



## Appendix 1

### Consultation & Engagement Summary

## 1. Introduction

To ensure the Evidence Report reflects statutory requirements and community aspirations, a comprehensive programme of consultation and engagement has been undertaken. This section summarises the activities, dates, participant groups, and key outcomes.

Engagement was undertaken in many different methods including online surveys, in person and online events, key stakeholder/agency meetings, as well as a key larger scale consultation on 'Topic Papers' papers produced at the early stage of evidence gathering on most of the NPF4 policies.

Section 16(B) of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 sets out the requirements for engagement in the preparation of the Evidence Report. This requires the planning authority to seek the views of the wider public, children and young people, and key agencies. The Evidence Report must also include a statement explaining how the authority has sought and taken account of the views of the public, children and young people, disabled people, Gypsies and Travellers, and community councils.

In addition, the authority is required to describe how local communities have been invited to prepare Local Place Plans and the support and assistance provided to enable this. This consultation summary has been prepared to meet these statutory requirements.

## 2. Overview

### **Plan Preparation**

The Development Plan Scheme & Participation Statement 2025 sets out North Lanarkshire Council's timetable and approach for preparing Local Development Plan 2, explaining the key stages, timescales (to adoption in 2028), and how evidence will be gathered. It also outlines how and when communities, stakeholders, and agencies will be consulted and involved throughout the plan-making process.

During the preparation of the Evidence Report, a wide range of engagement and consultation activities have been undertaken. Key activities included:

## **Community Engagement**

- Issued invitations for communities to prepare Local Place Plans, supported by guidance and two dedicated information-sharing events (Oct 2024 and Jan 2025).
- Ran a four-month Place Survey (Dec 2024 - Mar 2025) to identify local priorities, complemented by targeted outreach to children and young people through schools and youth forums.
- Held an online Schools Session and engaged with them through the Place Survey and raised awareness/understanding of Planning among young people.
- Hosted public drop-in sessions across Community Board areas (Feb 2025) to raise awareness and gather views.

## **Stakeholder Engagement**

- Published NLLDP2 newsletters widely (April 2024 and January 2025) to update stakeholders on progress.
- Delivered workshops for elected members (May 2024 and Sept 2025), youth councillors and youth parliament representatives (Feb 2025), and internal staff (Jan 2025).
- Maintained ongoing engagement and provided updates to the Access Panel and Voice of Experience Forum to ensure inclusive participation.
- Joint working approach with SLC to engage with Gypsy and Travellers communities and Health boards.

## **Evidence Gathering**

- Conducted multiple batches of NPF4 related topic surveys between May 2024 and Jan 2025 to inform the Evidence Report.
- Undertook landowner, housebuilder, and developer surveys (Sept 2024 and May - Aug 2025) to support housing land audits and site assessments.

## **Technical and Policy Workshops**

- Held a site assessment workshop with key agencies, developers, and briefed elected members (Aug and Sept 2025).
- Facilitated Community Board sessions (Nov 2025) to share Place Survey findings, seek views on important community issues, and discuss the draft Open Space Strategy.
- Communication was supported through a mix of online platforms, social media, GovDelivery updates, email notifications, and in-person events, ensuring broad and

inclusive participation across stakeholders and communities. A short, informative video was produced and shared online to explain the importance of Local Development Plans. This video is shown at the start of most of our engagement events.

### **3. Consultation & Engagement Outcomes**

#### **Topic Paper Consultation**

The main starting point for gathering evidence was the preparation of Topic Papers. Where possible, the council identified and assessed evidence-related topic papers for the policies outlined in NPF4 and the Scottish Government's Local Development Planning Guidance.

Over the period May 2024 to January 2025, 5 batches of Topic Papers were released steadily. These were sent to stakeholders including elected members, key agencies, infrastructure providers, community groups/Community Boards and published online and shared via social media platforms and GovDelivery. The consultation for each batch of papers lasted 6 weeks.

A wide range of stakeholders responded with comments on each batch of Topic Papers, and these have been captured in Tables 3 – 19 below, along with the council's response to the comments.

This consultation allowed stakeholders to confirm whether we identified the most relevant evidence and to provide any additional evidence they wished us to consider. Further engagement and consultation with some stakeholders to collate, discuss, and agree on the evidence was then ongoing with a view to finalising the Evidence Report.

The responses will be taken into further consideration as we progress with development of the Proposed Plan.

#### **Tell Us About Your Place Surveys**

To better understand the quality of places within our communities, the council developed three versions of a Place Survey. These were tailored to different audiences: a general public survey (primarily for adults), a young people's survey for ages 13 - 25, and a children's survey for primary school pupils.

Each survey was aligned with the Place Standard Tool, covering key themes such as homes, recreation, access, transport, employment, and services. Respondents were invited to reflect on what works well in their area and what could be improved. The findings will help inform the Proposed Plan.

The public and stakeholder survey ran for four months, aiming to raise awareness and gather insights into priorities at a community board level. It was distributed to a wide range of stakeholders, including elected members, key agencies, infrastructure providers, community groups, and Community Boards. The survey was also made available online and promoted through social media and GovDelivery.

In-person drop-in sessions were held across all community board areas, providing opportunities for residents to share feedback directly with the planning team and receive support in completing the survey if needed. Officers from the council's Transportation Department also attended these sessions to support engagement with the Local Transportation Survey.

The Place Survey was circulated to all children and young people within schools via every parent and carer.

In addition to the children's and young people's surveys, the council delivered an online engagement event involving high schools across North Lanarkshire. This approach was identified as the most effective and practical way to reach a large number of young people, as direct engagement with individual schools had proved challenging.

The event provided an opportunity not only to raise awareness of planning and the Local Development Plan among young people, but also to gather additional survey responses. It further enabled the establishment of reliable contacts within schools, supporting continued engagement during future consultation stages and events.

Out of a total of 1,103 responses received, 267 of these responses were from Young People and Children. An initial summary of the qualitative outputs from the surveys has been added to the end of each chapter in the Evidence Report. Further analysis is ongoing to allow a full summary of outputs to be provided and taken into consideration for the Proposed Plan.

Table 1 Number of number of responses for each survey type

<b>Place Survey Type</b>	<b>Number of Responses</b>
<b>Public</b>	836
<b>Young People (including Secondary school event)</b>	97
<b>Children</b>	170
<b>Total</b>	1,103

Source: North Lanarkshire “Tell us about your place survey”

### **Key Agency and Stakeholder Engagement**

As part of the preparation of the Evidence Report, the Council has undertaken extensive and ongoing engagement with key agencies, infrastructure providers and wider stakeholders to inform and validate the evidence base. This engagement has been undertaken through a combination of formal consultation, targeted meetings/workshops, surveys and ongoing dialogue.

Key Agencies include:

- Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)
- Scottish Water
- Nature Scot
- Historic Environment Scotland (HES)
- Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)
- Scottish Enterprise, and
- NHS Lanarkshire

It is also important to include the following agencies and key infrastructure providers:

- Transport Scotland
- Scottish Forestry
- Sportscotland
- Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network
- Scottish Power Energy Network (SPEN)
- SGN
- Openreach
- Network Rail
- Homes for Scotland

All key agencies were engaged through the Topic Paper consultation process, providing an opportunity to comment on the Council's emerging evidence and implications. In addition, key agencies completed Evidence Report sufficiency templates (with SEPA providing a formal statement of agreement letter), enabling the Council to demonstrate that the evidence base is robust, proportionate and broadly agreed. Overall, agreement was reached with all key agencies and stakeholders, subject in some cases to minor clarifications or amendments.

Targeted engagement has also been undertaken with a range of stakeholders to inform specific topic areas. This includes regular meetings with Homes for Scotland to discuss the Housing Land Audit, land supply, market dynamics and site deliverability, alongside landowner and developer surveys carried out in 2024 and 2025 to gather detailed information on site intentions, constraints and programming. These activities have provided important evidence to support housing land supply and deliverability assessments.

Engagement has also taken place with key economic partners, including Scottish Enterprise, to inform the Business and Industry evidence base as there was no Topic Paper prepared for Business and Industry. This has helped to ensure alignment with regional economic priorities, reinforce the need for a strong and flexible employment land supply, and support a market-aware approach to planning for business and industry.

Engagement with NatureScot, SEPA and HES has been ongoing and continues to do so. They have helped inform evidence, the scoping report and the site assessment approach. Infrastructure partners have also been heavily involved in informing our evidence base, with regular meetings and checking of prepared evidence to inform the Evidence Report.

More widely, the Evidence Report has been informed by engagement undertaken through related strategies and workstreams, including the Local Housing Strategy, Town Action Plans and other corporate programmes, which have involved extensive consultation with residents, community organisations, stakeholders and delivery partners. This has provided a consistent and comprehensive understanding of key issues such as housing need, town centre regeneration, infrastructure requirements and community priorities. A description of these documents is provided within this Appendix.

Engagement with key agencies and stakeholders has been iterative and ongoing, not limited to formal consultation periods. Continued discussions with infrastructure providers, agencies

and delivery partners have helped to refine the evidence base, including our site assessment workshop, and continues to ensure alignment across services and organisations.

The Council will continue to engage with key agencies and stakeholders as plan preparation progresses, ensuring that the Proposed Plan is informed by up-to-date evidence, collaborative working and a shared understanding of priorities and delivery requirements.

## **Key Groups Engagement (as specified by the Act)**

### **Public at large**

The 'Tell Us about Your Place' surveys was a key tool used to engage and consult with the wider public. We were able to reach out to adults, young people and children with an overall good response rate received which was further supplemented by our school's session. A summary of the key responses received from the place surveys is outlined within each chapter under the 'Summary of Stakeholder Consultation and Engagement' sections. Surveys and the Topic Papers as well as newsletter updates were sent to stakeholders and wider public via council website online and shared via social media platforms, GovDelivery and the councils wide ranging list of community group contacts.

### **Children and Young People**

Outlined above are the methods and steps taken to engage with children and young people in North Lanarkshire, including the two Tell Us About Your Place surveys distributed via parents and carers of school children, the promotion of surveys and information via social media and engagement sessions with secondary school children.

The preparation of the Open Space Strategy and the Play Sufficiency Assessment has been supported by a consultation with children and young people which sought their views on open spaces and play opportunities in the area.

Comments received from children and young people in response to the Place Standard questions were summarised and the key points included in the 'Tell Us About Your Place Survey' section above. Responses on play and open spaces have been summarised and incorporated into the draft Play Sufficiency Assessment which is published alongside the Evidence Report.

A session with secondary school pupils was held in February 2026. 11 high schools from across North Lanarkshire were in attendance with groups of approximately six pupils from each school accompanied by teachers. The session focussed on raising awareness about

Planning, with the majority of pupils indicating that they had not previously heard of Planning or the Local Development Plan before.

Two members of staff delivered an overview of the planning system and associated elements, including key components such as LDP, OSS, PSA. They also shared insights into their own educational journeys and experience of study, and entering the planning profession.

Following this, a session was delivered to raise awareness of the Tell Us About Your Place Survey and to encourage pupils to complete it if they had not already done so. As a result of this engagement, a further 30 responses to the Place Survey were received

All of our consultations have been promoted via the NLC social media outlets available, including Facebook and X, where the reach expands to the wider public including children and young people.

Additionally, members of the planning team attended a Youth Councillors/Youth Parliament Workshop to highlight & assist with the Tell Us About Your Place Survey. This was also an opportunity to discuss the new NLLDP2 with a view to raising further awareness of Planning and its importance.

### **Gypsy & Travellers**

The council, in partnership with the Minority Ethnic Carers of People Project (MECOPP), has established a good working relationship with the Gypsy and Traveller community.

Engagement was undertaken between October 2023 and February 2025, with support from the Scottish Government, South Lanarkshire Council, and COSLA.

A range of engagement methods were used, including in-person events, online sessions, and targeted focus groups. This approach supported broad participation and provided opportunities for structured discussion on the needs and experiences of the community.

Engagement activity included:

- October 2023: In-person session at Whitehill Community Centre, Hamilton, involving MECOPP, Scottish Government representatives, and North and South Lanarkshire Councils. This session introduced the national and local policy context and identified key issues affecting the community. The purpose of this event was to connect with the communities, have discussions about the planning process and where their priorities fit in, and to establish ways to assist in understanding of the system to ensure more effective participation.

- April 2024: Online session with MECOPP, Scottish Government, and both councils, focusing on the challenges facing Gypsy and Travellers and how these may be addressed through the planning system.
- May 2024: In-person session at Hamilton Town Hall, held in conjunction with the Scottish Government and COSLA as part of work to inform the refresh of the Gypsy and Traveller Action Plan. The smaller format allowed for more detailed discussion of specific issues and priorities.
- February 2025: Focus group session facilitated by MECOPP at Hamilton Town Hall with South Lanarkshire Council. This session focused on the role of the Local Development Plan in supporting Gypsy and Travellers. Outputs were shared confidentially with North Lanarkshire Council as we were not in attendance, however the issues are cross-boundary.

Overall engagement identified a range of issues affecting Gypsy and Travellers, including barriers to accessing suitable sites, experiences of discrimination, and wider challenges associated with service provision and integration. The process also improved understanding of the cultural and lifestyle needs of the community.

Joint working between North and South Lanarkshire Councils has supported a shared understanding of cross-boundary issues, reflecting the movement of the community across the wider Lanarkshire area. This has helped to identify common challenges, and ongoing collaboration is supported through a Pan-Lanarkshire Strategic group.

Input from the Scottish Government has provided context on national policy direction and relevant initiatives, ensuring alignment between local evidence and wider policy objectives. Further detail on this engagement is set out in the Engagement Report.

Gypsy & Travellers and Travelling Showpeople were taken into consideration when preparing the councils Local Housing Strategy 2026-2028. This has informed Chapter 6 Housing in the Evidence Report.

