



## NPF4 CALL FOR IDEAS - OBAN

This overview provides a summary of ideas and mapping generated at the event held at **The Rockfield Centre in Oban** on 4 March 2020 where a total of 12 people attended the workshop and drop-in sessions.



### MAJOR THEMES IN RELATION TO THE SIX DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

#### What development will we need to address climate change?

- Support green public transport and active travel; reduce car use
- Emphasis on renewable energy (but not at expense of wild land)
- Urgency over the challenge which needs multiple solutions – beyond mitigation

#### How can planning best support our quality of life, health and wellbeing in the future?

- Inclusive, empowered communities
- Improved and energy efficient housing
- Good rural services
- Futureproofing development and rural jobs (e.g. from renewables)

#### What does planning need to do to enable an economy that benefits everyone?

- Encourage low carbon, environmentally conscious, quality rural jobs – opportunities for colleges and universities?
- Importance of circular economy – include social and environmental benefits
- Support local

#### How can planning improve, protect and strengthen our places?

- Ensure long term environmental and social benefits for natural and built places
- Predict and provide rather than demand-led
- Support green renewable energy and improved housing

#### What infrastructure do we need to plan and build to realise our long term aspirations?

- Infrastructure delivery to benefit communities and the environment
- Better and more inclusive public transport
- Support renewable energy in all its forms
- Concern for coastal and marine environments

#### 'ONE BIG THING'

- Urgency of climate emergency – deliver greater energy
- Positive attitudes
- Local empowerment
- Focus on wellbeing, not consumption

The following pages provide a record of the ideas and maps that were produced.  
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<b>'CLIMATE CHANGE' - What development will we need to address climate change?</b>			
<b>WOULD LIKE TO SEE...</b>	<b>BECAUSE...</b>	<b>WHO CAN BEST MAKE THIS HAPPEN...</b>	<b>THEME/S</b>
Big increase in use of bikes and scooters as means of transport	Fuel reduction Improvement in health and wellbeing	Scottish Government; Medical professionals; Cycling organisations and charities	Support green public transport and active travel; reduce car use
Cities are free of cars, easy to access with green public transport			
Improved rural bus services (electric buses)	It would encourage people out of their cars. Roads would be quieter and safer	Scottish Government; Local authorities	
Absolute preservation of wild areas of Scotland. These areas defined on a plan. No large scale wind development. Very much approve of micro and very small hydro schemes. Create power more where it may be used	We have to create power but without making an eyesore in areas of beauty.  Pylon lines are a big eyesore - hydro can be almost invisible	government to address wild area; Electric developers to grow power where or near more demand areas	Emphasis on renewable energy (but not at expense of wild land)
More emphasis on renewable energy - serious attention to problem of reduced biodiversity. Proper policies on sustainable land use			
Scotland gets real about how much we still need to do. Electricity is only 20% of the problem - we need every bit of green energy we can get our hands on	Green electricity will drive heat + transport. Don't choose one tech over another; do it all	Ministers	Urgency over the challenge which needs multiple solutions – beyond mitigation
Recognition that NPF is 10 year lifespan, so is action on climate emergency	2050 is too unrealistic to plan for. 2030 is more practical + realistic	Ministers	
Shorten timeset - too far ahead. Make sure all regions apply same rules	Every region seems to apply their own reading of said rules	Scottish Government	
Everything is dependent on funding	More focus on tidal power. Stop Government agencies flying all over the world for climate conferences	All agencies	
Trees planted in 2020 will be flourishing around towns	It we haven't started in 2020 it won't be real in 2050	Are involved in planning and development	
Every development must have at its heart the idea of improving the environment and society - not causing harm is not enough			



<b>'PEOPLE' - How can planning best support our quality of life, health and wellbeing in the future?</b>			
<b>WOULD LIKE TO SEE...</b>	<b>BECAUSE...</b>	<b>WHO CAN BEST MAKE THIS HAPPEN...</b>	<b>THEME/S</b>
Create a barrier free environment	As above. In rural Scotland people are becoming prisoners in their own home	All agencies	Inclusive, empowered communities
Communities where people feel they belong and are valued	Too many people are marginalised	Planning departments; Local authorities	
Land reform - encourage community ownership			
More flexibility and power to local communities.			
Reduce consumerism			
Houses are energy efficient - they generate their own through solar panels and all other available technologies.	If this doesn't happen, and isn't started in 2020, the alternative is bleak	All involved in planning and development	Improved and energy efficient housing
By building correct houses for disabled + well insulated for low running cost.		Planners	
The very best broadband connection in rural areas. Better education about health.			Good rural services
Communities are helped through shared green space and free public transport			
When building new schemes put in extra underground pipes, leave empty for future use instead of coming back to dig up roads etc.			Futureproofing development and rural jobs (e.g. from renewables)
More support for wind farms and renewable energy	They can provide jobs + economic benefit in rural areas where the wind is.	Ministers; Local authorities	



