



PROGRAMME OF ENGAGEMENT

What is the National Planning Framework (NPF)?

The National Planning Framework is a long term plan for Scotland that sets out where development and infrastructure is needed to support sustainable and inclusive growth. The current National Planning Framework ([NPF3](#)) was published in 2014. We are reviewing NPF3 and also [Scottish Planning Policy \(SPP\)](#) which contains detailed national policy on a number of planning topics. The updated document which integrates SPP and our national spatial plan will be known as National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4). You can find out the essentials about the NPF on our website at www.transformingplanning.scot.

Timetable for NPF4

We have begun preparing Scotland's fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4). We will carry out intensive early engagement to seek views on the scope and content of NPF4 from January to March 2020. Over summer 2020 we will reflect on the early engagement suggestions and start preparing the draft NPF4. We plan to submit this draft to Parliament for consultation around September 2020. Public consultation will run alongside Parliament's consideration. Following this formal consultation, we aim to lay the final version in the Scottish Parliament in 2021. NPF4 will be approved by Parliament before it is adopted by Scottish Ministers.

Alongside this process, we will be co-ordinating the preparation of the impact assessments of the policies, which are required by law, or are seen as good practice. More information on these assessments can be found in our NPF4: Integrated Impact Assessments Easy Read Guide on our website.

NPF Engagement

We are committed to encouraging interest and wide public involvement in the preparation of Scotland's fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4). In preparing NPF4, we want to engage with a wide range of stakeholders in the public, community, voluntary and private sectors, as well as academics, experts and professional bodies. We will make a particular effort to reach beyond the people and organisations normally involved in planning consultations. This programme sets out details of our Engagement Principles, as well as reflecting on achievements to date, and opportunities in the next few months for all interested parties to contribute.

We consider this to be our early participation stage which will inform the content of a draft NPF4 which we will lay in Parliament and open to general consultation in September 2020. The key stages for the NPF are:



We have a number of legal requirements to fulfil in relation to participation and will publish our Participation Statement in the summer of 2020. The Participation Statement will cover the formal consultation stages of the review of NPF4 and will set out what participation opportunities will take place and with whom.

Engagement Principles

In preparing NPF4, we will:

- Proactively engage with a wide range of stakeholders in the public, community, voluntary and private sectors, as well as academic experts and professional bodies.
- Make a particular effort to reach beyond the people and organisations normally involved in planning consultations.
- Respond positively to requests to attend events and meetings.
- Provide regular progress updates through website, blog and twitter account.
- Provide a range of resources to help facilitate discussion and debate.
- Evaluate our engagement process using VOiCE (Visioning Outcomes in Community Engagement). Further information in Annex A.
- Report on the Scottish Government's four participation commitments and accompanying indicators in our Participation Statement (summer 2020).

Participation Achievements (September to December)

We began work on developing NPF4 in September. The main focus of our work has been to prepare for the engagement due to begin in January 2020. We have:

- Set up a dedicated email account for all NPF enquiries – scotplan@gov.scot
- Started to blog about the NPF at <https://blogs.gov.scot/planning-architecture/>
- Encouraged stakeholders to follow our blog platform and twitter account @ScotGovPlanning to keep up to date with progress.
- Begun using a twitter hashtag #scotplan
- Published research into changes to Scottish Planning Policy (<https://www.gov.scot/publications/research-project-adoption-scottish-planning-policy-local-development-plans/>)
- Commissioned research on rural planning policy to 2050.
- Agreed to commission or undertake research on lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions; low car neighbourhoods; planning for air quality; blue and green infrastructure; and the implementation of section 3F of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act.

- Invited people to prepare short 'Think Pieces' on the theme of Scotland 2050.
- Invited a range of stakeholders to suggest how to help us frame this engagement process. Suggestions have included: consideration of the use of deliberative methods of engagement; offers of roundtable discussions; techniques to encourage more woman to participate; a programme of engagement with planning professionals; closer co-ordination of engagement events with other Scottish Government consultations; and support for the public to participate in events.
- Undertaken early engagement with planning authorities on the development of regional working. Summary note and presentations from 2 October event available at <https://blogs.gov.scot/planning-architecture/2019/10/25/regional-spatial-strategies-exploratory-event/>
- Attended a number of conferences and events including those organised by Homes for Scotland, Place Standard Alliance, Scottish Older People's Assembly, Scottish Renewables.
- Supported the Scottish Youth Parliament with a Shaping the Scotland of 2050 workshop in October. We published a blog post on this - <https://blogs.gov.scot/planning-architecture/2019/11/01/scottish-youth-parliament-event-27-october-2019-dunfermline-high-school/>
- We have met a range of stakeholders including Age Scotland, Clydeplan, Crown Estates, Disability Equality Scotland, Engender, Girl Guiding Scotland, Heads of Planning (Scotland), Improvement Service, Land Reform Review Group, NFU(Scotland), Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Scottish Land and Estates, Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Wildlife Trust, Working Group on Gypsy/Traveller Accommodation, YoungScot, Zero Waste Scotland. The main aim of these meetings has been to inform organisations about NPF4 and the potential opportunities for framing the scope and content of the document.