The council has had in place for several years a Strategic Gypsy Traveller Group, which comprises members from across council services, including housing, education, corporate equalities, environmental services, and social work alongside Police Scotland and NHS Lanarkshire. The role of this group is to monitor progress and action towards improving the lives of Gypsy/Travellers in Lanarkshire aligned to the national action plan. Over recent years this group has been expanded to cover both North and South Lanarkshire, with a Pan Lanarkshire Strategic Group now in place. The Pan Lanarkshire Strategic Group recognises

the gap in knowledge and understanding of the accommodation and health needs of Gypsy/Travellers across North and South Lanarkshire, and Scotland. The group continue to strive to gain a better understanding of needs through working with partners and exploring any potential opportunities whilst awaiting the publication of the national toolkit. A refreshed Gypsy Traveller Strategic Action Plan 2025-2027 has been developed. There are some joint actions for North Lanarkshire and South Lanarkshire, while other actions are solely for North Lanarkshire.

### **Community Councils**

Community councils have been a key stakeholder group throughout the preparation of the Evidence Report and wider LDP2 process. Engagement has been ongoing, multi-channel, and aligned with statutory requirements to involve community councils in evidence gathering and plan preparation.

At an early stage, community councils were formally invited to prepare Local Place Plans (LPPs) (March 2024), supported by guidance, a dedicated webpage, and follow-up assistance. This was complemented by information-sharing workshops (October 2024 and January 2025), which provided practical advice on preparing LPPs, facilitated discussion, and enabled community councils to share ideas and challenges.

Ongoing engagement has been maintained through regular communications, including newsletters, email updates, GovDelivery alerts, and social media, ensuring community councils were kept informed of progress and opportunities to participate. Community councils were also included in wide-ranging consultation exercises, such as the Topic Paper surveys (May 2024–January 2025) and the Place Survey (December 2024–March 2025), allowing them to contribute local knowledge and evidence.

In addition, community councils have been engaged both directly and via Community Boards and community groups, including participation in workshops, meetings, and drop-in sessions. These sessions provided opportunities to discuss local priorities, review emerging findings, and contribute to related workstreams including the Open Space Strategy and site assessment methodology.

The Council has also provided ongoing support to assist LPP preparation, including additional guidance issued in January 2025 and signposting to external support (e.g. Coalfields Regeneration Trust). This has resulted in a number of community council Local

Place Plans being submitted and registered, demonstrating active participation in the plan-making process.

Overall, engagement with community councils has been continuous, combining formal consultation, targeted engagement, and capacity-building support. This approach has ensured that community councils have had opportunities to shape the evidence base, communicate local priorities, and contribute to the emerging LDP2.

### **Disabled Persons**

Many disability organisations, seldom heard groups and equality groups were engaged via the councils mailing list, with support from colleagues in Community Matters. These groups received updates via our newsletter, alongside circulation of our Place Surveys and Topic Papers.

Direct engagement was also undertaken with the North Lanarkshire Disability Access Panel, which works to improve physical access and promote wider social inclusion within local communities. The Panel is made up of local volunteers, including disabled people, who collaborate to enhance accessibility in their areas.

North Lanarkshire Council Planning officers regularly attend the Panel's monthly meetings. In addition, a dedicated session was delivered to introduce the Tell Us About Your Place surveys and to provide support to members who required assistance in completing them. The Tell Us About Your Place survey for the wider public received 133 responses from individuals who identified as having a disability. These responses have been incorporated into the overall summary of the public survey findings outlined above.

### **Older People**

The North Lanarkshire Voice of Experience Forum is a charity operating across the area as a champion and representative voice for older people. In a similar approach to engagement with the North Lanarkshire Disability Access Panel, information was shared with the Forum, and the Planning team delivered a dedicated session to introduce the Tell Us About Your Place survey and provide an update on the preparation of the Local Development Plan (LDP2).

### **Local Place Plans/Invitation to Prepare**

Local Place Plans (LPPs) are community-led plans that set out proposals for the development and use of land. They reflect a community's aspirations for future development

and, once registered, are taken into account in the preparation of the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2 (NLLDP2).

At the early stages of evidence gathering, a dedicated Local Place Plans webpage was created on the council's website to provide information and guidance for community groups. This resource was widely shared with community councils and community groups across North Lanarkshire via the Community Matters team, and groups were formally invited to prepare Local Place Plans in March 2024.

To support this, an in-person workshop was held in October 2024 to provide further information on LPPs. Delivered with support from Nick Wright Planning consultancy, the session explained the process in line with Scottish Government guidance and provided an opportunity for attendees to ask questions and share information. The workshop was attended by a range of stakeholders, including community councils, community groups, development trusts, elected members, and interested members of the public. Officers from the council's Planning team and Community Matters team were also in attendance, alongside Nick Wright.

During the session, the Coalfields Regeneration Trust (CRT), a community wealth-building charity operating across Britain's coalfield areas, expressed interest in supporting local groups. CRT has experience in assisting communities with the preparation of LPPs and offered to deliver a further session focused on good practice in community engagement. This led to a follow up session in January 2025, where CRT delivered a presentation and outlined the support available to community groups in preparing their Local Place Plans. This offer of support was positively received by attendees.

Following both sessions, key points raised/discussed can be summarised as follows:

- The session focused on providing guidance on the Local Place Plan (LPP) process, rather than discussing specific proposals due to potential conflicts of interest for council members and officers.
- Emphasis was placed on the need for meaningful and well-documented community engagement, with communities having flexibility over the scope of their LPPs.
- Participants shared ideas and potential proposals for their areas, alongside challenges in preparing LPPs, including engaging the wider community, securing meeting spaces, and managing costs.

- It was confirmed that LPPs are currently self-funded, with no dedicated funding available.
- Suggestions for effective engagement included informal and accessible approaches, such as community events and school-based activities.
- The Council highlighted that LPPs are one of several routes to deliver community aspirations, alongside other mechanisms such as the LDP, LOIP, and council funding programmes.
- Signposting was provided on specific issues raised, including noise and pollution concerns, and links to related work such as the emerging Local Transport Strategy.

At the time of writing, three Local Place Plans have since been submitted to the council by Gartcosh Regeneration Trust, Stepps and District Community Council and Chryston Development Trust. These plans have since been validated and registered and made available online via [Local Place Plans Register | North Lanarkshire Council](#).

The council will take these Local Place Plans into consideration at the next stage of plan preparation, as work progresses on identifying and assessing sites and ideas.

### **Site Assessment Workshop**

As part of the evidence gathering stage for the preparation of the Evidence Report, the Council organised a targeted stakeholder workshop to inform the approach to site assessment and information requirements for the Call for Sites process.

The half-day workshop was held on 20 August 2025 in Motherwell, facilitated by an independent planning professional to support open discussion and collaboration. The primary purpose of the session was to engage with stakeholders on what information should be required to support site submissions, including the type, timing and level of detail needed to inform the Proposed Plan and Delivery Programme.

The workshop brought together a broad range of participants, including:

- Developers, landowners and planning consultancies (e.g. Homes for Scotland, major housebuilders and agents)
- Key agencies and infrastructure providers (including NatureScot, SEPA partners indirectly through discussion, Scottish Water, Scottish Power Energy Networks and SPT)
- Regional and strategic partners (e.g. ClydePlan, Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network)

- North Lanarkshire Council officers across planning, housing, estates and regeneration

The workshop was structured to maximise collaborative input and included:

- Introductory presentations from the Council and development industry representatives
- Mixed group discussions, combining developers, key agencies and officers to ensure a balanced exchange of views
- A facilitated plenary session to share key findings and reflections

Discussions focused on identifying proportionate and effective information requirements across a range of planning topics aligned with NPF4 (e.g. climate change, biodiversity, infrastructure, flood risk, deliverability), and on when this information should be provided within the plan-making and development process.

Overall, the workshop provided valuable, collaborative input from the development industry, key agencies and infrastructure providers, helping to shape a more transparent, consistent and deliverable approach to site assessment. It also highlighted the need to balance comprehensive evidence requirements with proportionality, particularly in relation to viability and the capacity of different types of developers.

This engagement formed an important part of the Evidence Report process, ensuring that the site assessment methodology and Call for Sites requirements are informed by early and meaningful stakeholder input.

Following the workshop, engagement with key agencies and stakeholders, both internal and external, as continued to inform and refine the site assessment approach, with ongoing discussions helping to further develop and validate the methodology.

### **Other Relevant Council Strategies and Consultations**

The preparation of LDP2 has also been informed by ongoing engagement across a wide range of council services as part of the evidence gathering and reporting stage. This has included collaboration with teams such as housing, transport, education, infrastructure, regeneration and estates, ensuring that service-level knowledge, data and priorities are fully integrated into the evidence base. This internal engagement has complemented wider

stakeholder and public consultation, supporting a coordinated and corporate approach to plan preparation.

The preparation of LDP2 is closely aligned with a range of key council strategies, ensuring a coordinated, place-based approach to planning, investment and service delivery across North Lanarkshire. These include the Local Outcome Improvement Plans (LOIPs), Local Transport Strategy (LTS), Local Housing Strategy (LHS) and Town Action Plans (TAPs), all of which form an important part of the overall evidence base. It is important to note that they too have gone through a consultation process with the wider public in their preparation. LOIPs (Community Priorities) provide a locally focused understanding of needs and aspirations across the nine Community Board Areas. Developed through extensive engagement, including surveys, workshops, and targeted outreach, they combine detailed data with community insight to identify priorities and actions. They play a key role in informing the LDP by identifying place-specific issues and opportunities, while the LDP supports their delivery through spatial planning and investment decisions.

The Local Transport Strategy (LTS) 2026 - 2036 sets out the long-term vision for transport, informed by public consultation, stakeholder engagement and evidence gathering. It identifies transport challenges and infrastructure requirements that help shape the LDP's spatial strategy, while the LDP supports the LTS by promoting sustainable travel patterns, guiding development to accessible locations, and safeguarding land for transport improvements.

The Local Housing Strategy (LHS) 2026 - 2028 establishes the strategic approach to housing need and demand, based on consultation with tenants, residents, housing providers and stakeholders. It provides key evidence on housing requirements, affordability and demographic change, which directly informs the scale and distribution of development within the LDP. In turn, the LDP enables delivery of the LHS through land allocations and policy frameworks that support housing delivery and infrastructure provision.

Town Action Plans (TAPs) set out a programme of regeneration activity for key town centres, identifying projects and interventions over the short, medium and long term to support the transition to more resilient, mixed-use centres. Developed through community consultation, they reflect local priorities and aspirations for each town. TAPs inform the LDP by highlighting regeneration priorities and opportunities within town centres, while the LDP provides the statutory framework to support their delivery through planning policy and land use decisions.

The extensive engagement undertaken through these strategies has also helped shape the approach to consultation for the Evidence Report, ensuring that communities and stakeholders are not overburdened and that existing evidence and feedback are effectively utilised.

### **Adjacent Local Authorities**

Engagement has also been undertaken with neighbouring local authorities on cross-boundary matters. This has included close collaboration with South Lanarkshire council, particularly in relation to a joint health workshop and the organisation of Gypsy and Traveller engagement sessions. In addition, officers participate in regular strategic-level meetings with other authorities to discuss policy-related issues of shared interest (such as Heads of Planning sub-groups, GCR, Antonine Wall meetings). The council will continue to engage with adjacent authorities as plan preparation progresses, particularly in advance of the Proposed Plan stage, to ensure that cross-boundary issues are appropriately considered and addressed.

Table 2 Engagement and Consultation Completed below lists what exercises have been undertaken to date, as outlined in the Development Plan Scheme & Participation Statement 2025.