<b>'WORK' - What does planning need to do to enable an economy that benefits everyone?</b>			
<b>WOULD LIKE TO SEE...</b>	<b>BECAUSE...</b>	<b>WHO CAN BEST MAKE THIS HAPPEN...</b>	<b>THEME/S</b>
Future growth of the workforce in rural areas and the periphery to urban areas. This can be working the land or activity to educate the young about the way we should protect our landscape	The greater number of more aware people about conservation and land management, the better Scotland can survive in the future	Colleges + universities; Legislature	Encourage low carbon, environmentally conscious, quality rural jobs – opportunities for colleges and universities?
Low carbon jobs everywhere. Planning should be much more supportive of renewables	It is needed. Argyll & Bute has a landscape capacity study for wind farms which is a flawed + daft approach. Ban landscape capacity studies	Ministers	
Proper control of aquaculture. More attention to tourism.			
Make sure all new builds are done to best spec, not cheapest	Builders tend to bend rules. No one seems to check standard or materials used are correct	Scottish Government; Region concerned	
An economy not based on pure financial return. Focus on wellbeing and community. Products sourced locally. All business based on considerations of social and global benefits - no harm to the environment.	Bigger is not always better	Scottish Government; Society	Importance of circular economy – beyond pure financial considerations to include social and environmental benefits
Circular economy - waste is reduced because new materials are no longer being brought in			
Costings take into account things other than money - tender processes focus on social/environment benefits over financial			
Drop the obsession with economic growth.	More emphasis on the environmental impacts of work as opposed to the economic ones - better balance		
Local people involved in local business rather than working for big remote chains			
Give the same priority to rural areas as the urban sprawl. Give more consideration to local residents of areas	Tourists appear to have the upper hand even though the infrastructure isn't there	Scottish Government; Local authorities	Support local



<b>'PLACE' - How can planning improve, protect and strengthen the special character of our places?</b>			
<b>WOULD LIKE TO SEE...</b>	<b>BECAUSE...</b>	<b>WHO CAN BEST MAKE THIS HAPPEN...</b>	<b>THEME/S</b>
Less deer grazing and sheep that degrade the regeneration of our woodlands and support the exclusion areas	If we can let an area grow naturally it saves people planting and fencing and you get recovery of the soil ecostructure as well as the trees and undergrowth	Owners of land on fringes and estates that contain broken ecosystems like old Caledonian pines and birch woods	Ensure long term environmental and social benefits for natural and built places; predict and provide rather than demand-led
Places have been respected in planning since 2020 and are now well on the road to as much regeneration as possible. Planning is long-term and not just focused on money. Planning is carried out based on local needs		All in planning	
Greater emphasis on environmental impacts rather than economics in all planning decisions			
Use a predict and provide approach to planning infrastructure rather than focused so much on being demand-led	Waiting on demand will stifle development. EV charging network for example	Ministers; Local authorities	
Remove wild land as a constraint to renewable development. Treat each project case-by-case	Wild land is subjective and is where a lot of people used to live. Protect it in NSAs + National Parks by all means, but outside these areas it is laughable	Ministers	
More policy support for green energy, less focus on spatial mapping for it	Spatial planning tends to focus on landscape policy + that is out of date and out of touch with public opinion + the need for action in a climate emergency	Ministers	
Serious investment in carbon neutral, low energy housing - improving existing housing stock in this respect.			



<b>'DELIVERY' - What infrastructure do we need to plan and build to realise our long term aspirations?</b>			
<b>WOULD LIKE TO SEE...</b>	<b>BECAUSE...</b>	<b>WHO CAN BEST MAKE THIS HAPPEN...</b>	<b>THEME/S</b>
Independent advisory bodies independent of government control and able to put the planet first	Bodies like SNH seem unable to carry out their remit. The input at the moment is totally counter to what they should be doing		Infrastructure delivery to benefit communities and the environment
All infrastructure planned and built with community + environment in mind. This has to start in 2020	If we haven't done this, infrastructure won't be fit for purpose by 2020	All involved in planning and development	
Better public transport - look to Scandinavia			Better and more inclusive public transport
Accessible infrastructure for all, especially in transport	It is necessary	Scottish Government; Local authorities	
Strengthen links between towns and cities other than air - trains between towns with plentiful local stops. Sleeper trains to London should be cheaper than flights and easily accessible for towns on the route - bus/train links			
Cycle routes within cities that are sustainable for walkers			
By 2050 public transport should be free at the local level, and either free or at negligible cost at regional/national level			
Clear support for renewable energy in all forms	We are blessed with immense renewable resources + we should use it	Ministers	
Active planning for rise in sea level and its effect on coastal roads.			Concern for coastal and marine environments
Greater concern for the marine environment, even if it would adversely affect economic growth (gov policy is doubling of polluting fish farms)			
I would like to see a change that would make it policy to presume refusal of fish farm expansion			



<b>'ONE BIG THING'</b>			
<b>WOULD LIKE TO SEE...</b>	<b>BECAUSE...</b>	<b>WHO CAN BEST MAKE THIS HAPPEN...</b>	<b>THEME/S</b>
Stronger policy to deliver greater energy, less mapping of constraints [respondent scored out 2050 and wrote 2030]	Many of the constraints are silly in proportion to the climate emergency	All	Urgency of climate emergency – deliver greater energy
A change of mindset of government agencies	I have attended hundreds of similar events with no positive outcomes being delivered on the ground in rural and remote areas	Scottish Government; Local authorities; Elected members	Positive attitudes
Devolution to locals	Central government is too unresponsive		Local empowerment
That Scotland is worked as rural as possible from 2020 onwards to mitigate the effects of the climate emergency as much as is physically possible. That society is focused on wellbeing, not consumption.	Nothing is more important	Everyone	Focus on wellbeing, not consumption



## NPF4 'Call for Ideas' – please consider:

1. What development will we need to address climate change? (Blue)
2. How can planning best support our quality of life, health and wellbeing in the future? (Yellow)
3. What does planning need to do to enable an economy that benefits everyone? (Red)
4. How can planning improve, protect and strengthen the special character of our places? (Green)
5. What infrastructure do we need to plan and build to realise our long term aspirations? (Grey)

It would be helpful if comments or doodles are colour coded to respond to these prompts.

For further information about NPF4 see [www.transformingplanning.scot](http://www.transformingplanning.scot)  
Please send a copy of your drawing or a photo of it to [Scotplan@gov.scot](mailto:Scotplan@gov.scot)

