

North Lanarkshire Council

Draft Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement 2023



Enterprise & Communities

Section1: Development Plan Scheme

1 What is a Development Plan Scheme (DPS)?

A Development Plan Scheme (DPS) is an important communication tool which sets out the programme for the preparation of our next Plan - North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2 (NLLDP2) – and lets stakeholders know when and how they can get involved in the plan and keep informed of progress. This is reviewed and updated annually and is available to view on the Council’s website. The second part of this document also sets out a Participation Statement, outlining how, when and with whom the Council intends to engage and consult on NLLDP2.

2 The Statutory Development Plan for North Lanarkshire

The Development Plan sets out where development should and should not happen by guiding the future use of land at a local, regional and national level. These plans are a key consideration in the decision-making on planning applications.

Development planning in Scotland is undergoing significant change. Previously, the development plan consisted of the Strategic Development Plan (Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan) and the Local (Development) Plan (North Lanarkshire Local Plan 2012) as well as a suite of Supplementary Planning Guidance notes. Changes introduced by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 statutory Development Plan now consists of the National Planning Framework (NPF4) and the Local Development Plan (NLLDP) as demonstrated in figure 1.

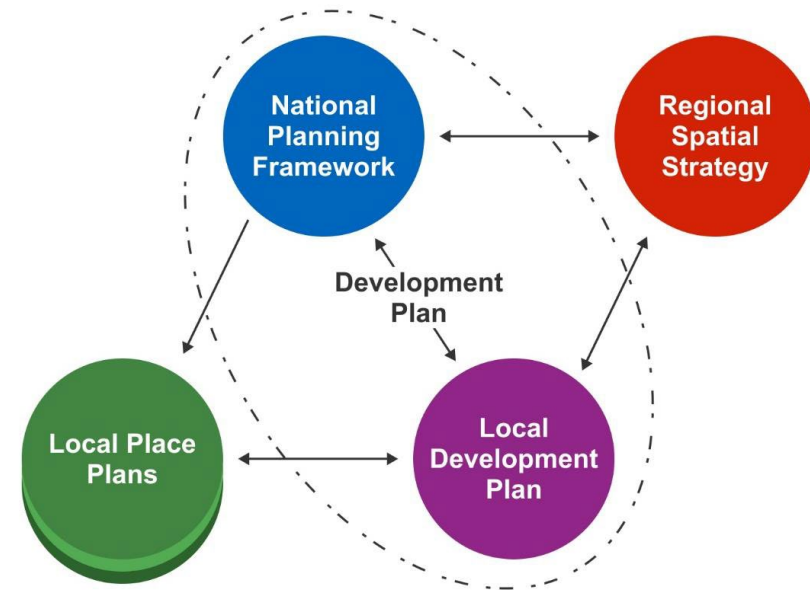


Figure 1. Statutory Development Plan/Related Plans (*Local Development Planning Guidance, The Scottish Government*)

3 Existing Local Development Plan

The Council adopted the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan (NLLDP) in July 2022, replacing the North Lanarkshire Local Plan 2012. It contains 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 focuses on specific proposals for the period of 10 years from Adoption.

NLLDP is integrated with Council and Partner statutory plans and strategies affecting the development of land.

The Plan also identifies Supplementary Guidance (SG) to complement existing policy within NLLDP and provide further guidance on specific topic matters. Planning and Noise SG, Affordable Housing SG and Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site SG have been approved by the Council and await formal adoption through the relevant process. Education Contributions SG is currently being prepared by the Council.

4 New Local Development Plan & Changes

The new development planning system has introduced a new process for the preparation of LDPs. The *Local Development Planning Guidance 2023* outlines 3 key parts to the Local Development Plan process (also shown in **figure 2** from the guidance) –

Evidence Gathering of data and information to inform the Plan followed by a Gate Check by the Scottish Government,
Plan preparation including production of a Proposed Plan and its Examination, followed by;

Delivery including subsequent Adoption of the plan and a Delivery Programme as well as ongoing monitoring.