Upcoming Engagement Opportunities (January to March 2020)

This list contains details of engagement opportunities and events that are planned at the time of publication. As the programme progresses, we will be adding to this to ensure we have wide representation of stakeholders and will publicise further events and opportunities in updates on our website.

- **Call for Ideas** – Between January and March 2020, we will have an open call for ideas. We will encourage all individuals and stakeholders to participate in our engagement events, and we will also invite people to write to us. Whilst any ideas can be submitted to us at this stage, we will be particularly interested in responses to a series of questions we have developed to help frame discussions.
- **NPF4 Scotplan 2050 Roadshow** - We are organising a programme of events across the country to give people the opportunity to consider key questions on the NPF. The events will be informal and participative. People will have opportunities to consider key questions on the scope and content of NPF4. We will work with national and local organisations, partnerships and networks to define the best approach in each area. Where possible, at each location, we will ensure there is general drop in opportunity for any individual to ask us about the NPF. Our programme will be set out on our website at www.transformingplanning.scot and highlighted through our twitter account.
- **Meetings / Seminars / Conferences** – we will look to respond positively to requests for attendance at events to inform and involve stakeholders in developing the scope and content of NPF4. We will maintain a register of such opportunities to be published in our Participation Statement.
- **Community Grant Scheme** – We will support communities to engage locally through a small grants scheme to assist them in considering the scope and format of NPF4. Further details on eligibility and how to apply will be advertised in January.
- **Resource pack** – to help facilitate discussion we will provide materials pitched at a range of audiences to help people engage. These resources can also be used by stakeholders wishing to undertake consultation within their own groups and networks. We will also make available copies to each local authority and each local authority Community Council Liaison Officer to disseminate. Resources will include:

- general fact sheets on the NPF; trends to 2050; national developments; regional spatial strategies; and each individual planning policy topic.
- Questions to prompt thinking and provoke debate.
- A 'How to' guide to running community events to generate feedback.
- Think piece papers – we will publish a series of think pieces by a variety of stakeholders to stimulate debate.
- We will also provide doodle maps to encourage people to draw their own maps of Scotland in 2050.
- Links to PowerPoint presentations
- **Working with the planning profession** - We will work with the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) to support a number of events and ways to disseminate information to the planning profession. These include:
 - **RTPI Chapter events** – we will attend events facilitated by the RTPI's 7 Chapters.
 - **International Planning Conference** – we have commissioned the RTPI to host a conference looking at what we can learn from international practice on spatial planning.
 - **Scottish Planning Forum** – the Forum will meet to discuss key priorities and emerging themes for NPF4.
 - **Scottish Young Planners Workshop** – the RTPI will facilitate a workshop for young planners and those new to the profession.
 - **Scottish Planner** – we will provide updates on progress through the Scottish Planner. We will also promote through the blog.
 - **Roundtable Discussions** – the RTPI will set up 4 roundtable sessions to discuss key themes.
- **The Gathering** – we will host a stand at the Gathering on 19 and 20 February at the SEC, Glasgow and invite stakeholders to come to discuss their ideas with us.

- **Impact Assessment Evidence** - During the Call for Ideas stage, we will also be calling for evidence to support the range of statutory and non-statutory impact assessments which will accompany NPF4 including Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment, Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment, Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment, Habitats Regulations Appraisal, Human Rights, Island Communities Impact Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment. We will support the Call for Ideas by bringing together a range of bodies with an interest in the equalities related impact assessments.
- **Impact Assessment Easy Read Guide** – we will publish an easy read guide to help stakeholders understand the purpose and process for impact assessments for NPF4.
- **MSPs** - Parliament will have an enhanced role in NPF4. Kevin Stewart MSP, Minister for Local Government, Housing and Planning will write to the Convenor of the Local Government and Communities Committee advising them that this programme has been published and inviting them to participate in early engagement.
- **Planning Convenors** - Convenors of local authority planning committees will be provided briefing on NPF4 at a meeting with the Scottish Government. They will have the opportunity to contribute their views on key policy themes. The NPF team is keen to support the Improvement Service in the preparation of a briefing note providing all elected members with information on the preparation of the NPF, its role in decision making and inviting them to contribute their views on key policy themes.
- **Joined up Government** - We will continue to liaise with officials within the Scottish Government and its agencies responsible for a wide range of relevant policy areas, including those identified in the 2019 Planning Act. Regular discussions involving officials from across government will also take place through established policy forums, groups and boards.
- **National Developments** – we will invite ideas for national developments that will help deliver the aims of the NPF4.
- **Supporting Regional Spatial Strategies** – we will liaise with authorities to support the development of interim regional spatial strategies to feed into NPF4. We will provide financial resource to assist the facilitation of

