</p>	N/A	Yes
LDP Guidance	<p>Include information about the quality of existing places (in reference to the six qualities of successful places)</p>	<p>NPF4: Annex D – Six Qualities of Successful Places</p> <p>Perth and Kinross Placemaking Supplementary Guidance</p> <p>Scottish Household Survey (SHS)</p>	<p>Applying these six qualities in the development of the spatial strategy, particularly the allocation of proposals in LDP3 should help to foster healthy, pleasant, connected, distinctive, sustainable, and adaptable places. Bringing these qualities through in the LDP’s Settlement Audit and Site Appraisal templates should help to ensure all elements are given the appropriate level of consideration prior to any site proposals being allocated in the Plan.</p>	<p>The Council’s supplementary guidance on Placemaking is still relevant, but it will require a review and update to ensure it is in keeping with NPF4 in terms of policy</p>	Yes

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
			<p>The Council’s Placemaking Guide is still very relevant. Its continued use, particularly during the Site Appraisal stage for the Proposed Plan, will help to ensure the Scottish Government’s Six Qualities of Successful Places are realised on the ground across Perth and Kinross, and that these qualities are framed within a local context.</p> <p>The SHS is useful in providing us with a picture of how residents of Perth and Kinross feel or perceive different aspects of their neighbourhoods and communities, which will help for some aspects of developing the Spatial Strategy, particularly around creating safe and inclusive places. It is important that the Spatial Strategy follows the six qualities of successful places so that Perth and Kinross continues to rank highly and that further improvements can be made across the Area.</p>	<p>references and terminology.</p> <p>There are a number of notable data gaps in the SHS results available for the Perth and Kinross Council Area that prevent further finer grain analysis of perceptions and experiences of residents across different population profiles (age, housing tenure, SIMD Quintiles, sexual orientation, and ethnicity), about their neighbourhoods and communities. A lack of data availability can be attributed to the sample size of participants being too small, and therefore considered to be insufficiently reliable for publication.</p>	
LDP Guidance	It will be useful to develop an understanding of how local places are experienced in the	Place Standard Tool Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) Data	The Place Standard approach has been very useful tool in helping us to have a conversation with our local communities about their places and understand their views on how the different	The results of the BPC are still being collated to produce summaries for each of the	Yes

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
	<p>context of wider data about socio-economic and environmental characteristics. A place-based approach which identifies the links between design, quality and place and other topical policy areas will support this.</p>	<p>LDP3 Big Place Conversation Results</p> <p>Community Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan) 2022 - 2032</p> <p>Design Charrettes</p> <p>Community led Plans:</p> <p>Coupar Angus Action Plan</p> <p>Eastern Perthshire Local Action Plan (LAP) 2017</p> <p>Highland and Strathtay LAP 2017</p> <p>Kinross-shire, Almond and Earn LAP 2017</p> <p>Strathearn and Strathallan LAP 2017</p> <p>Perth City LAP 2017</p> <p>Perth and Kinross Ward Profiles</p> <p>Localities Profile Template</p>	<p>elements of those places are performing for the people who use them. The results will not only help to inform the development of the LDP3 Spatial Strategy, particularly through our Settlement Appraisal work, but also other Council plans and strategies, such as our Local Transport Strategy – The Mobility Strategy.</p> <p>SIMD data helps us to identify those areas which are ranked as most deprived within Perth and Kinross. We can compare this data with other information we have about our places to help us apply a place-based approach to try to address some of these issues via the land use planning system, and to ensure that we don't make things worse for the people who live there, but rather seek improvements in a coordinated way.</p> <p>The Community Plan provides a summary profile for the area of data and trends linked to those Strategic Priorities. This helps build a stronger picture of the key characteristics and challenges of the Area which the Council, along with our Community Planning Partners are seeking to address through a number of area-wide actions. Although there are no specific actions attributed to the Local Development Plan, there are actions which LDP3 and the land use planning system can help support the coordinated delivery of.</p> <p>Although some time has lapsed since our Design Charette reports were produced, their content still</p>	<p>localities. They will be available for inclusion in the Evidence Report.</p> <p>Our Design Charettes were only undertaken for 5 towns within Perth and Kinross, and the workshops and their reports are from between 2014 and 2016. Some of the information contained within may be out of date or require review.</p> <p>Our Local Action Plans were published in 2017 and as such the statistical data within them is now out of date.</p> <p>The information contained within the Ward Profiles which came from the mid-year population estimates is still relevant, but some of the other information sources will require</p>	

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
			<p>provides a good source of information on the community's views of their local assets, their aspirations, areas for improvement, and a vision for the future of their place. The reports should be considered as part of the Settlement Audit work for the Proposed Plan to understand which elements have or have not been realised to date, if they are still relevant, and where LDP3 can help support the implementation of the key priorities identified within them.</p> <p>Our 5 Local Action Plans and the Coupar Angus Action Plan provide important profiles of our places and the key issues affecting them, as well as priorities and actions for change. As with the other sources of data and information noted above, they will be important to our Settlement Audit work in helping to develop our understanding of our places and the issues and challenges they face. Any spatial implications, where relevant and appropriate, should be translated into the Plan's Spatial Strategy.</p> <p>In 2022 the Council collated 'Ward Profiles' for each of the 12 Council Ward Areas. The information for each area has been divided into main topics which are population, economy, housing, education, physical environment. Information has also been included on local deprivation based on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) where it is relevant to a local area. These profiles (with updated data where</p>	<p>updates to allow the profiles to be used as part of the Settlement Audit exercise.</p> <p>It is planned as part of the Settlement Audit work for LDP3 to develop a Localities Profile template which will set out those factors which officers need to take account of in developing their understanding of each place and its needs to satisfy the requirements of the Planning Act, Regulations, LDP Guidance and NPF4 policies. This should also help inform work on local living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods required under NPF4 Policy 15.</p>	

NPF4 or LDP Guidance	Requirement or Expectation	Dataset or source	Relevance of evidence and why it is required to inform the Proposed Plan	Gaps or uncertainties in data	Included?
			available) will be useful to our LDP3 Settlement Audit exercise.		