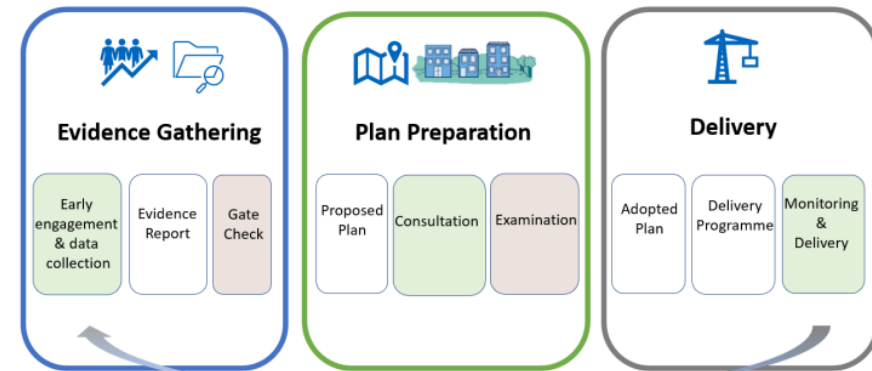


Figure 2. LDP Process – Overview (Fig.4 of Local Development Planning Guidance, The Scottish Government)

In addition, preparation of Local Place Plans, Strategic Environmental Assessment and other Appraisals/Assessments are also important statutory elements of an LDP.

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. The NPF and Local Development Plans are to be prepared at least every 10 years rather than every 5 years.

A further significant change is the introduction of the right for communities to come together and prepare Local Place Plans (LPPs). 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 introduced by the Act includes requirements for Development Plans for the carrying out of Play Sufficiency Assessments and preparation of Open Space Strategies to inform the LDP.

5 North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2

Following adoption of the current NLLDP in 2022, preparation is now underway for NLLDP2. The table below (*Table 1: NLLDP2 Indicative Timetable*) outlines the proposed key stages alongside estimated timeframes for completion of each stage and what is required at each stage. It should be noted that the Gate Check and Examination process and time to complete each of these are outwith the Council's control. Annual DPS updates will reflect any impact of these stages as they are completed.

The stages outlined in Table 1 are those which are identified in the Scottish Government's *Local Development Planning Guidance*.

Technical Reports & Impact Assessments

As part of the Evidence Report and its preparation, a wide range of topics will be covered. This will include preparing a number of technical reports to support the evidence base. This list of reports may include, but is not limited to:

SEA Scoping Report
Housing
Infrastructure & Services Capacity
Transport Appraisal
Play Sufficiency Assessment

Additional assessments will also be undertaken to support the NLLDP2 preparation. These will help to inform and be informed by the plan whilst under preparation and includes:
Strategic Environmental Assessment;
Equalities Impact Assessment;
Public Sector Equality Duty Assessment;
Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment; and
Habitats Regulations Appraisal

Table 1 below includes details of estimated timings for the SEA and additional assessments.

In preparing the LDP the Council will also have regard to the following plans and strategies:

- the national waste management plan
- the national marine plan
- any regional marine plan
- any river basin management plan
- any flood risk management plan
- any local flood risk management plan
- any regional transport strategy
- any local transport strategy
- any local housing strategy
- any open space strategy;

Table 1: NLLDP2 Indicative Timetable (stages as outlined in *Local Development Planning Guidance*)

Stage 1 - Evidence Gathering	Timetable*	SEA	Other Assessments
<p>Early Preparation Development Plan Scheme & Participation Statement preparation and adoption Invitation to local communities to prepare LPPs</p>	<p>Start Quarter 2 2023 (July-Sept 2023)</p>		
<p>Evidence Report Gather and collate appropriate evidence Seek views of key agencies, children and young people, and the public at large in the preparation of the Evidence Report. Prepare Evidence Report Approval of Evidence Report by full Council Submission to the Scottish Ministers</p>	<p>Quarter 1 2023 (April- June 2023) – Quarter 4 2024 (Jan-Mar 2025)</p>	<p>Scoping workshop. Collect Environmental Baseline. Prepare Scoping Report. Submit Scoping Report to Consultation Authorities.</p>	
<p>Gate Check Scottish Ministers appoint person to assess Evidence Report. Gate Check of Evidence Report Requests for further information and / or hearings (where appropriate) If evidence considered sufficient, appointed person informs planning authority and Scottish Ministers If evidence not sufficient, appointed person prepares “assessment report”</p>	<p>Quarter 4 2024 (Jan-Mar 2025) – Quarter 1 2025 (April-June 2025)</p>		

