

**NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME

April 2021



**North Lanarkshire Council
Enterprise and Communities**

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1 INTRODUCTION

North Lanarkshire Council is required to publish a Development Plan Scheme that sets out the programme for preparing and reviewing Development Plans, and what is likely to be involved at each stage.

It must be updated annually and include:

- A programme for preparing and reviewing the Local Development Plan;
- Set out what is likely to be involved at each stage;
- A **Participation Statement** setting out when, how and with whom consultation on the plan will take place;
- The authority's proposals for public involvement in the plan preparation process.

The Development Plan Scheme for North Lanarkshire was first published in April 2011.

The Council was unable to prepare a 2020 Development Plan Scheme, owing to adjustments introduced in response to Covid-19, not least the move to remote working and initial suspension of Committee consideration of non-application matters, along with the need to concentrate resources on preparations for the Modified Proposed Plan Examination. In addition, Covid-19 led to the Scottish Government pushing back implementation of key elements of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, resulting in continuing material uncertainty and delay.

2 THE STATUTORY DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR NORTH LANARKSHIRE

Development Plans set out policies and proposals for the future development and use of land in our towns and countryside; where development should, or should not, happen and how development affects its surroundings. They are the basis for decision making on planning applications.

They consider a wide range of land use matters including economic development and infrastructure, retail and town centres, housing and community facilities and the natural and built environment with a view to creating high quality, sustainable places.

The current Development Plan for North Lanarkshire consists of the **Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan**, the **North Lanarkshire Local Plan** and a suite of **Supplementary Planning Guidance** notes. These are informed by the **National Planning Framework for Scotland**.

National Planning Framework for Scotland (NPF)

Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan (CSDP)

North Lanarkshire Local Plan (NLLP)

Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPGs)

The **National Planning Framework for Scotland** is produced by the Scottish Government and sets out, in broad terms, the Scottish Ministers' strategy and priorities for Scotland's spatial development. National Planning Framework 3, came into effect in June 2014. NPF 4 is expected to be published in late 2021.

The **Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan** is prepared by the 8 constituent councils that make up the Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority and sets out a long-term Spatial Vision and Spatial Development Strategy for the wider Glasgow city-region until 2036. It was Approved by Scottish Ministers on 24 July 2017

The **North Lanarkshire Local Plan** was prepared by North Lanarkshire Council and sets out more detailed policies and proposals to guide development in North Lanarkshire over the next 5 – 10 years. It was Adopted on 28 September 2012.

Supplementary Planning Guidance notes prepared by North Lanarkshire Council provide more detailed guidance on specific issues. There are currently 30 adopted Supplementary Planning Guidance Notes for North Lanarkshire.

3 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan will replace the North Lanarkshire Local Plan. It will contain a spatial strategy, proposals map, action programme for identified developments and schedule of the local authority's land interests affected by Plan policies or proposals. It will focus on specific proposals for the period up to Year 10 from Adoption.

The Local Development Plan will be integrated with Council and Partner statutory plans and strategies affecting the development of land. It will take account of the National Planning Framework and be consistent with its relevant Strategic Development Plan and other plans, including The Community Plan and Local Housing Strategy.