**Table 2: Engagement & Consultation Completed**

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Venue / Method</b>	<b>Groups and Organisations</b>
Sept 2023	Joint NLC/SLC Gypsy & Travellers community engagement	Hamilton	Gypsy & Travellers community, MECOPP, Scottish Government, NLC/SLC
Nov 2023	Development Plan Scheme & Participation Statement 2023 approved	Online / Email / Social Media	Wide consultation via social media, GovDelivery, community groups, community boards in preparing the DPS/PS
March 2024	Invitation to prepare Local Place Plans issued and links shared to online information and sources	Online / Email / Social Media	Community Councils, community groups, Community Boards, Gov Delivery.
April 2024	NLLDP2 Newsletter 1 published	Online / Email	Sent to key agencies/infrastructure providers, internal contacts, Community Boards, community groups, GovDelivery, Yammer (internal), Elected Members
April 2024	Self-build Housing register - information published online/link sent out with newsletter update	Online / Email	Publicised via social media and GovDelivery
May 2024	Presentation to elected members on NLLDP2 key stages and update	Civic Centre, Motherwell	NLC Elected Members
May 2024	Engaged with Gypsy & Travellers community	Hamilton	MECOPP/ Scottish Government/ COSLA/NLC/SLC
August 2024	Joint NLC/SLC Health & Wellbeing event	Civic Centre, Motherwell	NHS Lanarkshire, PHS, HSCP, NLC/SLC
June 2024 - ongoing	Updates provided to Access Panel as and when required	Attendance at monthly Access Panel meetings	Access Panel
May - June 2024	NPF4 related Topic Surveys Batch 1 published online for six weeks to assist evidence gathering	Online / Email / GovDelivery	Survey sent to stakeholders including elected members, key agencies, infrastructure providers, community groups/Community Boards and published online and shared via social media platforms and GovDelivery.
June-July 2024	NPF4 related Topic Surveys Batch 2 published online for six weeks to assist evidence gathering	Online / Email / GovDelivery	Survey sent to stakeholders including elected members, key agencies, infrastructure providers, community groups/Community Boards and published online and shared via social media platforms and GovDelivery.
July-Aug 2024	NPF4 related Topic Surveys Batch 3 published online for six weeks to assist evidence gathering	Online / Email / GovDelivery	Survey sent to stakeholders including elected members, key agencies, infrastructure providers, community groups/Community Boards and published online and shared via social media platforms and GovDelivery.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Venue / Method</b>	<b>Groups and Organisations</b>
Sept-Oct	NPF4 related Topic Surveys Batch 4 published online for six weeks to assist evidence gathering	Online / Email / GovDelivery	Survey sent to stakeholders including elected members, key agencies, infrastructure providers, community groups/Community Boards and published online and shared via social media platforms and GovDelivery.
Sep-Oct 2024	Landowner/housebuilder/developer survey consultation	Online survey	Survey (prepared with Homes for Scotland) issued to landowners/housebuilders/developers
Oct 2024	Local Place Plan information sharing event held with community groups	Face-to-face session	Community groups/Nick Wright Planning/NLC
Nov 2024	Update and Place Survey awareness provided to Voice of Experience Forum	Attendance at VoE meeting	Voice of Experience
Nov 2024	Update and Place Survey awareness provided to Access Panel	Attendance at Access Panel meeting	Access Panel
Nov 2024 – Jan 2025	NPF4 related Topic Surveys Batch 5 published online for six weeks to assist evidence gathering	Online / Email / GovDelivery	Survey sent to stakeholders including elected members, key agencies, infrastructure providers, community groups/Community Boards and published online and shared via social media platforms and GovDelivery.
Dec 2024 – Mar 2025	Public/stakeholder Place Survey ran over 4 months to raise awareness and gather understanding of community board level area priorities	Online / Email / GovDelivery / Social Media	Survey sent to stakeholders including elected members, key agencies, infrastructure providers, community groups/Community Boards and published online and shared via social media platforms and GovDelivery.
Dec 2024	Place Survey circulated to all children and young people within schools via every parent and carer	Email / Online	Children and Young People
Jan 2025	Internal staff workshop for wider Place service presenting NPF4/NLLDP2 updates and discussion of topics	Online	Place Service session internally for staff.
Jan 2025	Further information issued to assist communities in the preparation of Local Place Plans	Email	Community Councils/community groups
Jan 2025	Follow-up session - Local Place Plan information sharing event held with community groups	Face-to-face session	Community groups / Nick Wright Planning / NLC
Jan 2025	NLLDP2 Newsletter 2 published	Online / Email	Sent to key agencies/infrastructure providers, internal contacts, Community Boards, community groups,

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Venue / Method</b>	<b>Groups and Organisations</b>
			GovDelivery, Yammer (internal), Elected Members
Jan 2025 - Ongoing	Key Agency topic-by-topic engagement	Online / In-person	Key Agencies
Feb 2025	Public drop-in sessions for Place Surveys	In-person	Public drop-in sessions in each of the Community Board areas
Feb 2025	Tenants 'Food for Thought' Conference	In-person	Tenants & Residents Associations / North Lanarkshire Federations / Tenants Participation Team
Feb 2025	Youth Councillors/Youth Parliament Workshop to highlight & assist with the Place Survey and discuss the new NLLDP2	In-person	Youth Councillors / Youth Parliament members
Feb 2025	Access Panel attendance to raise awareness and understanding of Place Survey	In-person	Access Panel
May 2025 – Aug 2025	Landowner and housebuilder/developer survey consultation to gather information on the existing housing land supply to inform Housing Land Audit and Delivery Programme	Online/Email	Landowners / Housebuilders / Developers / Homes for Scotland
Aug 2025	Site assessment workshop	In-person Workshop	Key Agencies / Homes for Scotland / Developers / Landowners / Housebuilders / Agencies / Nick Wright/ Internal (NLC) staff
Sept 2025	Site assessment workshop and LDP update	Online Workshop	Elected Members
Nov 2025	Community Board sessions x 2 - events to share updates on the Local Development Plan, present findings from our recent Place Survey, and introduce the proposed site assessment methodology for the upcoming Call for Ideas	Online Workshop	Community Boards (community groups part of the community boards)
Nov 2025	Community Board sessions x 2 - to update on and explore the draft Open Space Strategy	Online Workshop	Community Boards (community groups part of the community boards)
Jan 2026	Internal meetings with services to discuss site assessment process	Online meetings	NLC Roads / Estates / Property / Green Space / Education
Feb 2026	Engagement with secondary school children to undertake	Online Workshop	Children from 11 secondary schools across North Lanarkshire

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Venue / Method</b>	<b>Groups and Organisations</b>
	Place Survey and raise awareness		

## Topic Papers – Comments and Council Response Tables

As noted earlier, the primary starting point for gathering the evidence base was the preparation of Topic Papers.

All Topic Responses have been included below. Responses containing offensive, defamatory or inappropriate language have been moderated before publication.

**Table 3 - Topic Papers 3,4 & 20 Biodiversity, Natural Places and Blue and Green Infrastructure - Responses**

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)	Agree that the correct evidence is set out in the policy/topic <i>Survey Paper</i> .	SPT's support is noted by the council
SEPA	The <i>Water Environment Hub</i> is discussed under SEPA's response to <i>Flood Risk and Water Management</i> and <i>The River Basin Management Plan for Scotland 2021-2027</i> , informing the plan baseline. Data and mapping in relation to the water environment is also available from SEPA. If the water environment is not included in nature networks and a commitment to mapping blue green infrastructure in relation to networks is not given, SEPA cannot support the Evidence Report in these respects.	Updated Nature Network information and mapping is included in the Evidence Report that covers the water environment.
SEPA	The river network and other water environment features, such as wetlands, are key elements of the natural environment in existing/proposed nature networks and blue/green infrastructure. Riparian corridors can help increase the resilience of a place to the impacts of climate change and address the nature crisis, providing environmental benefits, and a wide range of public services.	SEPA's comment is noted by the council.
SEPA	The council's current focus on blue green infrastructure is based too much on opportunities. Rather, it should be looking at opportunities and protecting current assets.	The council will seek to both promote and protect blue/green infrastructure and map this where possible.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	HfS members are fully committed to protecting biodiversity and already consider sustainability as an integral part of their business.	HfS' support is noted by the council.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Membership of the <i>Homes for Nature</i> initiative to support wildlife in new development.	HFS' comment is noted by the council.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Trees/woodland on sites should not preclude the site from being considered for development, rather they improve the amenity and biodiversity of the site and can be incorporated into layout, offering environmental management opportunity (including delivering blue/green infrastructure, supporting nature networks, tackling climate change, flooding inclusive and facilitating nature recovery).	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	The site-selection process should also recognise the importance of deliverability and marketability alongside biodiversity to ensure development occurs where there is demand.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Address the Scottish Government declared Housing Emergency and enable economic benefits of housebuilding.	HFS' comment is noted by the council. Housing, including its socio-economic issues and the Housing Emergency, is discussed in Chapter 6 of the Evidence Report and its summary of engagement.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Any negative effects of protecting and enhancing biodiversity on housebuilding should be minimised.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2,

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		and any future planning applications.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	HfS do not object to <i>Nature Network Corridor maps – AECOM</i> being an evidence source however it is asserted that these should be a starting for discussion and are not a finalised view of nature networks in North Lanarkshire. As such they should not be used currently to rule out development.	Updated Nature Network information and mapping is included in the Evidence Report. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Miller Homes	Support expressed for the comments made by HfS.	Miller Homes comment is noted by the council.
Miller Homes	HfS members are fully committed to protecting biodiversity and already consider sustainability as an integral part of their business.	Miller Homes support is noted by the council.
Miller Homes	Membership of the <i>Homes for Nature</i> initiative to support wildlife in new development.	Miller Homes comment is noted by the council.
Miller Homes	Trees/woodland on sites should not preclude the site from being considered for development, rather they improve the amenity and biodiversity of the site and can be incorporated into layout, offering environmental management opportunity (including delivering blue/green infrastructure, supporting nature networks, tackling climate change, flooding inclusive and facilitating nature recovery).	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.
Miller Homes	The site-selection process should also recognise the importance of deliverability and marketability alongside biodiversity to ensure development occurs where there is demand.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Miller Homes	Address the Scottish Government declared Housing Emergency and enable economic benefits of housebuilding.	Miller Homes comment is noted by the council. Housing, including its socio-economic issues and the Housing Emergency, is discussed in Chapter 6 of the Evidence Report and its summary of engagement.
Miller Homes	Any negative effects of protecting and enhancing biodiversity on housebuilding should be minimised.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Miller Homes	HfS do not object to <i>Nature Network Corridor maps – AECOM</i> being an evidence source however it is asserted that these should be a starting for discussion and are not a finalised view of nature networks in North Lanarkshire. As such they should not be used currently to rule out development.	Updated Nature Network information and mapping is included in the Evidence Report. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Miller Homes	Support the approach proposed to inform the site selection process which includes further assessment to ensure proposals will address issues raised by the policy/topic Survey Paper.	Miller Homes support is noted by the council.
Miller Homes	Site-specific comments made.	The Evidence Report is not the stage where site and land allocations are addressed. However, the council's Call for Ideas/Sites is currently open and Miller Homes are aware of this.
Miller Homes	Support expressed for the comments made by HfS.	Miller Homes comment is noted by the council.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Miller Homes	HfS members are fully committed to protecting biodiversity and already consider sustainability as an integral part of their business.	Miller Homes support is noted by the council.
Miller Homes	Membership of the <i>Homes for Nature</i> initiative to support wildlife in new development.	Miller Homes comment is noted by the council.
Miller Homes	Trees/woodland on sites should not preclude the site from being considered for development, rather they improve the amenity and biodiversity of the site and can be incorporated into layout, offering environmental management opportunity (including delivering blue/green infrastructure, supporting nature networks, tackling climate change, flooding inclusive and facilitating nature recovery).	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.
Miller Homes	The site-selection process should also recognise the importance of deliverability and marketability alongside biodiversity to ensure development occurs where there is demand.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Miller Homes	Address the Scottish Government declared Housing Emergency and enable economic benefits of housebuilding	Miller Homes comment is noted by the council. Housing, including its socio-economic issues and the Housing Emergency, is discussed in Chapter 6 of the Evidence Report and its summary of engagement.
Miller Homes	Any negative effects of protecting and enhancing biodiversity on housebuilding should be minimised.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Miller Homes	HfS do not object to <i>Nature Network Corridor maps – AECOM</i> being an evidence source however it is asserted that these should be a starting for discussion and are not a finalised view of nature networks in North Lanarkshire. As such they should not be used currently to rule out development.	Updated Nature Network information and mapping is included in the Evidence Report. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Miller Homes	Site-specific comments made.	The Evidence Report is not the stage where site and land allocations are addressed. However, the council's Call for Ideas/Sites is currently open and Miller Homes are aware of this.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	The consolidation of three policies into one topic paper makes it difficult to fully understand the council's proposed approach to each individual policy.	CHW's comment is noted by the council.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	The council intends to implement NPF4 policies 3 and 4 in particular as a means to restrict development. This is viewed as unnecessary as unless other funding is available as development provides an opportunity to enhance or create new biodiversity features in accord with NPF4 and Scottish Government's emerging <i>Draft Planning Guidance: Biodiversity</i> .	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire, and updated Nature Network information and mapping is included in the Evidence Report. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	The council has not considered the benefits that development (specifically housing development) can deliver through appropriate design and how this can deliver on-site biodiversity enhancement in accord with NPF4. Site factoring and management plans can also contribute to effective landscape and woodland management and biodiversity enhancement. The benefits that new housing development can deliver in terms of biodiversity enhancement should therefore be recognised by the council as part of its site-selection process.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	The council's proposed site selection methodology is viewed as inconsistent with policy 4 of NPF 4 as it is viewed that nature-based solutions for biodiversity should only be implemented where possible and there is no requirement that proposals must avoid mapped constraints for natural places.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire, and updated Nature Network information and mapping is included in the Evidence Report. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. The site selection process has been developed through consultation with partners, the development industry and other stakeholders.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	The council should seek information and engage in discussions with developers to understand the approaches being taken by the development sector to enhance the existing biodiversity value of new sites. CHW has developed an <i>Urban Wildlife Strategy</i> which informs its approach to the implementation of biodiversity enhancement within its new developments. Further engagement would allow the	The council held a stakeholder workshop for our partners, the development industry and other stakeholders in August 2025 regarding information requirements for the Call for Sites and our site selection methodology. This council has further engaged with housing developers via Homes for Scotland throughout producing the Evidence Report and will

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	council to understand how this practice is being implemented to inform NLLDP2 and any future associated guidance to meet NPF4 policy requirements.	continue to do so throughout preparation of NLLDP2.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Membership of the <i>Homes for Nature</i> initiative to support wildlife in new development.	CHW's comment is noted by the council.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	From January 2024, all new Cala Homes developments in England will achieve a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain. Subject to the publication of the Scottish Government's finalised <i>Biodiversity Planning Guidance</i> , CHW will adopt recommended measures to enhance biodiversity on sites in Scotland.	CHW's comment is noted by the council.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	The majority of brownfield sites in North Lanarkshire are located within existing towns and settlements and opportunities for connections into existing nature networks is therefore challenging, greenfield sites may provide better opportunities for new nature networks and connections. As NPF4 sets out a preference for brownfield sites to be developed over greenfield sites, the council's position that sites will be favoured if they provide connections into nature networks may be in conflict with NPF4.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire, and updated Nature Network information and mapping is included in the Evidence Report. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. The site selection process has been developed through consultation with partners, the development industry and other stakeholders.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Address the Scottish Government declared Housing Emergency and enable economic benefits of housebuilding.	CHW's comment is noted by the council. Housing, including its socio-economic issues and the Housing Emergency, is discussed in Chapter 6 of the Evidence Report and its summary of engagement.
NatureScot	NatureScot generally agree with the evidence but suggest that our guidance <i>Advising on Peatland, Carbon-Rich Soils and Priority</i>	NatureScot's comment is noted by the council, and the suggested guidance has been