Stage 2 - Plan Preparation	Timetable*	SEA	Other Assessments
Informing the Proposed Plan Develop spatial strategy incorporating an infrastructure first approach and considering NPF4 spatial principles Early engagement (call for ideas) Site assessment	Start Quarter 1 2025 (April-June 2025)	Identification and assessment of reasonable alternatives Site assessment	Undertake transport appraisal
Proposed Plan (Drafting) Preparation of Proposed Plan, including Spatial Strategy Delivery Programme: - Consult with key agencies, the Scottish Ministers and anyone named in the Programme during preparation - Approved by full Council before publication Proposed Plan approved by full Council.	Start Quarter 1 2025 (April-June 2025)	Assess any local policies. Prepare Environmental Report.	Prepare required Assessments (as outlined above in section 5)
Publication/Consultation Publish Proposed Plan, Evidence Report and Delivery Programme together. Consultation: - 12 weeks statutory minimum - consult with key agencies and Scottish Ministers - consult with Central Scotland Green Network Partnership (where appropriate)	Quarter 1 2026 (April-June 2026)	Consultation on Environmental Report alongside Proposed Plan.	Publish transport appraisal and required Assessments.

<p>Modification Modification of Proposed Plan (where appropriate) and preparation of Modification Report</p>	<p>TBC if required Quarter 2 2026 (July-Sept 2026) - Quarter 4 2026 (Jan-Mar 2027)</p>	<p>Revise Environmental Report to reflect modifications and undertake further consultation, if required.</p>	<p>Revisit and update assessments as appropriate.</p>
<p>Examination Publish Proposed Plan and Modification Report (where appropriate) Preparation of summary of Unresolved Issues (Schedule 3) Where unresolved representations, appointment of person to examine plan Examination of Proposed Plan Preparation of Examination Report and Recommendations Modification of LDP as necessary</p>	<p>Quarter 1 2027 (April-June 2027) – Quarter 2 2027 (July-Sept) 2027</p>	<p>Amend Environmental Report as required following Examination. Submit amended Environmental Report to the Scottish Ministers.</p>	

Stage 3 - Delivery	Timetable*	SEA	Other assessments
Adoption/Publication Adoption of LDP by planning authority. Publish LDP Publish Report on Modifications or 'Recommended Modifications Statement' (where applicable) Adopt and publish Delivery Programme within 3 months of LDP being constituted	Quarter 3 2027 (Oct-Dec) – Quarter 4 2027 (Jan-Mar 2028)	Prepare Post Adoption Statement. Publish Post Adoption Statement	
Monitoring & Delivery LDP kept under review – monitor changes in characteristics, monitor impact of policies / proposals. Delivery Programme: - kept under review and updated at least every 2 years, or if the Scottish Ministers direct the authority to update it Housing Land Audit: - prepared annually by each planning authority	Quarter 1 2028 (April-June 2028) – ongoing	Monitoring	

* References to a “quarter” are to a quarter of the financial year (April- March) and means a period of three months ending at the end of June (“quarter 1”), at the end of September (“quarter 2”), at the end of December (“quarter 3”) or at the end of March (“quarter 4”) (The Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023)

6 Timetable changes

The previous DPS was prepared in 2022. During this time, the Local (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 and subsequent Local Development Planning Guidance 2023 came into force. The content of both has allowed for this DPS to be more focused in terms of timescales and more clearly identify the expectations for the preparation of NLLDP2. As a result of this, the proposed timetable within DPS 2022 has changed to that of the

proposed timetable of the draft DPS 2023, with the overall timescale for adoption of NLLDP2 moving back a year to 2028. This is within the target date of within 5 years of the Regulations coming into force (May 2028), as outlined in the Local Development Planning Guidance

Section 2: Participation Statement

1 What is a Participation Statement?

Stakeholders, including the wider public, have an important role in shaping their Plan and their views are an important aspect in the preparation of the plan. This section will outline **when** consultation is likely to take place, **who** we propose to engage with and **how** we propose to undertake it.

2 Our consultation aims

The North Lanarkshire Framework for Engagement reflects a commitment to working with communities across a range of engagement opportunities and approaches.

The updated National Standards for Community Engagement reflect the developing policy and legislative context for community empowerment in Scotland. This includes 7 Standards, outlined in figure 3 as **Inclusion; Support; Planning; Working Together; Methods; Communication; and Impact**. These standards can be used for community engagement to develop a working relationship between the Council and community organisations to achieve positive outcomes.

Our overall approach to engagement will be shaped by these standards and we will strive to ensure that we work with all of our stakeholders to engage in the most suitable way.

This Participation Statement identifies the key stages where we will undertake consultation in the preparation of NLLDP2. At times there may also be other significant consultations underway by other

organisations or other departments within the Council. We will aim to take account of these where possible to reduce consultation fatigue where the targeted stakeholders would result in a similar audience to that of the NLLDP2 consultations.