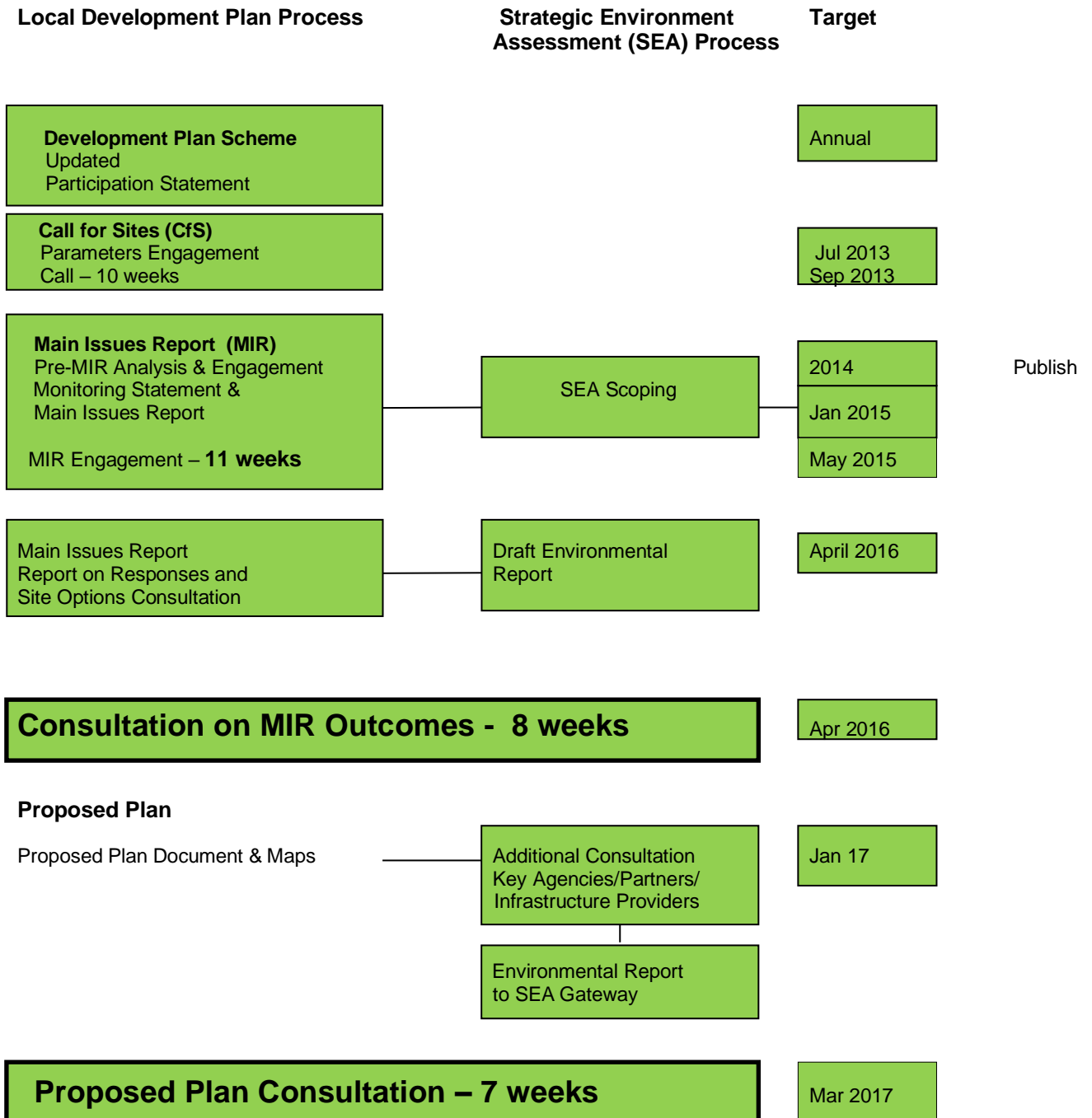
Statutory and other Assessments of The North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan

The Local Development Plan is required to include the following:

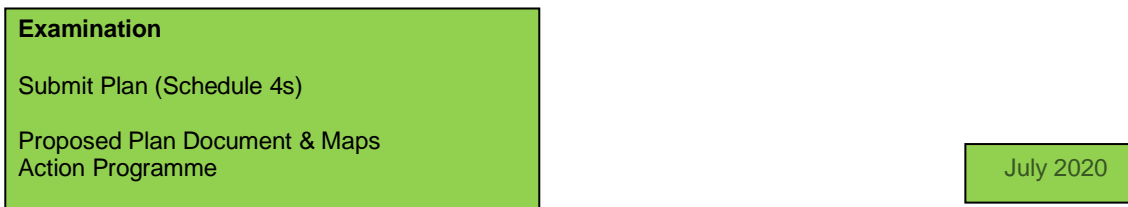
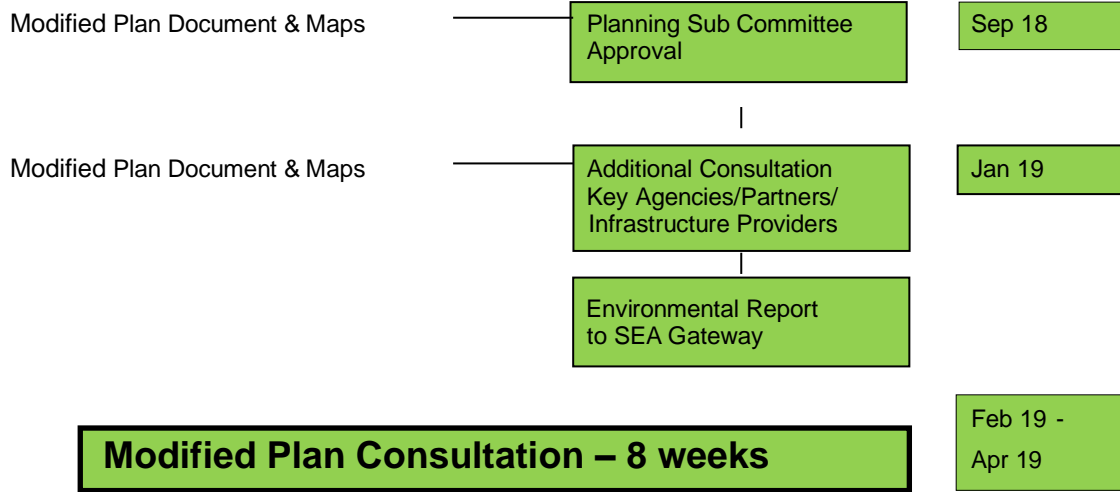
- A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) – a process of scoping potential environmental impacts resulting from future Local Development Plan development strategy, policy or proposals. This will be carried out in conjunction with Scottish Environmental Protection Agency, Scottish Natural Heritage and Historic Scotland.
- Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) (North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan's incorporates a Human Rights Impact Assessment and the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) – a process for ensuring that Local Development Plan strategy, policy or proposal address potential impacts on disadvantaged individuals or groups and assessing them against broader impacts on health and wellbeing.
- Habitats Regulations Appraisal Record – a process for assessing Local Development Plan strategy, policies and proposals against potential impacts on Natura 2000 sites and set out potential mitigation.

4 LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN TIMESCALES

The intended timescales for preparing the Local Development Plan, together with accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment

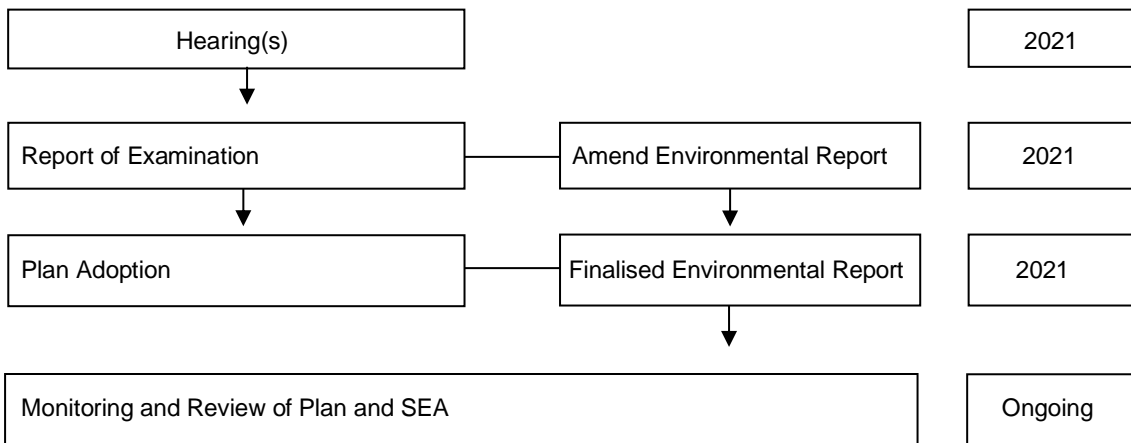


Modified Proposed Plan



Examination – *Outwith Council Control*

Examination – Commenced 20th October 2020



Completed Stages

5 NORTH LANARKSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Local Development Plan Process

The Council undertook a 10-week **Call for Sites in** 2013, during which some 175 sites were promoted. A **Main Issues Report (MIR)** was published in March 2015 outlining key changes affecting North Lanarkshire since Adoption of North Lanarkshire Local Plan in 2012, covering the Council's preferred options for development in North Lanarkshire and alternative development strategies and sites. 45 additional sites were introduced during the 11-week consultation period, making a total of 220 sites submitted for consideration. In April 2016, the Council approved a Report on the outcomes of the Main Issues Report and the Urban Boundary Review, outlining which of the 220 sites were likely to be included wholly or in part in any forthcoming Plan.

The **Proposed Plan** was approved in August 2016 and published in January 2017 for a 7-week consultation period, containing the Council's final proposals and policies. Engagement stage included the opportunity to submit formal objections and for those objections to ultimately be determined through an Examination held by Scottish Government Reporters.

All development site owners / occupiers / neighbours were notified and a schedule of proposals affecting land in Council ownership was prepared. The Proposed Plan and associated documents resulted in some 1,594 representations being received.

Local Development Plan Modified Proposed Plan, Examination & Adoption

The Development Plan Scheme February 2018 outlined the Council's intention to prepare a Modified Proposed Plan, in light of the Scottish Ministers' decision to Approve the Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan being subject to Legal Challenge, which concluded in March 2018. The Modified Proposed Plan updated the Plan and afforded a further opportunity to anyone who wished to make comment/objection through an 8-week period of consultation that ended in April 2019.

407 contributions were received during that consultation period and these were validated, acknowledged and categorised in order to derive the necessary documentation for unresolved issues (objections) to be sent for Examination by Scottish Government Reporters, along with the Modified Proposed Plan. The Examination formally began on 20 October 2020 and is expected to take 6-9 months

The Plan includes all relevant land-use strategies, policies, development proposals and maps. It is available on the Council website.

It contains:

A vision statement for North Lanarkshire setting out how development of the area could be undertaken and what it might look like.

A spatial strategy incorporating a detailed statement of policies and development proposals for the area to achieve the vision.

A long-term sustainable settlement strategy is included that will meet Council needs, priorities and aspirations, with details of Infrastructure requirements related to planned growth.

Supplementary Guidance

The Plan will focus on vision, spatial strategy, overarching and other key policies and proposals. Detailed material associated with the development strategy will be contained in supplementary guidance. Changes brought in by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 will affect the Council's ability to produce Supplementary Guidance, as the Section 9 of the 2019 Act, on commencement, removes any provisions for preparing and adopting statutory Supplementary Guidance. This may have an impact on the contents of future Local Development Plans

Action Programmes

A Local Development Plan Action Programme has been prepared to assist in delivering the Plan's objectives. It includes:

- list of actions required to deliver each of the Plan's policies and proposals
- names of parties responsible for each action
- timescale for implementation

The Action Programme accompanied the Modified Proposed Plan to Examination. It will be confirmed within 3 months of Plan Adoption, reviewed and updated every 2 years.

Examination and Adoption

As outlined, Examination of the Modified Proposed Plan commenced on 20th October 2020 and Adoption should follow the Report of Examination in accordance with regulations.