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<i>Peatland</i> should be included as this gives direction on which peatland communities should be avoided by development, mitigation and enhancement.	referenced in the Evidence Report.
NatureScot	Clarifying the assessment of evidence is recommended as there should be a sense of what the relevance is to the Evidence Report or LDP. Matters raised should be relevant to the Evidence Report and it is noted that clearly explaining the relevance and assessment of evidence is a point highlighted by Reporters. Goose Population is cited an example	NatureScot's comment is noted by the council. The council has endeavoured to only include relevant evidence in the Evidence Report.
NatureScot	As far as NatureScot are aware, there are no candidate Special Protection Areas for raised bogs and existing SSSIs. Raised bog features already underpin existing European sites in North Lanarkshire.	NatureScot's comment is noted by the council.
NatureScot	NatureScot question the potential for negative effects emanating from these topics stating this seems based on the fairly broad possibility that some development opportunities could be limited by the need to conserve biodiversity; this could also apply to some of the aspects where only the potential for positive effects has been identified.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
NatureScot	Site Selection Implications would benefit from rewrite of the first sentence to: Ensure that the site selection process facilitates the mitigation hierarchy by avoiding and minimising potential impacts at the earliest stage possible and that site selection allows subsequent development proposals to further integrate the mitigation hierarchy into the planning and design of proposals prior to identifying opportunities to deliver biodiversity enhancements.	NatureScot's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
NatureScot	<i>Issues 3 and 6</i> are both concerned with biodiversity and habitat improvement in relation to proposals and masterplans and this duplication could be distilled into one issue.	NatureScot's comment is noted by the council.
NatureScot	<i>Issue 8</i> is confusing as it refers to blue/green infrastructure <i>performing their primary function also</i> , but their function is referred to at the start of the sentence as <i>multi-functional</i> .	NatureScot's comment is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	Persimmon Homes recognise that the council is not proposing to deviate from NPF4 Policies 3, 4 and 20.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	In relation to blue/green infrastructure, the point made in responding to NPF4 Policy 6 (policy/topic Survey Paper 6) agreeing to the retention of native woodland is reiterated.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address this concern.
Persimmon Homes	In relation to blue/green infrastructure, the point made in responding to NPF4 Policy 6 (policy/topic Survey Paper 6) regarding not using the Glasgow and Clyde Valley <i>Forestry and Woodland Strategy</i> to necessarily rule out development is reiterated.	Any proposals where blue/green infrastructure is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Persimmon Homes	Trees/woodland on sites should not preclude the site from being considered for development, rather they improve the amenity and biodiversity of the site and can be incorporated into layout, offering environmental management opportunity (including delivering blue/green infrastructure, supporting nature networks, tackling climate change, flooding inclusive and facilitating nature recovery).	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Persimmon Homes	The site-selection process should also recognise the importance of deliverability and marketability alongside biodiversity to ensure development occurs where there is demand.	The council has prepared the North Lanarkshire Biodiversity Action Plan to address biodiversity for North Lanarkshire. Any proposals where biodiversity is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Persimmon Homes	Concern is raised over the potential use of NatureScot's <i>Scottish Landscape Character Types Map and Descriptions</i> because some elements of these assessments are considered out of date and should not be given undue weight.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where landscape character is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. The council is also currently preparing a landscape sensitivity study relating to renewable energy development to inform the spatial strategy for NLLDP2.
Persimmon Homes	Concern is raised over potential use of the <i>NLLDP Modified Proposed Plan – Local Landscape Character Assessment Background Report (November 2018)</i> because some elements of these assessments are considered out of date and should not be given undue weight.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where landscape character is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. The council is also currently preparing a landscape sensitivity study relating to renewable energy development

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		to inform the spatial strategy for NLLDP2.
Persimmon Homes	Site-specific comments made.	The Evidence Report is not the stage where site and land allocations are addressed. However, the council's Call for Ideas/Sites is currently open and Persimmon Homes are aware of this.
Persimmon Homes	The <i>Native Woodland Strategy for Scotland</i> should be added as an evidence source for these topics and Forestry, Woodland and Trees (policy/topic Survey Paper 6).	The council will reflect this comment when producing the Evidence Report.
Scottish Water (SW)	SW supports the council's position as expressed in the policy/topic Survey Paper.	SW support is noted by the council.
Scottish Water (SW)	SW has published its strategic plan <i>A Sustainable Future Together</i> that considers its net-zero target, tackling the climate and nature crises, and other issues raised under these topics.	SW's comment is noted by the council and the document is referenced in the Evidence Report.
Scottish Water (SW)	SW aim to influence and support development to promote blue-green infrastructure (including domestic use), nature-based solutions and rainwater management when considering water related issues (including flooding).	SW comment is and supported noted by the council.
Scottish Water (SW)	SW will manage Scotland's water in ways that support good ecological status and address biodiversity.	SW comment is and supported noted by the council.

**Table 4 - Topic Paper 5 Soils - Responses**

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
SEPA	We are not in a position to comment on each individual paper; therefore we are going to comment only on topic papers where we can add most value to the evidence gathering process. For everything else we refer you to our Evidence Sources and Glossary (attached) for checking the information provided and fill any gaps as appropriate.	SEPA's comment is noted by the council. The Evidence Report includes reference to the Carbon and peatland 2016 map   Scotland's soils within the topic paper.
HES	We note and welcome the acknowledgement in section 5.13 that there can be an overlap between the preservation of soils and the preservation of historic assets and places.	HES' support is noted by the council.
Scottish Water	Scottish Water welcomes efforts to protect carbon-rich soils, restore peatlands and minimise disturbance to soils from development. Managing restoration of peatlands carefully is vital as damaged, poor condition or eroded peatland can have a significant impact on drinking water quality supplies of upland sources from increases in dissolved organic carbon (DOC). Scottish Water welcome early engagement with our Sustainable Land Management Team to determine if development proposals impact on drinking water catchments. Scottish Water's abstraction areas are designated as Drinking Water Protected Areas (DWPA) under Article 7 of the Water Framework Directive. The Sustainable Land Management team can be contacted at <a href="mailto:protectdwsources@scottishwater.co.uk">protectdwsources@scottishwater.co.uk</a> .	SW's support is noted and the council has engaged with SW during preparation of the Evidence Report.
SPT	SPT has reviewed the first tranche of topic papers (5, 6, 7, 9, 14 and 17) and agree with the evidence and implication as set out. We have no further comments currently and look forward to further engagement as you continue to develop the evidence base and move towards the proposed plan.	SPT's support is noted by the council.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Cala Homes (West)	It is acknowledged that Scotland's Soils online capability maps remain the most up-to-date data source for identifying areas defined as Prime Agricultural land. There are concerns however with the use of mapping based on information gathered in 1981 to inform the Council's site selection process and designations of Prime Agricultural Land may no longer be applicable as they are no longer in agricultural use. The protection of such areas, where there is no realistic prospect of them being used for agricultural purposes, may therefore conflict with other policies within NPF4 including Policy 16 Quality Homes and the Council's Minimum All-Tenure Housing Land Requirement.	CHW's comments are noted by the council. As acknowledged Scotland's Soils online capability maps remain the most up-to-date data source for identifying areas defined as Prime Agricultural land. Should updated source mapping be made available it will be utilised.
Cala Homes (West)	It is essential that the Land capacity for agriculture (partial cover) map from the Scotland's Soils website is used to inform the Evidence Report and site selection process. Unless this mapping is used, there could be instances where sites are incorrectly dismissed by the Council on the grounds that Prime Agricultural land may no longer serve that function.	CHW's comment is noted by the council. The evidence report will be updated to the Land Capability for Agriculture (partial cover).
Cala Homes (West)	Protecting Prime Agricultural Land in North Lanarkshire aligns with NPF4's Policy 5b) Soils but should not be the sole reason for rejecting a site during allocation. Sites that meet other key NPF4 policies, such as Climate Mitigation (Policy 2) and Biodiversity (Policy 3), should be considered. Developing Prime Agricultural Land could support 20-minute neighbourhoods (Policy 15) and deliver essential infrastructure (Policy 18), benefiting local communities. Prematurely rejecting such sites could hinder broader regeneration efforts and the Council's Spatial Strategy, especially in addressing climate and nature crises (Policy 1).	Cala Homes comments are noted by the council. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.
Cala Homes (West)	The next LDP aims to protect peatland, carbon-rich soils, and priority peatland habitats, in line with Policy 5c) of NPF4. While this protection is supported, the Evidence Report should recognize that these areas can also be protected or enhanced through site development. For instance, integrating wetland habitats into design could improve existing peatland areas. This approach could be included in the Council's Bog Action Plan to restore	Cala Homes comments are noted by the council. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2,

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	degraded peatland through new developments.	and any future planning applications.
Homes for Scotland	<p>The draft Topic Paper acknowledges that the limited availability of prime agricultural land in North Lanarkshire will likely result in minimal conflict with development goals. However, the Council still aims to protect this land and any lower-quality land deemed culturally or locally important under NLLDP2. NPF4 Policy 5b allows for development on such land if it involves essential infrastructure with a specific locational need and no alternative site. The socio-economic benefits of home building are significant, supporting thousands of jobs and contributing millions to infrastructure, as highlighted in a 2022 report by Homes for Scotland. (link: <a href="https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/">https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/</a>).</p>	HfS's comments are noted by the council. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.
Homes for Scotland	<p>Throughout the draft Topic Paper it discusses how the plan will seek to protect and avoid allocations or extensions to settlements that would impact peat and high organic matter rich soils. It is important to note any policy included in NLLDP2 needs to recognise there are tools which can be utilised to minimise the impact of development peat and high organic matter rich soils. It would be helpful for the draft Topic Paper to acknowledge that such risks can be controlled through the preparation of a Construction Environment Management Plan. This document lists controls that will be implemented to avoid said risks. This is something that can be used by Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) when allocating/consenting development and as such provides a degree of control, as should the document not be implemented LPAs can use their enforcement powers.</p>	HfS's comments are noted by the council. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
FCC Environment Ltd	Issue 1 in the Topic Paper suggests avoiding allocations on peat and high organic matter soils as identified in the Carbon and Peatland 2016 Map. However, NPF4 Policy 5d) emphasises minimising soil disturbance, not just blanket avoidance. It's important that sites are not dismissed solely based on broad peat mapping, as site-specific surveys can provide more accurate assessments. FCC Environment Ltd. highlights that peatland can be relocated and managed long-term, suggesting that site-specific evaluations should be prioritized over reliance on national data to avoid unnecessary exclusion of potential sites	FCC's comments are noted by the council. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.