Figure 3. National Standards for Community Engagement – 7 Standards

3 Who can participate?

The council will aim to involve a wide range of stakeholders in the preparation of NLLDP2. Figure 4 identifies a range of stakeholders who we will aim to engage with and involve in the preparation of the plan. This is not exhaustive and we are keen to involve anyone who has an interest in the plan.

4 When and how will we participate with you?

In Table 2 below we have identified the key consultation stages, when we will expect them to happen and who we wish to target. We have also indicated possible engagement methods, however, we would like you to engage with us by telling us how you would prefer to be consulted by the council so that we can engage with you in the most effective way.

As the council progresses through the first stage of NLLDP2 preparation the consultation methods for publicity and engagement will develop and evolve depending on the nature of topics which require to be explored and the preferred methods and resources available for doing so.

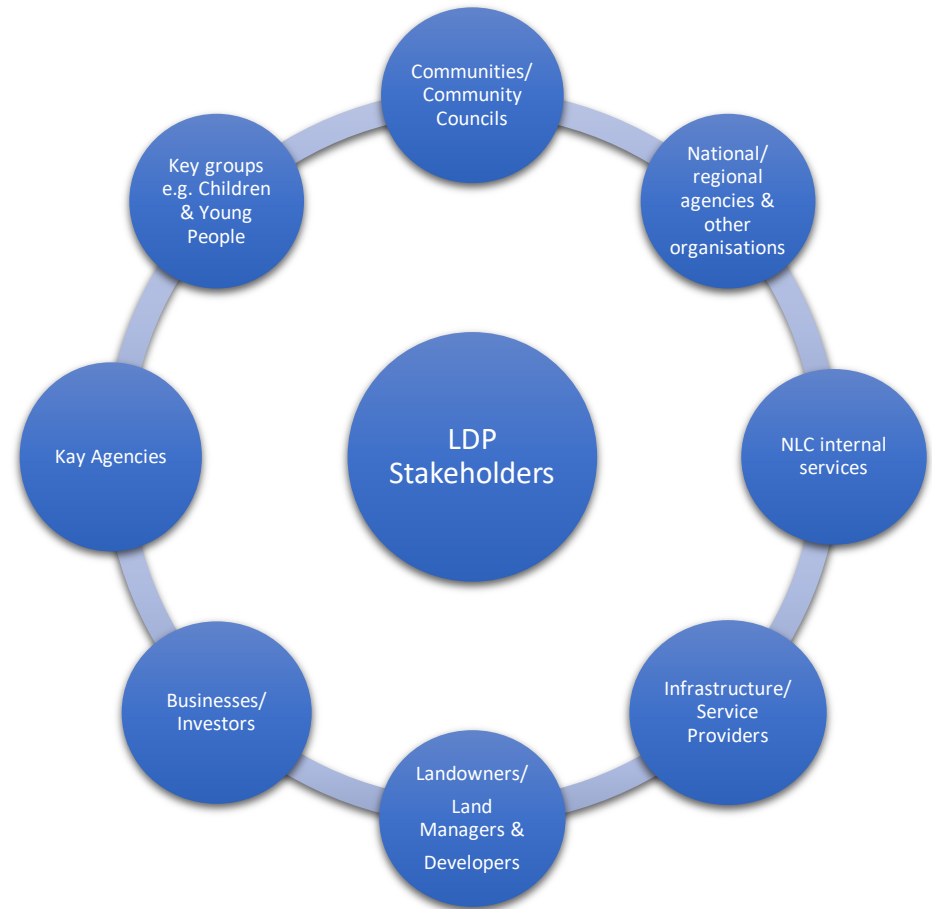


Figure 4: LDP stakeholders

Table 2: Participation Table

LDP Stage 1 – Evidence Gathering		
Key Consultation Stage (When) (For specific timescales see <i>Table 1: NLLDP2 Indicative Timetable</i> above)	Consultation Type & Purpose	Consultees & proposed engagement methods (How and with whom)
Preparing Development Plan Scheme & Participation Statement	Inform and involve all stakeholders by seeking and having regard to views on the Participation Statement. Inform stakeholders that preparation for NLLDP2 is underway.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult stakeholders via council social media platforms, council website and email contacts on how to involve them. • Consultation with Community Boards. • Issue request for those interested to register for updates via GovDelivery. • Provide dedicated webpage for consultation responses and further LDP information. • Finalise Development Plan Scheme & Participation Statement and publish online and hard copies in libraries.
Inviting communities to prepare a Local Place Plan	Inform/involve community bodies by inviting to prepare a local place plan as a means of involvement in the preparation of the Local Development Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue invitations to prepare Local Place Plans to Community Councils and Community Bodies. • Provide information and contacts for communities on a dedicated Local Place Plans webpage and publicise.
Preparing the evidence report	Undertake early and proactive engagement with stakeholders to ensure collaborative and transparent evidence gathering in the preparation of the Evidence Report. Seek views of key agencies, key groups (such as children and young people), and the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internal council services and elected member engagement to gather views/issues and available data and information via workshops and meetings. • Engage with key agencies, organisations, and other stakeholders