6 NORTH LANARKSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2

Implications of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019

The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 introduces significant and far reaching changes to the development planning system in Scotland. A "Purpose for Planning" which makes provisions for the Development Plan to manage the development and use of land in the long term public interest, contributing to sustainable development and achieving national outcomes.

The Act changes the current hierarchy of plans by enhancing the status of the National Planning Framework (NPF) merging it with Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) to produce a high level plan for Scotland which, amongst other things, sets out how the Scottish Ministers consider development will contribute to achieving the National Outcomes, sets out targets for housing and identifies national developments. This statutory document is to be prepared by the Scottish Ministers and reviewed every 10 years, rather than every 5 years which is the current requirement.

The requirement for the preparation of strategic development plans (SDPs) is removed and instead introduces the requirement for planning authorities, working alone, or in partnership with two or more planning authorities to form strategic partnerships, to prepare and adopt a Regional Spatial Strategy. A planning authority must adopt a regional spatial strategy as soon as practicable after this part of the Act comes into force and the Government has the power to direct planning authorities to prepare and adopt such strategies.

Regional Spatial Strategies will inform the NPF and Local Development Plans (LDPs). The NPF and Local Development Plans are to be prepared at least every 10 years rather than every 5 years.

The requirement for the production of a Main Issues Report (MIR) for Local Development Plans is removed and replaced with an Evidence Report. The Evidence Report will require to be examined by an independent Reporter at the start of the plan process who will then decide if the information in the report is sufficient for the Planning Authority to start preparation of the Local Development Plan.

A further significant change is the introduction of the right for communities to come together and prepare Local Place Plans (LPPs). It is, as yet, unclear how these will be prepared, on what scale they will operate and how communities are to be supported through the process. Before preparing a Local Development Plan, a Planning Authority must invite local communities in their district to prepare LPPs, stating the date by which they must be prepared and details of the assistance available for local communities to prepare LPPs. In preparing its LDP the planning authority must have regard to LPPs.

Other changes introduce requirements for Development Plans introduced by the Act include the carrying out of Play Sufficiency Assessments, preparation of Open Space Strategies to inform the LDP. Additionally, on commencement of Section 15 of the Act, it will be required to gather evidence and prepare policies and

proposals on subjects new to land use planning, including the provision of water refill locations and public conveniences, as well as making informed statements on matters relating to health, education and cultural venues. There remains no guidance, or indication as to how these tasks are to be carried out and how they relate to the policies and proposals of the authorities responsible, often statutorily, for these matters. The Act also removes the ability for Planning authorities to prepare and publish Statutory Supplementary Planning Guidance in support of a LDP.

The provisions of the Act affecting Development Plans have not been commenced to date and the Government intends to consult on regulations on these matters throughout 2021 making it difficult to be precise regarding the timetabling of the preparation of the next Local Development Plan.

LDP 2

North Lanarkshire Council is already considering the processes and project planning required to deliver its second Local Development Plan. However, there remain significant material uncertainties around crucial legislative, regulatory and strategic obligations and considerations that impact directly on the Council's ability to prepare appropriately. These include the