**Table 5 - Topic Paper 6 Forestry, Woodland and Trees - Responses**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Save Woodhall and Faskine (SWAF) Greenbelt	Agree that the correct evidence is set out in the policy/topic <i>Survey Paper</i> .	SWAF's support is noted by the council.
Green Action Trust	The council's current approach takes a <i>rural/urban fringe approach</i> and there is no specific mention of urban trees which should have dedicated content. Urban trees are viewed as understated in the context of <i>Design, Quality and Place</i> (policy/topic Survey Paper 14) although it is acknowledged that the council has noted relationship to green network and biodiversity issues.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns.
Green Action Trust	Concern raised over the quality of mapping provided.	The council will endeavour to have the highest quality mapping available used in the production of the Evidence Report.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 a requires planning authorities to prepare a forestry and woodland strategy and that in preparing this strategy, a planning authority is required to consult Scottish Ministers, relevant organisations and such persons that they consider appropriate. The Survey Paper does not set out a commitment to produce this strategy or provide any information as to how this will be used to inform its Evidence Report. This includes a lack of information on public engagement or timescales for its production. To ensure compliance with the 2019 Act, the council is required to undertake this exercise prior to the preparation of its Evidence Report.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	The council fails to identify the Scottish Government's <i>Policy on Control of Woodland Removal: Implementation Guidance (February 2019)</i> as part of the Main Evidence considered. This sets out the Scottish Government's advice for the mitigation of woodland removal arising from the development of land for purposes including housing and infrastructure. Whilst the Topic Paper refers to the policy, this must be taken into account in the preparation of the Evidence Report as it sets out requirements where the removal of woodland is considered acceptable.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
SEPA	<p>SEPA are not in a position to comment on each individual paper and will comment only on topic papers where they can add most value to the evidence gathering process. SEPA views these as:  <i>SFRA and Flood Risk</i>  <i>Water Management</i>  <i>Blue and Green infrastructure</i>  <i>Biodiversity and Nature Networks</i>  <i>Climate Change SEA</i></p> <p>For everything else, SEPA refers the council to its <i>Evidence Sources by NPF4 Policy Topics</i> and <i>Evidence Sources Glossary (SEPA, 2023)</i> publications for use as appropriate. In these documents, SEPA states its <i>Riparian Vegetation Planting Opportunities</i> and NatureScot's <i>Carbon and Peatland Map 2016</i> as being relevant to <i>Forestry, Woodland and Trees</i> (policy/topic Survey Paper 6).</p>	<p>The council acknowledges SEPA will not be providing comment specifically on <i>Forestry, Woodland and Trees</i>, however the council in line with SEPA's response the additional sources of evidence will be added and considered when producing the Evidence Report.</p>
Scottish Water (SW)	<p>SW support the inclusion of the Glasgow City Region <i>Forestry and Woodland Strategy</i> as an evidence source for considering forestry activity.</p>	<p>SW's support is noted by the council.</p>
Scottish Water (SW)	<p>Forestry activity can impact negatively on the water environment. Engagement with SW is recommended to <i>determine the location of Drinking Water Protected Areas as well as water and/or wastewater infrastructure within the area of forestry activities and if drinking water source catchments or assets are located within the area of forestry activities... adequate protection is required</i> that should be in accordance with the <i>Forests and Water UK Forestry Standard Guidelines</i>.</p>	<p>SW's comment is noted and the council has engaged with SW during preparation of the Evidence Report.</p>
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)	<p>Agree that the correct evidence is set out in the policy/topic Survey Paper.</p>	<p>SPT's support is noted by the council.</p>
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	<p>HES note and welcome the acknowledgement of the overlap between the <i>Forestry, Woodland and Trees</i> and <i>Historical Assets and Places</i> (policy/topic Survey Paper 7). Managed woodlands can contribute via the Inventory Gardens and Designed Landscapes for North Lanarkshire. Dalzell House and Colzium Lennox Estate are included in the inventory, and both contain woodland.</p>	<p>HES' support is noted by the council.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
FCC Environment Ltd	Trees/woodland on sites should not preclude the site from being considered for development, rather they improve the amenity and biodiversity of the site and can be incorporated into layout, offering environmental management opportunity (including delivering blue/green infrastructure, supporting nature networks, tackling climate change, flooding inclusive and facilitating nature recovery).	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.
FCC Environment Ltd	Allocations for any proposals or extensions to settlements that would impact <i>Forestry, Woodland and Trees</i> areas should be carefully considered, and permitted where there are clearly defined public benefits in accordance with the Scottish Government policy on woodland removal.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.
FCC Environment Ltd	Site specific surveys should be undertaken for proposals to demonstrate whether there would be any potential adverse impacts <i>Forestry, Woodland and Trees</i> and determine the quality of woodland. It is acknowledged that site-specific matters should not be considered at this stage however sites should not be discounted based on national dataset mapping which is not always up to date.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Trees/woodland on sites should not preclude the site from being considered for development, rather they improve the amenity and biodiversity of the site and can be incorporated into layout, offering environmental management opportunity (including delivering blue/green infrastructure, supporting nature networks, tackling climate change, flooding inclusive and facilitating nature recovery).	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	The site-selection process should also recognise the importance of deliverability and marketability alongside <i>Forestry, Woodland and Trees</i> to ensure development occurs where there is demand.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Address the Scottish Government declared Housing Emergency and enable economic benefits of housebuilding.	HFS' comment is noted by the council. Housing, including its socio-economic issues and the Housing Emergency, is discussed in Chapter 6 of the Evidence Report and its summary of engagement.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	It is accepted that the loss of woodland will only be supported where clearly defined public benefits can be demonstrated.	HFS' support is noted by the council.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	The Survey Paper notes where woodland is removed, compensatory planting will most likely be expected to be delivered. No guidance on the level of compensatory planting that the council would consider to be reasonable is presented, and if this planting be off-site. Further guidance on the levels of compensatory planting should be provided.	No level of provision features in NPF4 or <i>Local Development Planning Guidance</i> regarding compensatory planting. NPF4 states that where woodland is removed, compensatory planting will most likely be expected to be delivered.
Persimmon Homes	Persimmon Homes recognise that the council is not proposing to deviate from NPF4 Policy 6.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	Support expressed for the comments made by HfS.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	Trees/woodland on sites should not preclude the site from being considered for development, rather they improve the amenity and biodiversity of the site and can be incorporated into layout, offering environmental management opportunity (including delivering blue/green infrastructure, supporting nature networks, tackling climate change, flooding inclusive and facilitating nature recovery).	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.
Persimmon Homes	The site-selection process should also recognise the importance of deliverability and marketability alongside <i>Forestry, Woodland and Trees</i> to ensure development occurs where there is demand.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address these concerns. Any proposals for woodland removal will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Persimmon Homes	Address the Scottish Government declared Housing Emergency and enable economic benefits of housebuilding.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council. Housing, including its socio-economic issues and the Housing Emergency, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.
Persimmon Homes	It is accepted that the loss of woodland will only be supported where clearly defined public benefits can be demonstrated.	Persimmon Homes support is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	The Survey Paper notes where woodland is removed, compensatory planting will most likely be expected to be delivered. No guidance on the level of compensatory planting that the council would consider to be reasonable is presented, and if this planting be off-site. Further guidance on the levels of compensatory planting should be provided.	No level of provision features in NPF4 or <i>Local Development Planning Guidance</i> regarding compensatory planting. NPF4 states that where woodland is removed, compensatory planting will most likely be expected to be delivered.
Persimmon Homes	Site-specific comments made.	The Evidence Report is not the stage where site and land allocations are addressed. However, the council's Call for Ideas/Sites is currently open and Persimmon Homes are aware of this.
Persimmon Homes	The <i>Native Woodland Strategy for Scotland</i> should be added as an evidence source.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address this concern.
Persimmon Homes	Concern is raised over potential use of the Glasgow City Region <i>Forestry and Woodland Strategy</i> because some elements of these assessments are considered out of date and should not be given undue weight.	The council is preparing a Forestry & Woodland Strategy which will more appropriately address this concern.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Good social infrastructure (amongst other factors) to support sustainable communities is required to meet wider policy objectives.	SPF's support is noted by the council. Blue/Green Infrastructure and Nature Networks are discussed in Chapter 4 Natural and Built Environment of the Evidence Report, and Community Infrastructure is

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
		discussed in Chapter 9 Community Infrastructure.

**Table 6 - Topic Paper 7 Historic Assets and Place - Responses**

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	HES notes that the topic paper concludes that NPF4 policy should be applied and that there is no need to consider locally specific to support decision making. NPF acknowledges that not all impacts stemming from development or change will be adverse and that there will be situations where proposals can lead to positive impacts on the Historic Environment. The Topic Paper reflects this, and they encourage the Council to maintain this position in any forthcoming supporting guidance and information related to the topic.	HES' comments are noted by the council.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	HES recommend that the main datasets considered should include the national strategy for Scotland's Historic environment, Our Past, Our Future.	HES' comment is noted and this strategy is included in Chapter 4 Natural Environment and Built Heritage of the Evidence Report.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Detailed figures for the number of designated assets within the Council area are provided as an appendix.	HES' comment is noted. Information on assets is included in Chapter 4 Natural Environment and Built Heritage of the Evidence Report.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	While HES welcome the inclusion of information for the world Heritage Site (WHS), the paper is missing some important detail as follows: <i>The Antonine Wall was inscribed by UNESCO in 2008 as part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site. This is a multi-national World Heritage Site that also includes the Frontier in England (Hadrian's Wall) and Germany (the German Limes). The Antonine Wall was the northernmost fixed frontier of the Roman Empire. Only parts of the WHS are designated as Scheduled Monuments. The WHS is surrounded by a buffer zone which protects the immediate setting of the WHS; the adjacent environment that is part of, and contributes to, the character, significance and understanding of the wall. It is the outer limit of the buffer zone that is shown on the map of historical assets in the topic paper, not the wall itself. Both the Antonine Wall Management Plan and supplementary Planning Guidance are shared documents relevant to all five Scottish Local Authority areas containing the WHS.</i>	HES' comment is noted and the context has been updated within the Evidence Report.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Buildings at Risk and Enabling Development: Part 1 attached to this document provides detailed information on Buildings at Risk in the Council area.	HES' comment is noted by the council.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Potential Connections in Evidence: Climate Change and energy/climate mitigation and adaption. HES agree that there is potential for overlaps between this topic and topic papers 1: tackling the climate change and nature crises and 2: Climate change mitigation and adaption. Historic assets and places across Scotland are already being adversely affected by climate change, but they also have the potential to make a contribution to mitigating climate change and biodiversity impacts. HES is actively researching these issues. Their publication A Guide to Climate Change Impacts provides a tool for assessing the different hazards and levels of risk that threaten different types of sites in Scotland's Historic Environment. The Climate Change Risk Assessment Report represents the most in depth study to date of the historic sites in the case of HES. It quantifies heritage assets affected by climate change using GIS and creates a climate change risk register for the properties in care. The results of this initial risk assessment will provide the strategic basis for existing maintenance work programmes, as well as the allocation of funds for future works. While this work is specific to the HES estate it's hoped that the methodologies developed can be utilised by others to inform asset management decisions.	HES' comments are noted and supported by the council.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	The draft Topic Paper discusses the Councils vision to build on the distinctive character and quality of place, creating residential homes and mixed-use premises. Furthermore, the draft Topic Paper also highlights the need to consolidate town centres with new quality new-builds to strengthen urban form as well as protecting historic assets and improving their environment. It is positive that the need for residential homes and quality new-builds in North Lanarkshire is recognised.	HFS' comment is noted by the council. Housing, including the purpose of NPF4 Policy 16, is discussed in Chapter 6 of the Evidence Report and its summary of engagement.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	The draft Topic Paper states that the current consultation on Conservation Area Appraisals will help guide the management and development of the areas, with the aim of preserving and enhancing their character	HFS comments are noted by the council. A new Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	and heritage to ensure that proposals do not have detrimental impact. However, the current Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan from 2012 is outdated and may be inaccurate. Therefore, HFS believe these should not be used to guide development until the Council has completed the consultations that are currently being undertaken to inform the updated Conservation Appraisals.	document is currently being prepared and will replace the 2012 version.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Climate change may necessitate adaptive measures to preserve historic assets and places, including retrofitting buildings for increased energy efficiency as stated in the draft Topic Paper. It is important to note here that HFS members have experience of successfully refurbishing listed buildings whilst restoring and preserving original features of the buildings and enhancing the surrounding landscape.	HfS's comment is noted by the council.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Furthermore, the main site selection implications listed in the draft Topic Paper are whether any new proposed site would have any effects or considerations for a historic site, or its setting. In this respect, the presence of such heritage value could be seen as a constraint to development, affecting layout or site viability. It is important to recognise that the site selection process must also consider other factors alongside matters relating to historic assets and places, including marketability and deliverability. This is particularly important for settlements with designations in them and where this may affect the location. Considering both marketability and deliverability will ensure development happens in the areas where there is a significant demand for housing and assist in meeting the Council's Minimum All Tenure Housing Land Requirement (MATHLR).	HfS's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where the historic environment in relation to housing development is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.

**Table 7 - Topic Paper 9 Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings - Responses**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Persimmon Homes	Agree that brownfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places and communities (including economic factors).	Persimmon Homes support is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	Agree that greenfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places and communities (including economic factors).	Persimmon Homes support is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	Agree viability may be a factor and must be considered in respect of the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic and related sites (sites which may be constrained and have site-specific issues).	Persimmon Homes support is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	Agree viability may be a factor and must be considered in respect of the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic and related sites (sites which may be constrained and have site-specific issues).	Persimmon Homes support is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	An exercise should be undertaken looking at why housing sites have not been developed (including viability). Concern expressed regarding the deliverability of housing sites.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council. Housing, including viability, stalled sites and the intentions of owners/developers, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report. Homes for Scotland have been involved throughout this process.
Persimmon Homes	Detailed comments received that are more applicable to <i>Quality Homes</i> and/or <i>Rural Homes</i> (policy/topic Survey Paper 16 and 17 & 29).	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council. Housing, including the purpose of NPF4 Policy 16, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.
Persimmon Homes	Development viability is not adequately addressed in the Survey Paper.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council however it is highlighted that Persimmon Homes and the council are in agreement that viability is a consideration for

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings. Any proposals where viability is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. Only deliverable land allocations can feature in NLLDP2.
Persimmon Homes	Disagree that the correct evidence is set out in the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic Survey Paper.	What was consulted on was a Survey Paper considering potential evidence to be used for writing the Evidence Report as opposed to the actual Evidence Report. The Survey Paper is part of the process of establishing baseline information sources, it was not intended to provide that baseline. Following consultation and dialogue, including with the development industry, discussion of relevant data forms part of the Evidence Report.
Persimmon Homes	Evidence sources may not contain all <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council. The council has continued its land-use monitoring programmes and is open to considering any additional sources of information on <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity identified

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		when producing the Evidence Report. The council welcomes support for a spatial strategy focussing on brownfield land as well as greenfield land.
Persimmon Homes	Insufficient information is provided on Vacant and Derelict Land, linking to the deliverability of such sites.	What was consulted on was a Survey Paper considering potential evidence to be used for writing the Evidence Report as opposed to the actual Evidence Report. The Survey Paper is part of the process of establishing baseline information sources, it was not intended to provide that baseline. Following consultation and dialogue, including with the development industry, discussion of relevant data forms part of the Evidence Report.
Persimmon Homes	Site-specific comments made.	The Evidence Report is not the stage where site and land allocations are addressed. However, the council's Call for Ideas/Sites is currently open and Persimmon Homes are aware of this.
Persimmon Homes	Support expressed for the comments made by HfS.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council.
Persimmon Homes	The purpose of <i>Quality Homes</i> (policy/topic Survey Paper 16) is highlighted.	Persimmon Homes comment is noted by the council. Housing, including the purpose of NPF4 Policy 16, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	A vibrant public realm in places with good amenity and services (including transport) could have an impact on <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> .	SPF's comment is noted by the council. Blue/Green Infrastructure and Nature Networks are discussed in Chapter 4