their discussions and will bring authorities together at key stages to discuss progress and share ideas and experience.

- **Consult on Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) Scoping Reports** – we will make our IIA scoping report available online for comment in early 2020.
- **Twitter** – our twitter feed allows stakeholders to keep up to date with progress. As the engagement process commences, we will consider the scope for twitter forums.
- **Email Enquiries** - Our email enquiry mailbox (scotplan@gov.scot) allows individuals and organisations to contact the NPF team with any enquiry including explaining the participation process and providing assistance with making representations on the scope and content of the NPF. We will monitor the inbox during office hours and respond to all enquiries quickly.

Keep in touch

For more information and other resources



www.transformingplanning.scot



<https://blogs.gov.scot/planning-architecture/>



@ScotGovPlanning #scotplan



scotplan@gov.scot

Annex A – WHO WE WILL ENGAGE WITH

The engagement process will be evaluated using the VOiCE (Visioning Outcomes in Community Engagement) toolkit which was published by the Scottish Government as part of its support for implementation of the National Standards for Community Engagement.

Initial engagement will be focused on raising awareness and involving stakeholders in preparing the scope and content of NPF4 plus drawing together relevant evidence.

The first stage of the VOiCE analysis identified a number of interests in the preparation of NPF4. We have supplemented this list with other known interests and will target the following groups during the early engagement phase to invite them to participate in the early engagement phase and outline the programme for formal engagement from September 2020.

Amenity, Community and Environmental Organisations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2050 Climate Group• Adaptation Scotland• Alcohol Focus Scotland• ASH Scotland• Built Environment Forum Scotland• Climate Ready Clyde• Coalfields Regeneration Trust• Common Weal• Community Councils• Community Energy Scotland• Community Land Scotland• Corra Foundation• Cycling Scotland• Development Trust Association Scotland• FoE Scotland• Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Green Network• Greenspace Scotland• Housing Options Scotland• John Muir Trust• MacMillan• Mental Health Foundation• Keep Scotland Beautiful• Nesta• Nourish Scotland• Obesity Action Scotland• PAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paths for All• Planning Democracy• Reforesting Scotland• RSPB Scotland• Scotland Against Spin• Scotland's Towns Partnership• Scotland Against Spin• Scottish Allotments and Gardens Society• Scottish Civic Trust• Scottish Communities Alliance• Scottish Community Development Centre• Scottish Environment Link• Scottish Mediation• Scottish Obesity Alliance• Scottish Rural Action• Scottish Wildlife Trust• Social Farms and Gardens• Soil Association• SPOKES• SRUC• Stop Climate Change Scotland• STUC• SURF• SUSTRANS• Transform Scotland• WWF• Zero Waste Scotland

Business (and representative bodies)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aberdeen Airport • Airport Operators Association • Assoc. for Decentralised Energy • Assoc. Scottish Shellfish Growers • CBI • Centrica • Committee of Scottish Bankers • Confor • Crown Estates Scotland • District Heating Scotland • Dundee Waterfront • EDF Energy • Edinburgh Airport • Energy Catapult • Faculty of Advocates • Federation of Burial and Cremation Authorities • Federation of Small Businesses • Glasgow Airport • Highlands and Islands Airports Limited • Highland Small Communities Housing Trust • Homes for Scotland • Ineos • Inogy Renewables Scotland • Institute of Directors • National Association of Funeral Directors • National Custom and Self Build Association • National Grid • Network Rail • NFU (Scotland) • Prestwick Airport • Rail Freight Group (Scotland) • Scottish Chambers of Commerce | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oil and Gas UK • OVO Energy • SCDI • SAC Consulting • Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks • Scottish and Southern Electricity Renewables • Scottish Association of Young Farmers Clubs • Scottish Crofting Federation • Scottish Environmental Services Association • Scottish Federation of Housing Associations • Scottish Food Trade Association • Scottish Futures Trust • Scottish Land and Estates • Scottish Planning Consultants Forum • Scottish Power Transmission • Scottish Power Renewables • Scottish Property Federation • Scottish Renewables • Scottish Retail Consortium • Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation • Scottish Showmen's Guild • Scottish Tenant Farmers Association • Scottish Tourism Alliance • Scottish Woodlands Ltd • SGN • Solar Trade Association • Star Renewable Energy • Tilhill • UK Hospitality • UK Mobile Operators Association |
|---|--|