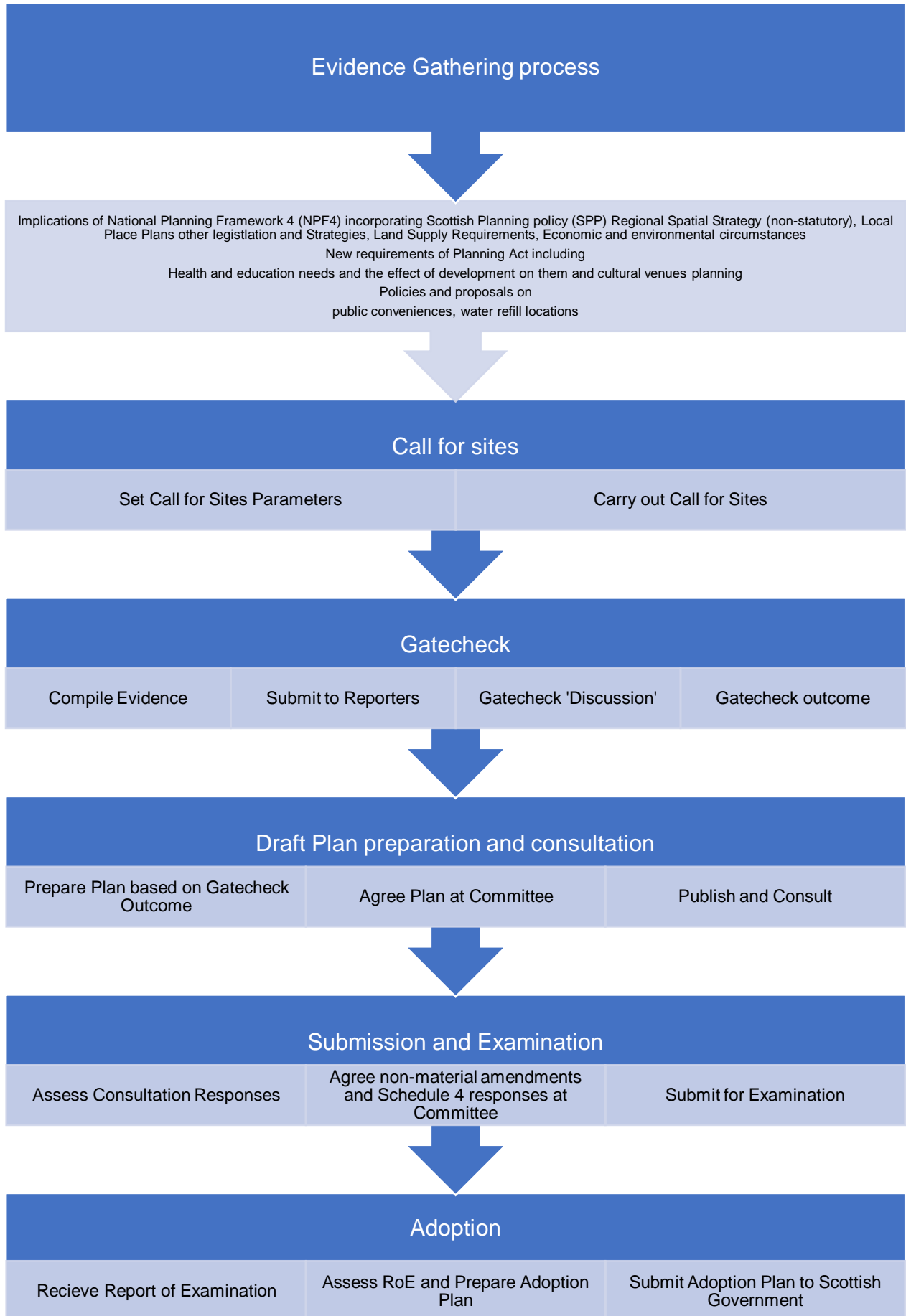
- Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 Implementation Timetable
 - LDP Implications
 - Development Management Implications to be included in LDPs
- Local Development Planning Regulations
 - Timetable
 - Contents
- National Planning Framework 4 and Scottish Planning Policy
 - Timetable
 - Contents
 - Applicability to Development Planning
 - Delivery strategy
- Regional Spatial Strategy
 - Timetable
 - Contents
 - Status in Development Planning

Based on our understanding of the changes outlined above and an assessment of the likely timescales to carry out this work undertaken by Heads of Planning Scotland the following tables have been prepared outlining the range of Plans, Policies, Strategies and legislation that affect the LDP process, the process of developing and an indicative timetable for production of LDP2.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND RELATED STRATEGIES & POLICES, LEAD AUTHORITIES AND CURRENT STATUS