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		Housing of the Evidence Report, and Community Infrastructure is discussed in Chapter 9 Community Infrastructure.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Agree viability may be a factor and must be considered in respect of the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic and related sites (sites which may be constrained and have site-specific issues).	SPF's support is noted by the council.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Agree viability may be a factor and must be considered in respect of the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic and related sites (sites which may be constrained and have site-specific issues).	SPF's support is noted by the council.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Brownfield sites with good access to public transport within North Lanarkshire and with Glasgow could support a policy approach to private and mid-market rent housing.	SPF's comment is noted by the council. Housing, including the purpose of NPF4 Policy 16, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Evidence sources may not contain all <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity.	SPF's comment is noted by the council. The council has continued its land-use monitoring programmes and is open to considering any additional sources of information on <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity identified when producing the Evidence Report. The council welcomes support for a spatial strategy focussing on brownfield land as well as greenfield land.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Flexibility is required when considering the reuse of land and buildings covered by the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic.	SPF's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flexibility is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Evidence sources may not contain all <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity.	HES comment is noted by the council. The council has continued its land-use monitoring programmes and is open to considering any additional sources of information on <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity identified when producing the Evidence Report. The council welcomes support for a spatial strategy focussing on brownfield land as well as greenfield land.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Support of the inclusion of Buildings at Risk Register (BARR) as an evidence source. Further detailed information on the BARR is available as this is a live data source that is subject to change, which the council could assist with should further at-risk and applicable buildings be identified via existing land-use monitoring.	HES support is noted by the council.
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)	Agree that the correct evidence is set out in the policy/topic Survey Paper.	SPT's support is noted by the council.
Save Woodhall and Faskine (SWAF) Greenbelt	Agree that the correct evidence is set out in the policy/topic <i>Survey Paper</i> .	SWAF's support is noted by the council.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Agree that brownfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places and communities (including economic factors).	CHW's support is noted by the council.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Agree that greenfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places and communities (including economic factors).	CHW's support is noted by the council.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Agree that the biodiversity value of brownfield land should be considered in site assessment.	CHW's support is noted by the council.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Agree viability may be a factor and must be considered in respect of the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic and related sites (sites which may be constrained and have site-specific issues).	CHW's support is noted by the council.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	An Urban Capacity Study (UCS) be produced as per <i>Local Development Planning Guidance</i> to inform the likelihood of sites being proposed for NLLDP2. This will ensure brownfield sites are effective and will contribute to meeting the Local Housing Land Requirement (LHLR) and subsequently show the level of greenfield land release required.	<p>The Local Development Planning Guidance does not require that a UCS is carried out, rather it views UCS as other information planning authorities may wish to: prepare, or review for spatial implications. In line with this guidance, the council may review its current UCS if deemed necessary as NLLDP2 progresses.</p> <p>Any proposals where brownfield/greenfield land is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.</p> <p>Housing, including the purpose of NPF4 Policy 16 and the LHLR, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report. It must be highlighted however that the concept of effective housing land/sites is no longer a feature of the Scottish planning system.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Brownfield sites may be located close to water sources/ rivers. Given the changes in applying SEPA's flood risk assessment metrics over time, the site's potential to flood and the possible impacts that climate change and extreme weather also need to be taken into account. NPF4 Policy 22 <i>Flood Risk and Water Management</i> requires (for redevelopment of previously used sites in built up areas) that proposals do not create an island of development and that safe access/egress can be achieved.	CHW's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flooding is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Detailed comments received that are more applicable to <i>Quality Homes</i> and/or <i>Rural Homes</i> (policy/topic Survey Paper 16 and 17 & 29).	CHW's comment is noted by the council. Housing, including the purpose of NPF4 Policy 16, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Disagree that the correct evidence is set out in the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic Survey Paper.	What was consulted on was a Survey Paper considering potential evidence to be used for writing the Evidence Report as opposed to the actual Evidence Report. The Survey Paper is part of the process of establishing baseline information sources, it was not intended to provide that baseline. Following consultation and dialogue, including with the development industry, discussion of relevant data forms part of the Evidence Report.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	NPF4 Policy 23 <i>Health and Safety</i> includes considerations relevant to the agent of change principle which applies to noise sensitive development and proximity to noise generating uses as well as air quality, all of which can impact on residential amenity. Consideration is required in relation to the proximity of brownfield sites to existing 'bad neighbour' type uses.	CHW's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where noise, air quality and the agent of change principle is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Green Action Trust	Agree that greenfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places and communities (including economic factors).	Green Action Trust's support is noted by the council.
Green Action Trust	Agree that the biodiversity value of brownfield land should be considered in site assessment.	Green Action Trust's support is noted by the council.
Green Action Trust	Flexibility is required when considering the reuse of land and buildings covered by the Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings policy/topic.	Green Action Trust's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flexibility is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Albert Bartlett	Agree that brownfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places and communities (including economic factors).	Albert Bartlett's support is noted by the council.
Albert Bartlett	Agree that greenfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places	Albert Bartlett's support is noted by the council.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	and communities (including economic factors).	
Albert Bartlett	Evidence sources may not contain all <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity.	Albert Bartlett's comment is noted by the council. The council has continued its land-use monitoring programmes and is open to considering any additional sources of information on <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity identified when producing the Evidence Report. The council welcomes support for a spatial strategy focussing on brownfield land as well as greenfield land.
Albert Bartlett	Evidence sources may not contain all greenfield development opportunity.	Albert Bartlett's comment is noted by the council. The council has continued its land-use monitoring programmes and is open to considering any additional sources of information on Greenfield development opportunity identified when producing the Evidence Report, including conducting a review of the Green Belt. The council welcomes support for a spatial strategy focussing on brownfield land as well as greenfield land.
Albert Bartlett	Flexibility is required when considering the reuse of land and buildings covered by the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic.	Albert Bartlett's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flexibility is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Albert Bartlett	NLLDP2 should take an area strategy approach based on Local Area Partnerships (LAP) in the same way as the adopted NLLDP.	LAPs in North Lanarkshire have been replaced by Community Board Areas since the development of NLLDP, and it is by these areas the council defines place. NLLDP2 must take a place-based approach, area strategies or their comparable will be produced for NLLDP2.
Albert Bartlett	Regional spatial planning objectives and City Deal projects should be shown in the spatial strategy regardless of land type.	NLLDP2 will include all known relevant regional spatial planning objectives at the time of writing, including City Deal projects
Albert Bartlett	Site-specific comments made.	The Evidence Report is not the stage where site and land allocations are addressed. However, the council's Call for Ideas/Sites is currently open and Albert Bartlett is aware of this.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Agree that brownfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places and communities (including economic factors).	HfS's support is noted by the council.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Agree that greenfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places and communities (including economic factors).	HfS's support is noted by the council.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Agree viability may be a factor and must be considered in respect of the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic and related sites (sites which may be constrained and have site-specific issues).	HfS's support is noted by the council.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	An exercise should be undertaken looking at why housing sites have not been developed (including viability). Concern	HfS's comment is noted by the council. Housing, including viability, stalled sites and the intentions

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	expressed regarding the deliverability of housing sites.	of owners/developers, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report. HfS have been involved throughout this process.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Detailed comments received that are more applicable to <i>Quality Homes</i> and/or <i>Rural Homes</i> (policy/topic Survey Paper 16 and 17 & 29).	HfS's' comment is noted by the council. Housing, including the purpose of NPF4 Policy 16, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Development viability is not adequately addressed in the Survey Paper.	HfS's comment is noted by the council however it is highlighted that Persimmon Homes and the council are in agreement that viability is a consideration for Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings. Any proposals where viability is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. Only deliverable land allocations can feature in NLLDP2.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Disagree that the correct evidence is set out in the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic Survey Paper.	What was consulted on was a Survey Paper considering potential evidence to be used for writing the Evidence Report as opposed to the actual Evidence Report. The Survey Paper is part of the process of establishing baseline information sources, it was not intended to provide that

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		baseline. Following consultation and dialogue, including with the development industry, discussion of relevant data forms part of the Evidence Report.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Evidence sources may not contain all <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity.	HfS's comment is noted by the council. The council has continued its land-use monitoring programmes and is open to considering any additional sources of information on <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> development opportunity identified when producing the Evidence Report. The council welcomes support for a spatial strategy focussing on brownfield land as well as greenfield land.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Insufficient information is provided on Vacant and Derelict Land, linking to the deliverability of such sites.	What was consulted on was a Survey Paper considering potential evidence to be used for writing the Evidence Report as opposed to the actual Evidence Report. The Survey Paper is part of the process of establishing baseline information sources, it was not intended to provide that baseline. Following consultation and dialogue, including with the development industry, discussion of relevant data forms part of the Evidence Report.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	The purpose of <i>Quality Homes</i> (policy/topic Survey Paper 16) is highlighted.	HfS's comment is noted by the council. Housing, including the purpose of NPF4 Policy 16, is discussed in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
FCC Environment Ltd	Agree that brownfield land should be part of the spatial strategy, making a positive contribution to NLLDP2, local areas, places and communities (including economic factors).	FCC Environment Ltd's support is noted by the council.
FCC Environment Ltd	Agree that the biodiversity value of brownfield land should be considered in site assessment.	FCC Environment Ltd's support is noted by the council.
FCC Environment Ltd	Agree viability may be a factor and must be considered in respect of the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic and related sites (sites which may be constrained and have site-specific issues).	FCC Environment Ltd's support is noted by the council.
FCC Environment Ltd	Flexibility is required when considering the reuse of land and buildings covered by the Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings policy/topic.	FCC Environment Ltd's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flexibility is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Scottish Water (SW)	Disagree that the correct evidence is set out in the <i>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings</i> policy/topic Survey Paper.	What was consulted on was a Survey Paper considering potential evidence to be used for writing the Evidence Report as opposed to the actual Evidence Report. The Survey Paper is part of the process of establishing baseline information sources, it was not intended to provide that baseline. Following consultation and dialogue, including with SW, discussion of relevant data forms part of the Evidence Report.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Scottish Water (SW)	SW Surface Water Policy should be considered, and appropriate above ground sustainable surface water drainage must be incorporated into early design of new developments on brownfield sites.	SW's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flooding and flood risk management are an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Scottish Water (SW)	Vacant and derelict land could be used to support flood risk management resulting from climate change.	SW's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where drainage and flooding are an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
SEPA	Agree that the correct evidence is set out in the policy/topic Survey Paper.	SEPA's support is noted by the council.
SEPA	SEPA are not in a position to comment on each individual paper and will comment only on topic papers where they can add most value to the evidence gathering process. SEPA views these as: <i>SFRA and Flood Risk</i> <i>Water Management</i> <i>Blue and Green infrastructure</i> <i>Biodiversity and Nature Networks</i> <i>Climate Change SEA</i> For everything else, SEPA refers the council to its <i>Evidence Sources by NPF4 Policy Topics</i> and <i>Evidence Sources Glossary (SEPA, 2023)</i> publications for use as appropriate. In these documents, SEPA	SEPA's comment is noted by the council. The council in line with SEPA's response has considered the Special Sites in Scotland evidence source and views this as not being applicable to NLLDP2 as it contains no listed sites are in North Lanarkshire.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	states its <i>Special Sites in Scotland</i> as being relevant to Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings (policy/topic Survey Paper 9).	

**Table 8 - Topic Paper 14 Design, Quality and Place - Responses**

Stakeholder	Phase 1 Stakeholder Comment	Phase 1 Council Response
Historic Environment Scotland	We welcome the consideration of historic assets and places in this topic and note in conclusion 7.2 retaining the provisions of EDQ1 and EDQ3 are retained in the forthcoming NLLDP2.	HES' support is noted by the council.
Historic Environment Scotland	Historic Assets and places can make a considerable contribution to design, quality and place: part 2 contains a lot of information relevant to this topic. Given the focus on climate change, the following HES publications would also be useful in informing policy and its implementation: Green Recovery Statement and our Guide to Climate Change impacts.	HES' comments are noted by the council, and these documents are referenced in Chapter 5 Climate Change, Energy and Resources of the Evidence Report.
Bidwells	This draft topic paper identifies that the topic policy for design, quality and place could be applied as per NPF4 Policy 14, supplemented with complimentary and expanded explanations of the consideration of the six qualities of place similar to existing LDP policies EDQ1 and EDQ3. Policy 14 encourages LDPS to identify where more detailed design guidance is required by way of design frameworks, briefs, masterplans and design codes. It is considered that supplementary guidance and/or a masterplan brief could be developed for our client's site at Appendix 1 to support the delivery of successful placemaking in line with Policy 14. A masterplan for the site prepared and could help to support an area-based strategy document for the new LDP.	Bidwells comments are noted by the council. The Evidence Report confirms that NPF4 Policy 14 will be applied across the plan area, supported by expanded policy text in NLLDP2 addressing the six qualities of successful places. Existing NLLDP design quality and placemaking policies will provide a basis moving forward where they align with the principles and intent of NPF4. The need for any detailed design guidance, including design frameworks, briefs or masterplans, will be identified through the plan preparation process and site appraisal.

Stakeholder	Phase 1 Stakeholder Comment	Phase 1 Council Response
Scottish Water	<p>Scottish Water supports the content of this topic paper, we welcome the opportunity of a multiagency approach, which considers the management of surface water and flood risk, at a catchment level. Design principles and guidance should incorporate water sensitivity into development proposals at all scales, and this should require to be demonstrated as part of the six qualities of successful places in a way that contributes positively to both the character of the place and net flood risk within the wider community. Scottish Water encourage all efforts to build well designed homes that have water neutrality at the heart of their design and long-term water efficiency measures as water is always worth saving.</p>	Scottish Water's support is noted by the council.
SEPA	No comments regarding Policy 14	SEPA's comment is noted by the council.