Planning authorities

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 34 planning authorities • Heads of Planning Scotland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 Strategic Development Plan Authorities |
|---|--|

Key Agencies

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key Agency Group • Architecture and Design Scotland • Crofters Commission • Forestry and Land Scotland • Highlands and Islands Enterprise • Historic Environment Scotland • Marine Scotland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Transport Partnerships • Scottish Enterprise • Scottish Environment Protection Agency • Scottish Forestry • Scottish Natural Heritage • Scottish Water • Transport Scotland |
|---|--|

Other Public Bodies (and Officers Groups)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assoc. Local Authority Chief Housing Officers • Big Lottery • Central Scotland Green Network • Children and Young People's Commissioner • Civil Aviation Authority • Community Council Liaison Officers • Community Planning Partnership Managers Network • COSLA • Creative Scotland • Diabetes UK • Education Scotland • Equality and Human Rights Commission • Faculty of Public Health • Food Standards Scotland • Health and Social Care Alliance • Improvement Service • NHS Health Scotland • Place Standard Alliance • Regional Transport Partnerships • Scottish Agricultural Arbiters' & Valuers' Association | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Canals • Scotland's Centre for Regional Economic Growth • Scottish Human Rights Commission • Scottish Land Commission • Scottish Local Authorities Economic Development Group • Scottish Members' Services Development Network • Scottish National Investment Bank • Scottish Public Health Network • Scottish Public Health Observatory • SeaFish Scotland • Society of Chief Officers of Transportation in Scotland • SOLACE • South of Scotland Economic Partnership • SportScotland • Sustainable Scotland Network • UK Committee on Climate Change • Veteran's Commissioner • VisitScotland |
|--|--|

Academic, Professional and other Bodies

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academy of Medical Sciences • British Medical Association • Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management • Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation • Chartered Institute of Housing • Edinburgh Centre for Carbon Innovation • Expert Advisory Group on Migration and Population • James Hutton Institute • Landscape Institute • Law Society of Scotland • National Council of Rural Advisors | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observatory for Sport in Scotland • RIAS • RICS • Royal Environmental Health Institute for Scotland • Royal Town Planning Institute • Scottish Association of Social Work • Scotland's Rural College • Social Work Scotland • UK Collaborative Centre for Housing Evidence • University of Edinburgh • University of Stirling |
|--|---|

Equalities Organisations

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action on Elder Abuse • Age Scotland • Alzheimer's Scotland • Article 12 • Barnardo's • BEMIS • British Deaf Association Scotland | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MECOPP • Outside the Box • PAMIS • People First Scotland • Play Scotland • Poverty Alliance • Roar Connections for Life |
|---|---|

- Cancer Research UK
- Carers' Scotland
- Carers Trust Scotland
- Carnegie Trust
- Children's Parliament
- Children in Scotland
- Coalition of Carers in Scotland
- CRISIS
- Crossroads Caring Scotland
- Disability Equality Scotland
- Engender
- Faith in Older People
- for Scotland's Disabled Children
- Generations Working Together
- Girl Guiding Scotland
- Glasgow Disability Alliance
- Glasgow Centre for Inclusive Living
- Glasgow Centre for Population Health
- Gypsy/Traveller Women's Voices
- Inclusion Scotland
- Independent Living in Scotland
- Joseph Rowntree Foundation
- LGBT Health and Wellbeing
- LGBT Youth Scotland
- Lothian Centre for Inclusive Living
- MACS

- Save the Children
- Scottish Autism
- Scottish Council of Jewish Communities
- Scottish Older People's Assembly
- Scottish Pensioners Forum
- Scottish Independent Living Coalition
- Scottish Refugee Council
- Scottish Women in Business
- Scottish Women's Convention
- Scottish Young Carers Services Alliance
- Scottish Youth Parliament
- Scouts Scotland
- Self Directed Support Scotland
- Shared Care Scotland
- Shelter (Scotland)
- Soroptimist International
- Stonewall
- Together (Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights)
- Trust Housing Association
- Veterans Scotland
- VOX Scotland
- YoungScot
- YouthLink Scotland
- YouthScotland
- Zero Tolerance