	<p>public at large in the preparation of the Evidence Report.</p>	<p>to agree and gather key evidence. Possible meetings and/or workshops online or in-person. Grouping of particular topics may be helpful.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with Community Boards, Community Councils and community groups to include their views about local places and assist aligning LDP/LPP engagement. Use of meetings and workshops alongside use of toolkits (such as Place Standard) to assist conversations and record information about local areas when consulting. • Target specific key groups (including disability groups and children and young people) to update on process and preparation of new LDP and capture views. Use of meetings and workshops alongside possible use of toolkits (such as Place Standard) to assist conversations and record information about local areas when consulting. • Present to Developer Forum to update and raise awareness of the process. • Social media and councils website to publicise and update on progress and provide key documents/information.
<p>Gate Check</p>	<p>Submit Evidence Report for gate check process. The appointed person leading the gate check may consult with certain stakeholders either in writing or through a</p>	<p>No consultation by the council at this stage though submission of the Evidence Report and outcome of the gate check will be publicised online using the webpage, social</p>

	hearing (this is only a consult where necessary stage)	media and an update emailed out to participants. Publish Evidence Report online. The council will also take the opportunity to review the consultation and engagement methods used with a view to improve and adapt these where necessary for the next stage of NLLDP2 preparation and consultation.
LDP Stage 2 – Plan Preparation		
Key Consultation Stage & Quarter (When)	Consultation Type & Purpose	Consultees & proposed engagement methods (How and with whom)
Preparing the Proposed Local Development Plan	Develop a spatial strategy building on the Evidence Report and undertake a Call for Ideas with all stakeholders to identify ideas and sites for consideration for the Proposed Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue a call for ideas to stakeholders, to include an online consultation for identifying ideas/sites and submitting relevant context. • Engage with internal services, members and external stakeholders including those that are statutory and identified as key groups using workshops/meetings and online/digital resources. • Promote/facilitate the participation of young people including schools, youth councils and youth parliament representatives.
Consulting on the Proposed Local Development Plan	Publish the Proposed Plan (as well as Delivery Programme) and seek formal consultation responses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consult for a minimum of 12 weeks on the Proposed Plan, proposed Delivery Programme and Environmental Report. • Publish accompanying assessments including Equalities Impact Assessment, Public Sector Equality

		<p>Duty Assessment, Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment, Strategic Environmental Assessment; and Habitats Regulations Appraisal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform and consult with stakeholders and communities on the proposed plan allowing them to respond to the content of the plan. Possible events/meetings to publicise and present the proposed plan. • Undertake neighbour notification of sites proposed for development. • Consult with Key Agencies and the Scottish Ministers. • Consult directly with Central Scotland Green Network Partnership (aims currently being delivered by Green Action Trust). • Publish in local newspaper and online. Copies available in a planning authority office and public libraries in NLC.
<p>Modifying the Proposed Local Development Plan and Examination</p>	<p>Following the consultation period, modifications can be made to the Proposed Plan. This can take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • representations made; • any matters arising from consultation with key agencies and the Scottish Ministers; and • any minor drafting or technical matters. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue an update on plan progress to all stakeholders and publish any Modification Report. • Advertise upcoming Examination in a local newspaper and public libraries and notify anyone who made representations during the formal consultation on the Proposed Plan. • The form of the Examination is at the discretion of the appointed person, for example it may be in public, a hearing or written submissions.

LDP Stage 3 – Delivery (of the Plan)		
Key Consultation Stage & Quarter (When)	Consultation Type & Purpose	Consultees & proposed engagement methods (How and with whom)
Adopting the Local Development Plan	Inform people that the Local Development Plan has been adopted.	<p>Following adoption of NLLDP2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • send two copies to the Scottish Ministers; • publish it; • place a copy in any local public libraries; • notify anybody who commented on the Proposed Plan; and • place an advert in a local newspaper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publish notification of Delivery Programme and make copies available (within 3 months of NLLDP2 adoption).

