

PLAN-LED APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Draft NPF 4 seeks to ensure that new local development plans should support Scotland's national outcomes as set out in the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 and in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Local Development Plans should

- manage the use and development of land in the long term public interest.

Responses to the Position Statement

There was support for embedding UN Sustainable Development Goals and Scotland's national outcomes as a central part of our national planning policy. There was support, in addition, for a response to climate change to be an overarching priority. Respondents also made a number of general points, highlighting the importance of a consistency of approach, alignment of NPF4 with other plans, and collaborative working across policy delivery areas.

Policy changes

A plan led approach as a cornerstone of the planning service, which has a key role in facilitating sustainable economic growth, was an important part of NPF3 and SPP. This policy builds on that approach and establishes it as the central tenet in national planning policy. The importance of sustainability in new development has increased since NPF3 and SPP were published, and Draft NPF4 reflects that by placing this policy front and centre, ensuring that it applies to the other policies in the document.