**Table 9 - Topic Papers 11 & 19 Energy, Heating and Cooling - Responses**

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
SEPA	<p>We are not in a position to comment on each individual paper; therefore, we are going to comment only on topic papers where we can add most value to the evidence gathering process. These are:</p> <p>SFRA and flood risk  Water management  Blue and Green infrastructure  Biodiversity and Nature Networks  Climate Change SEA</p> <p>For everything else we refer you to our Evidence Sources and Glossary (attached) for checking the information provided and fill any gaps as appropriate.</p>	SEPA's comment is noted by the council.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	<p>We welcome the acknowledgement that there is potential for negative effects on historic assets and places. Such effects could come from adaptations to traditional buildings to facilitate the just transition to net zero, and from the development of energy generation, transmission and storage facilities. We expect any such effects to be addressed in accordance with Policy 7 of NPF4.</p> <p>We are content with the conclusion that the topic policy in NPF4 should be applied in North Lanarkshire and that there is no need for locally specific policy for these topics.</p>	HES' comments are noted by the council.
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)	<p>We agree with the relevant evidence presented, however the energy use associated with private transport use should be reflected in sections 5. Reducing the need to travel as a result of local living and digital connections as well as providing opportunity for active travel and public transport use, will impact the energy demands associated with the private transport.</p> <p>Therefore, we also suggest that section 6 makes reference to sites. This will be reflected through other topics; however we consider there to be direct relevance in relation to the energy topic.</p> <p>This would demonstrate recognition of the energy demands of private transport and</p>	The council acknowledges SPT's comments in relation to the positive effect increased local living and improved digital connections may impact the energy demands associated with private transport. Any proposals where energy demands and local living are an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	provide a clear linkage with national and regional transport policy.	inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Scottish Water (SW)	<p>Scottish Water will support Scotland’s ambitions for renewable energy generation and carbon reduction, environmental performance and safeguarding our water resource for future generations.</p> <p>Scottish Water recognises that water plays a key role in renewable energy development, and we look forward to working collaboratively with stakeholders to deliver their energy objectives.</p> <p>Scottish Water is actively engaged in the growth of hydrogen as a key energy source and continue to support Scotland’s ambitions in this sector. Hydrogen production can have significant impact on water resources due to volume of water required. Scottish Water support the opportunities to use alternative sources of water for hydrogen processes where drawing potable water from the public network may prove challenging, for example, re-use and treatment of effluent and desalination.</p> <p>Scottish Water welcomes and supports North Lanarkshire’s council strategy to develop and deliver decarbonised heat interventions and heat network opportunities. We recognise the importance of identifying and delivering suitable heat solutions and their role in achieving the goals set out in the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy. We will support future expansion as necessary as we work together to build a more sustainable future.</p> <p>Early engagement with Scottish Water is encouraged to determine proposed network locations and infrastructure requirements.</p>	SW's comments are noted by the council, and we have engaged with SW through preparation of the Evidence Report.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
NatureScot	<p>We generally agree with the evidence base presented but suggest including the renewable energy map of Scotland as this may be useful in providing context beyond the local authority boundary. This evidence would be useful in considering cumulative impacts.</p> <p>The paper identifies the potential for positive effects on biodiversity at paragraph 5.15. While we agree that NPF4 policy is designed to secure positive effects, we consider that it would be useful to acknowledge the potential for negative effects. We suggest expanding slightly on the negative effects at paragraph 5.16. This would help to align with Policy 3. b) iii. of NPF4 which requires "an assessment of potential negative effects which should be fully mitigated in line with the mitigation hierarchy prior to identifying enhancements". While we expect there to be positive effects through application of Policy 3, allocations in the Proposed Plan may also have negative effects prior to application of mitigation. This would not necessarily be known without the more detailed information that will be provided in a planning application for those allocations. We acknowledge that this may be more clearly represented in the relevant topic paper(s) as this section is focused on policy overlaps.</p>	<p>NatureScot's comments are noted by the council. Chapter 4 Natural and Built Environment and Chapter 5 Climate Change, Energy and Resources of the Evidence Report have been updated to reflect these comments.</p>
Scottish Power Renewables	<p>Scottish Power Renewables agrees with most of the evidence which has been included and will mostly be suggesting additional sources of information.</p> <p>However, prior to suggesting these extra pieces of information we would like to provide a few additional comments.</p> <p>Whilst the NPF4 states that LDPs should seek to realise their area's full potential for electricity and heat from renewable, low carbon and zero emission sources by identifying a range of opportunities for energy development. This should not set a presumption against developments outside of any opportunities identified and projects should be considered on the merits of each individual site and project.</p>	<p>Scottish Power Renewables' comments are noted. In line with NPF4, renewable energy proposals will be assessed on their individual merits against the full policy framework. Evidence sources have been updated to include Onshore Wind Sector Deal and reference to BVGA analysis and will continue to monitor for any further updates including a final Solar Vision.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>Below we will list the additional evidence pieces we would suggest adding to the evidence North Lanarkshire is building:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Onshore Wind Sector Deal</li> </ul> <p>Onshore Wind Sector Deal – The Onshore Wind Sector Deal follows on from the Onshore Wind Policy Statement, outlining how Scottish Government and the Renewables Sector will work collaboratively to deliver the 20GW of wind energy by 2030. The document contains over 40 commitments for the signatories to support that delivery. Whilst the commitments don't necessarily all directly relate to local authorities, quite a number will have impacts for local authorities and should be a consideration within the drafting of Local Development Plans. For example, everything from new guidance for planners on expectations on environmental protection and enhancement, to a proposed central data repository and suggestions around onshore wind cluster areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BVGA Pipeline Analysis</li> </ul> <p>BVGA Pipeline Analysis – As part of the Onshore Wind Sector deal the sector committed to “By the end of 2023, we will provide an analysis of the expected pipeline of new onshore wind projects, extensions to existing projects, life extensions and re-powering projects expected between 2023 and 2030. This analysis will include when these developments are likely to be submitted for Section 36 consent or planning permission, the likely geographic distribution of development between planning authorities, and the potential MW scale of development. We will update this pipeline at least bi-annually to enable Government and statutory consultees to plan ahead for the resources that will be required to process applications.” This analysis undertaken by BVGA is now in its second iteration and as highlighted in the deal will be updated every 6 months. Whilst the data is intended to be used for primarily resource planning, it should also</p>	

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>prove useful for understanding the current and future plans for onshore wind within North Lanarkshire supporting the LDP development. The pipeline analysis is available on Scottish Renewables website Scottish Onshore Wind Pipeline (scottishrenewables.com).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scottish Government Solar Vision (once available)</li> </ul> <p>Scottish Government Solar Vision – On 28th October 2023 Scottish Government publicly announced a proposal for solar deployment ambition of 4-6GW by 2030. We are subsequently expecting a Scottish Government Solar Vision which will likely if published in time be a useful addition to the LDP evidence base.</p>	
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>There is limited detail on how the council will consider development proposals which support...decarbonised solutions to heat and cooling demand...in accord with the Policy Intent of NPF4 Policy 19 Heat and Cooling. Scotland Heat Map and the Scottish Government's Heat in Buildings Strategy should be included as evidence sources. Recognition should be given in the topic paper to the ability of buildings to incorporate alternative means of reducing energy demand through the inclusion of air source heat pumps, PV Panels or building materials.</p>	<p>CHW's comments are noted by the council. NPF4 requires LDPs to take account of the Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES), which sets out the long-term approach to improving building energy efficiency and reducing emissions in North Lanarkshire.</p> <p>The LHEES and its supporting national strategies have been included as evidence sources, with opportunities to reduce emissions considered further through the Evidence Report and the application of NPF4 Policy 19 alongside related housing and climate change policies.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>The reference within Section 6 that the emerging LDP will consider housing allocations based on their proximity to existing or potential heat networks is not considered to be in accord with the principles of Policy 19 of NPF4. Policy 19 does not restrict new housing development to areas just within heat network zones as implied within the Topic paper. Disagree with proposed focus on allocations within heat network zones as this could unreasonably restrict allocations for housing development coming forward from within other settlements within the authority area. Any allocations to support the delivery of heat networks should therefore be in addition to the Council's choice of Local Housing Land Requirement. We would be concerned if the site assessment framework scored sites poorly on the basis they were not located within a heat network zone.</p>	<p>CHW's comments are noted by the council. The Council does not intend to restrict new housing development solely to Heat Network Zones. In line with NPF4 Policy 19, NLLDP2 will take account of areas of heat network potential alongside other considerations through a holistic site assessment, with only deliverable sites allocated.</p>
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>The Council's Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy identifies five potential zones for heat networks.</p> <p>The major concern about the Council's approach is the lead-in time necessary to identify the investors and operators who will identify the infrastructure necessary to deliver these Heat Networks. It is noted that the LHEES Delivery Plan clarifies that feasibility studies will only be completed by 2028. The uncertainty and delays associated with establishing viable heat networks are a major issue if the outcome from the feasibility studies is only known after the emerging LDP is adopted, thereby undermining part of the Council's development strategy.</p> <p>If housing allocations are allocated to help stimulate the establishment of Heat Network Zones, then without clarity in advance from the LHEES Delivery Plan feasibility studies, there is a strong possibility that these allocated sites may become non-effective.</p> <p>The lack of commitment to the delivery of heat networks does not meet the terms of NPF 4 Policy 18 - Infrastructure first.</p>	<p>CHW's comments are noted by the council. The Council does not intend to restrict new housing development solely to Heat Network Zones. In line with NPF4 Policy 19, NLLDP2 will take account of areas of heat network potential alongside other considerations through a holistic site assessment, with only deliverable sites allocated. Commitment to heat network delivery is set out in the LHEES Delivery Plan, with feasibility studies for identified areas of heat network potential expected by 2028, and the Plan will be prepared using the most up-to-date information available</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>Further concerns relate to the linkage between higher density developments and the viability of heat networks to allocate new development. Whilst Cala Homes agree that the viability of a heat network is likely to be linked to the number of homes that can be connected, there is no requirement for this to be linked to a need for higher density development.</p> <p>Viability will also be reliant on a range of other factors. For example, connecting to an existing or proposed heat generation source, land ownership to be able to install a heat network, and costs associated with the provision of new infrastructure and connection. These are factors which need to be carefully considered against other development costs and considerations. These necessary matters will only be known when the LHEES Delivery Plan is published in 2028 – post adoption of the LDP.</p>	<p>CHW's comments are noted by the council. The Council does not intend to restrict new housing development solely to Heat Network Zones. In line with NPF4 Policy 19, NLLDP2 will take account of areas of heat network potential alongside other considerations through a holistic site assessment, with only deliverable sites allocated. Commitment to heat network delivery is set out in the LHEES Delivery Plan, with feasibility studies for identified areas of heat network potential expected by 2028, and the Plan will be prepared using the most up-to-date information available</p>
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>The emerging Evidence Report requires to consider proposals which can support a transition away from a reliance on non-renewable energy sources, which includes the use of Low and Zero Generating Carbon Generating Technologies (LZGCT) within housing allocations. The Council should consult with housebuilders and developers to better understand what measures they are taking to improve the energy use, and heating and cooling of new homes. CHW has set a net-zero target by 2045 and lists a number of measures being taken to move towards this target.</p> <p>In accord with Criterion f) of Policy 19 of NPF4, the Council should consider how development proposals for new homes can incorporate Low and Zero Generating Carbon Generating Technologies, increased standards of insulation to meet building standards regulation and passive design in terms of positioning and orientation of development to maximise natural solar gain. These measures will reduce CO2 emissions as well as connections to heat networks.</p>	<p>The council intends to comply with NPF4 to encourage, promote and facilitate development that supports decarbonised solutions to heat and cooling demand and ensure adaptation to more extreme temperatures and acknowledges that this can be achieved through other solutions not just through connections to heat networks, as recognised in the council's LHEES. Criterion f) of NPF4 Policy 19 and the use of Low and Zero Generating Carbon Generating Technologies (LZGCT) will be considered at the site selection and planning application stage.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
FCC Environmental Limited	<p>Emerging strategies such as the Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan should continue to be monitored with any updates incorporated into the Evidence Report due later this year. The NPF4 is clear in encouraging and promoting all forms of renewable energy development and the emerging plan should reflect this. More locally it is suggested that wind energy developments should continue to be directed to areas which have lower sensitivity (such as the Plateau Moorland) and the preference to dispersal into unaffected areas of higher sensitivity is maintained. It is agreed that the emerging plan will need to continue to identify areas for energy generation.</p> <p>The Drumgray Energy Recovery Centre has been designed to enable a potential heat network and this acknowledgement is welcomed. As feasibility studies on proposed zones progress, these should be reflected in the evidence base, with other topics (such as housing) also noting the potential for heat connection. It is agreed that the merging plan should take account of the proximity of and potential for heat network zones.</p> <p>Whilst energy generation statistics are of assistance, operating / pipeline capability should not be seen as a limit. Exceeding targets should be encouraged to mitigate the causes and impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Renewable energy developments require a suitable grid connection. The opportunity to co-locate complementary developments such as solar / wind with battery storage facilities to assist in reducing the need for costly grid reinforcements should be acknowledged. As set out in the Topic Paper, engagement with SPEN will be required to ensure the grid can accommodate renewable energy development. Existing infrastructure with capacity to accommodate new or improved points of connection should be encouraged, noting that National Grid's Future Energy Scenarios project Scotland's peak</p>	<p>FCC Environmental Limited's comments are noted by the council. Site selection for NLLDP2 will take a holistic approach in line with the full NPF4 policy framework, including Policy 19. Commitment to heat network delivery is set out in the LHEES Delivery Plan, with feasibility studies for identified areas of heat network potential expected by 2028, and the Plan will be prepared using the most up-to-date information available. Opportunities to co-locate complementary developments are acknowledged and consideration will be given to the potential for this as NLLDP2 progresses. The council will continue to engage with SPEN.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	demand for electricity is anticipated to double within the next two decades thus a substantial increase in installed capability across all renewable technologies is urgently required.	
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Homes for Scotland (HFS) support the Council's recognition and declaration of a climate emergency as well becoming a signatory of the Edinburgh declaration on Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework. Policy 1 of National Planning Framework (NPF) 4 also gives weight to the global climate and nature crisis. However, since then, a national Housing Emergency has been declared, and housing has been elevated to a national outcome. Housing proposals should also now be given "significant weight" as a material consideration when determining planning applications.	HFS' comments are noted by the council. Comments in relation to the National Housing Emergency are addressed in Chapter 6 Housing in the Evidence Report. The Evidence Report acknowledges the alignment of energy policies with climate mitigation and adaptation goals will provide the mechanism going forward to ensure that North Lanarkshire can contribute significantly to a sustainable and resilient future for both the people of North Lanarkshire whilst contributing to the wider national and international efforts to tackle the climate and nature crises.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	The draft Topic Paper makes reference to Heat Network Zones (HNZs), and notes that, currently, these zones cover a very small area across North Lanarkshire, affecting a small proportion of buildings. As such, it is clear that heat networks are not the primary route to low carbon, affordable heat for everyone in North Lanarkshire. The draft Topic Paper outlines that future new-build developments may lend themselves better to heat networks, and that it is worth considering that higher density developments, such as flats or mixed-use developments, are more likely to be viable for heat networks than low-density developments. Considerations relating to viability are an important facet here.	HfS's comments are noted by the council. In line with NPF4 Policy 19, NLLDP2 will take account of areas of heat network potential alongside other considerations through a holistic site assessment, with only deliverable sites allocated. Commitment to heat network delivery is set out in the LHEES Delivery Plan, with feasibility studies for identified areas of heat network potential expected by 2028, and the Plan will be prepared using the most up-to-date information available
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	It is unreasonable to require a development to be designed and constructed to connect to a potential future heat network at a later date.	HfS's comment is noted by the council. All future proposals will be assessed in accordance with the relevant NPF4 development management policies. In line with NPF4 Policy 19 Criterion c) states that