Plan and related Strategies & Policies	Lead	Current Status
North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan (Modified Plan)	NLC	Submitted for Examination July 2020. Examination commenced Sept 2020. Adoption expected in late 2021.
National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) incorporating Scottish Planning policy (SPP)	SG	Government expect to lay the draft NPF4 in the Scottish Parliament in autumn 2021 with public consultation at that stage. Adoption mid to late 2022.
Regional Spatial Strategy (non-statutory)	GCR - Clydeplan	Revised Indicative RSS submission April 2021. Final RSS 2022 following NPF4 Adoption.
Local Place Plans	Communities	Consultation on Regulations in early 2021.
Open Space Strategy	NLC	Consultation on Regulations in early 2021. Regulations laid Autumn 2021.
Other Strategies (incl. Local Housing Strategy, Transportation Strategy, The Plan for North Lanarkshire, City Region City Deal, City Region Economic Strategy)	NLC and Partners	A range of NLC and Partner Strategies at various stages of development, some of which have statutory links to the Local Development Plan (e.g. Local Housing Strategy)
North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence Gathering process • Call for sites • Gatecheck • Draft Plan preparation and consultation • Submission and Examination • Adoption 2026 at earliest 	NLC	Consultation on new Development Planning system early 2021. Regulations prior to Adoption of NPF4 (likely late 2021). Subject to the timing and content of the regulations this is a potential timetable <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence Gathering starts late 2021 and continues in 2022 (HoPS estimate this will take a year) • Call for sites unknown where/when this fits in process but likely 2022 to 2023 • Gatecheck process mid-2023 to 2024 (HoPS estimate this will 44 weeks) • Draft Plan preparation 2024 and consultation early 2025 (HoPS estimate 48-week process) • Submission 2025 and Examination 2025/26 (HoPS estimate 1-year process) • Adoption 2026/27 (HoPS estimate 16-week process)

NORTH LANARKSHIRE LDP2 PROCESS



**NLLDP2
Indicative Timetable**

2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027

Evidence Gathering process		1 Year					
Call for sites			16 wks				
Gatecheck				1 year			
Draft Plan preparation					36 wks		
Draft Plan consultation						12 wks	
Assess Responses and Submission						24 wks	
Examination							36 weeks
Adoption							16 wks
SEA		SEA Scoping	Consult with Key Partners and Agencies	Draft Environmental report	Consult with Key Partners and Agencies	Environmental report	Post Adoption ER

7 PARTICIPATION STATEMENT & ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Participation Statement aligned with the Development Plan Scheme is published as a stand-alone document along with the Engagement Strategy. Stakeholders, including the wider public, have an important role in shaping their Plan. The Council's Engagement Strategy guides engagement for the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan and sets out when, how and with whom consultation on the plan will take place, and the Council's proposals for public involvement in the plan preparation process.

The Strategy has been updated regularly throughout the process and can be accessed through the Council's website.

In light of the expanded range of previously considered non-planning "responsibilities" and taking account of the new sections 16A and 16B of the Act, the Council will have to review its Participation Statement and Engagement Strategy accordingly following commencement of those parts of the Act.

The Council is committed to engaging with communities in line with the National Standards on Community Engagement:

Relevant Parties for Engagement

These are detailed in the relevant documents, but are outlined below. The following stakeholders are Key Agencies, have geographical or strategic planning association with North Lanarkshire, are community or residents' groups, or may be expected to have an interest in the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan.

- Key Agencies;
- Public sector organisations
- Partner Organisations
- Special Interest & Representative Organisations
- Community & Representative Organisations
- Members of the Public
- Private Sector Organisations
- Special interest & representative organisations
- Private sector organisations

8 PLANNING AND REGENERATION SERVICE CONTACT DETAILS

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