



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

[National Planning Framework 3](#), adopted in 2014, set out 14 national developments. It is intended that National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) will also identify national developments.

National developments in NPF4 have the potential to help deliver the aims of our long term spatial plan. Essentially, they are the developments that the Scottish Ministers believe are needed in the future.

National developments aim to provide certainty upfront, for investors, businesses, and also communities.

A national development could be a single large scale project that makes a significant contribution to [national outcomes](#). However, a number of smaller projects could work together to deliver significant benefits and also form a national development, and even a single small project could have a nationally significant impact that means it merits designation as a national development.

To ensure their status adds value, national developments must have some aspect which requires permission or consent before construction begins.

National development suggestions made during the early engagement are being considered and those proposed to be given national development status will be included in the draft NPF4, due in autumn 2021.

Find out More

For more information and other resources



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