5 How would you prefer to be contacted and involved?

Table 2 above includes various proposed methods of engagement and publicising. Figure 5 pulls together a list of these suggested methods that we may use to keep you up to date and to consult with you on the preparation of NLLDP2.

This is not exhaustive and whilst they are our suggested methods, we would like you to comment on or tell us how best to engage with you during the preparation of NLLDP2.

We will aim to ensure that we will publicise key stages of NLLDP2 preparation as widely as possible, thereby informing the public at large of key consultation stages to be able to have views on and input to the Plan. Resources may also influence both input to the plan by stakeholders and the methods used to engage.

Whilst more modern methods of engaging and providing information are increasingly undertaken online, it is recognised that not everyone may wish to engage in that way or indeed readily have access to such facilities. We will endeavour to provide alternative methods of consulting and engaging where possible.

What is the best way for us to keep you updated and involve you in the preparation of the Plan? Or what other methods would you suggest or prefer? Please see Section 7 below on how to comment on this.



Figure 5: Contact methods

6 Mediation

The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 introduced powers for mediation. Mediation can involve a range of techniques and is used to help build bridges between stakeholders and resolve issues of dispute. It is a voluntary process, generally between two parties, which can be facilitated by a third, independent party.

Any requests for mediation will be considered and where necessary have regard to such requests in preparing the Participation Statement. Any potential use of mediation will be considered by the council, having regard to the issue at hand and the possible benefits of the mediation and the involvement of other parties.

7 Comments and future participation

This document is currently a draft and we are seeking the views of the public at large on the Participation Statement. We would like you to tell us the best way for us to engage with you to help us in preparing the new Local Development Plan.

You can go online and give your views by completing our survey [North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan: Participation Statement Survey | North Lanarkshire Council](#)

You can contact us at: localdevelopmentplan@northlan.gov.uk

If you would like to be kept up to date on the Plan as well as other aspects of the NLC planning service, [please register here](#).

For further information about the Local Development Plan please visit our website at www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building/development-plans

Glossary

Delivery Programme

A document, approved by full council, which sets out how the LDP will be delivered.

Development Plan

The statutory basis of planning decision making, comprising NPF4 and the LDP.

Development Plan Scheme (DPS)

A document setting out the planning authority's programme for preparing and reviewing their LDPs. It is a statutory document and communication tool that lets stakeholders know when and how they can get involved in the plan and keep them informed of progress. It must contain a Participation Statement (see below).

Local Development Plan (LDP)

A local development plan (LDP) is a plan in which it is set out, for land in the part of the district to which it relates:

- a spatial strategy, being a detailed statement of the planning authority's policies and proposals as to the development and use of the land;
- such other matters as may be prescribed; and
- any other matter which the planning authority consider it appropriate to include. It forms part of the statutory development plan.

Local Place Plans

LPP is a community-led plan setting out proposals for the development and use of land and a community's aspirations for its

future development. Once registered they are to be taken into account in the preparation of the relevant LDP.

National Planning Framework (NPF)

Scotland's fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4) is a long term plan looking to 2045 that guides spatial development, sets out national planning policies, designate national developments and highlight regional spatial priorities. It is part of the development plan, and so influences planning decisions across Scotland.

Open Space Strategy (OSS)

An open space strategy is to set out a strategic framework of the planning authority's policies and proposals as to the development, maintenance and use of green infrastructure in their district, including open spaces and green networks. It must contain; an audit of existing open space provision, an assessment of current and future requirements, and any other matter which the planning authority consider appropriate.

Participation Statement

A document setting out the plan for engagement in the plan making process, including when consultation is likely to take place, with whom and its likely form. This will include the steps to be taken to involve the public at large.

Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA)

A play sufficiency assessment is the assessment of the sufficiency of play opportunities for children in their area, carried out by a planning authority under the duty as set out in Section 16D(1) of the

Town and Country Planning Scotland Act 1997, as amended. Must be done by the planning authority in preparing an Evidence Report.

Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)

A long-term spatial strategy in respect of the strategic development of an area (or areas). It must specify the region it relates to and identify, in relation to the region:

- the need for strategic development;
- the outcomes to which the authority (or authorities) consider that strategic development will contribute;
- priorities for the delivery of strategic development; and
 - proposed locations for strategic development, which must be shown in the strategy in the form of a map or diagram.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

Strategic environmental assessment is a procedure to assess the environmental impact and sustainability of a proposed or existing policy, plan, or programme.