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		<p>"where a heat network is planned but not yet in place, development proposals will only be supported where they are designed and constructed to allow for cost-effective connection at a later date." Proposals will be assessed holistically against the full policy framework.</p>
<p>Homes for Scotland (HfS)</p>	<p>The Building (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2023 (New Heat Standard) has changed the way that new homes will be heated and the associated carbon emissions. Section 72 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 introduced Section 3F into the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. Section 3F requires Local Development Plans (LDPs) to contain policies that require new buildings to be designed to avoid a specified and rising proportion of greenhouse gas emissions from their use through the installation and operation of low and zero-carbon generating technologies.</p> <p>As of 1st April 2024, the latest national planning policy, heat policy and associated building regulations go much further than LDPs are required to under Section 3F into the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. There is therefore no need for LDPs to set an ambition for optimising build quality and performance to ensure new homes and buildings are energy efficient. The focus should be on enhancing the energy efficiency of existing homes and buildings.</p> <p>HNZs are supported in principle, however where there are multiple landowners and interests' development is likely to be delayed. Given the ongoing housing crisis, this delay is required to be avoided.</p>	<p>HfS's comments are noted by the council. The Council intends to comply with NPF4 and relevant national heat and building regulations, recognising that these now set the primary requirements for new development.</p>
<p>Homes for Scotland (HfS)</p>	<p>HfS members are fully committed to reducing the impacts of climate change and already consider sustainability as an integral part of their businesses. Further to this, energy efficient heating systems are increasingly frequently used in homes, and many developments now utilise photo voltaic panels to generate electricity for</p>	<p>The council agrees with HfS's comments in relation to the grid capacity. The council will seek to work with SPEN to ensure that grid capacity issues are addressed or actions are in place to resolve any issues,</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>use in the home, thereby reducing electricity bills. The move away from gas central heating to heat pumps combined with the provision of electric vehicle charging points will substantially increase the energy demand for new homes. It is key that grid capacity is provided timeously to serve proposed development on allocated sites to ensure that new homes are not delayed.</p>	<p>when considering development allocations for NLLDP2.</p>
<p>Homes for Scotland (HfS)</p>	<p>Furthermore, it is vital to highlight the need for the spatial strategy in the next LDP to consider both sustainable and marketable locations for new developments. If a sustainable site is not in a marketable location, it is unlikely to be delivered, and the housing requirement will not be met. Any unnecessary certification requirements should also not be imposed on the homebuilding industry at the planning stage if it is already controlled by other means. This could also affect the viability of developments and their ability to be delivered.</p>	<p>The council intends to comply with NPF4, and only deliverable sites will be included in NLLDP2.</p>
<p>Homes for Scotland (HfS)</p>	<p>The draft Topic Paper highlights concern regarding fuel poverty. As detailed above, it is required to be understood that HFS members already routinely provide energy efficiency measures in their developments. Homes with poor insulation or inefficient heating can result in fuel poverty, causing stress for lower income families who may be unable to afford both fuel and food. On average, 89% of all new homes built by HFS members meet at least an EPC grade 'B' standard. In terms of carbon reduction, surveys show that, increasingly, home builders are embedding zero emissions heating systems and enhanced energy-efficiency measures into their developments.</p>	<p>HfS's comments are noted by the council.</p>
<p>Homes for Scotland (HfS)</p>	<p>Finally, it is important for the Topic Paper to recognise the need for evidence to be kept up to date and any plan and decisions must be able to be made in this context, where appropriate.</p>	<p>HfS's comments are noted by the council.</p>

**Table 10 - Topic Paper 12 Zero Waste - Responses**

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)	Agreed with evidence base presented in the Topic paper 12 - Zero Waste (Online response and box ticked - no comment provided)	SPT's support is noted by the council.
FCC Environment Ltd	North Lanarkshire's household waste data, presented in the paper, illustrates there is no downward trend to indicate the 15% reduction target set by the Scottish Government will be met. Furthermore, there is no downward trend in business waste and the amount of waste recycled in North Lanarkshire has remained consistent (42%). The additional waste capacity calculation presented in the topic paper should be mindful of these statistics and not focused on recycling targets which whilst correct in theory have not been achieved.	The council will include Overarching waste data statistics, Waste Sites and Capacity, Capacity 'need' calculations to meet ZW targets in the Evidence Report.
FCC Environment Ltd	It is helpful to identify the capacity of existing sites, however knowledge of sites currently under construction which are expected to be operational in the early plan period should also be identified. For example, the Greengairs Landfill Site benefits from planning permission for a range of waste management infrastructure which enables pre-treatment, managing residual waste and the opportunity for heat and power from the Drumgray ERC. The infrastructure should be referenced in the emerging evidence base, in a similar way to that set out in the Energy Topic Paper, and its co-locational benefits acknowledged.	FCC Environment Ltd's comment is noted by the council. Overarching waste data statistics, Waste Sites and Capacity, Capacity 'need' calculations to meet ZW targets are included in the Evidence Report. The LHEES identifies heat network potential in North Lanarkshire and is an evidence source in the Evidence Report, and Greengairs/Drumgray is discussed.
FCC Environment Ltd	As technologies evolve and / or legislation requires new waste management infrastructure may come forward. Emerging policy should be mindful of this and the need to ensure facilities are available for all waste streams.	FCC Environment Ltd's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where waste management is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	4.10: We note and welcome the acknowledgement of the contribution that renovation of existing buildings can make to zero waste goals as laid out in the Circular Economy Bill and its accompanying Route Map. Subsequent paragraphs 4.13 - 4.17 provide further detail on the level of waste generated by the construction industry.	HES' support is noted by the council.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	5.13: We agree that there is potential for some positive effects from the Zero Waste policy on Historic Assets and Places. However, as noted in our comments on Energy and Heating & Cooling, there is also potential for negative effects if works are not planned and implemented appropriately.	HES' comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where waste management is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	7.2: We are content with the conclusion that the topic policy in NPF4 should be applied in North Lanarkshire and that there is no need for locally specific policy for these topics.	SW's support is noted by the council.
Scottish Water (SW)	Scottish Water supports the content of the above topic paper and welcomes opportunities to incorporate circular economy principles when considering any future development and expansion of local communities. This would include the utilisation of existing assets prior to new build, recycling of materials as well as looking to extract value from waste streams such as grey water recycling, surface water management, nutrients from wastewater streams and integrated energy from multiple waste streams.	HES' support is noted by the council.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
SEPA	<p>We are not in a position to comment on each individual paper; therefore we are going to comment only on topic papers where we can add most value to the evidence gathering process. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SFRA and flood risk</li> <li>Water management</li> <li>Blue and Green infrastructure</li> <li>Biodiversity and Nature Networks</li> <li>Climate Change</li> <li>SEA</li> </ul> <p>For everything else we refer you to our Evidence Sources and Glossary (attached) for checking the information provided and fill any gaps as appropriate.</p>	<p>SEPA's comment is noted by the council. The council in line with SEPA's response has considered the overarching waste data statistics, Waste Sites and Capacity, Capacity 'need' calculations to meet ZW targets in the Evidence Report.</p>

**Table 11 - Topic Paper 22 Flood Risk and Water Management - Responses**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
SEPA	Disagree that the correct evidence is set out in the Flood Risk and Water Management topic Survey paper. Section 3 of the Survey Paper links only SEPA Flood Maps. Links to SEPA's Environmental Data, Water Management Hub and Water Classification Hub should also be included. SEPA will be unable to offer support for this aspect of the topic paper unless these are included in the environmental baseline.	The council has been in dialogue with SEPA, and the correct evidence is included in the Evidence Report.
Miller Homes	Disagree that the correct evidence is set out in the Flood Risk and Water Management topic Survey paper but do not offer additional evidence source to fill the perceived gap.	The council has been in dialogue with SEPA, and the correct evidence is included in the Evidence Report.
Miller Homes	Greater emphasis should be given to the potential allocation of sites and the associated benefits in relation to supporting flooding resilience.	Miller Homes comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flooding is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.
Miller Homes	Promotion of a potential housing-led development opportunity	The Evidence Report is not the stage where site and land allocations are addressed. However, the council's Call for Ideas/Sites is currently open and Miller Homes are aware of this.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	HES recommend that Historic Assets and Places should be recognised as having the potential to experience both positive and negative effects from actions relating to Flood Risk and Water Management. Part 2 of HES's submission provides a detailed report containing designation information and reflections of challenges and opportunities that is relevant to this topic paper.	HES' comments are noted by the council. The council acknowledges receipt of HES' and has considered this evidence source. The council has further been in dialogue with HES in the production of the Evidence Report and agree with that Historic Assets and Places could experience both positive and negative effects from actions relating to Flood Risk and Water Management.

Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Comments are made in relation to Scottish Government's Flood Resilience Strategy and that a flood resilient solution may not be the most appropriate solution and in some circumstances a 'fixing flooding problems' approach should be maintained. The Topic Paper discusses sites that are found to be at significantly high risk of flooding, with no practical solutions to reduce the risk, stating that these sites will not be taken forward for development and instead may be considered for other sustainable land use purposes.	The council as stated in its response to Scottish Government's draft Flood Resilience Strategy agrees that there will, in some cases, be circumstances where a specific local intervention may be the most effective approach to reduce risk. It must be noted that the National Flood Resilience Strategy has been published subsequently.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	The topic paper should recognise that there are tools which can, in some circumstances, be utilised to mitigate existing and future flood risk, for example a Construction Environment Management Plan.	Construction Environment Management Plans are best practices/mitigation measures to minimize the environmental impact of construction activities; they do not propose a long-term flood solution.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Homebuilders carry out due diligence before submitting a site for consideration in the LDP process. All allocated sites must be clearly deliverable and viable. The council must engage with the housebuilder sector when considering the deliverability of sites submitted under a future call for sites exercise. HfS and its members have experience of overcoming flooding constraints and can provide more certainty regarding site deliverability should the council have concerns.	HfS's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flooding and viability are issues will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. Only deliverable land allocations can feature in NLLDP2.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	The council should consider opportunities to encourage partnership between local landowners/managers, farmers, crofters and homebuilders/developers where there may be an opportunity to improve a settlements long term flood resilience.	HfS's comment is noted by the council. NPF4 generally prohibits development in flood risk areas. However, if a practical solution is available to manage flood risk for a potential development site, the council will consider the information in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders. Any proposals where flooding and viability are issues will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered

		as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. Only deliverable land allocations can feature in NLLDP2. The council welcome HfS and its members input from their experience of overcoming flooding constraints.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	HfS suggest that, as a minimum, a Stage 1 FRA or other suitable/agreed and proportionate submission on flood risk is submitted at the site promotion stage and should apply to all existing allocations. The LDP and future Deliverable Housing Land Pipeline should then set out if a further FRA is required at the planning application stage.	HfS' comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flooding is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals.  Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. Only deliverable land allocations can feature in NLLDP2. The council agree that a Stage 1 Flood Risk Assessment or other suitable/agreed and proportionate submission on flood risk may be an appropriate requirement from landowners/developers at the call for sites stage.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Disagree that the correct evidence is set out in the Flood Risk and Water Management topic Survey paper but do not offer additional evidence source to fill the perceived gap.	The council has been in dialogue with SEPA, and the correct evidence is included in the Evidence Report.

<p>Cala Homes (West) (CHW)</p>	<p>CHW are concerned about the use of SEPA's Future Flood Maps as a screening tool as part of the council's site selection process, and the implication the this will be used as a determining factor in the council's site selection process for the next LDP. It is an unreliable source in the council's site selection process to rule out sites for future development. Sites which are partly affected by flood risk are typically sites which deliver significant biodiversity enhancement.</p> <p>The council should seek a further assessment on flooding/drainage where the SEPA flood maps identify land at possible risk of flooding and not discount the development of sites unless those promoting cannot demonstrate there is a solution to address the risk.</p>	<p>CHW's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where flooding is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. Only deliverable land allocations can feature in NLLDP2.</p>
<p>Cala Homes (West) (CHW)</p>	<p>CHW comments state that the topic paper does not wholly reflect Policy 22 by its omission to highlight the requirement to consider how a development, through appropriate mitigation measures, could help to reduce flood risk both within a site and downstream. Development proposals can provide opportunities to reduce flood risk.</p> <p>This is particularly important for brownfield sites previously in industrial use, especially those within towns and cities. Many of these sites are likely to be located adjacent to existing watercourses and therefore may be identified as being at risk of flooding by SEPA's flood maps.</p> <p>If it is the council's intention as implied in the topic paper, that sites identified as being at risk of flooding (or those within 6m of a watercourse) are not to be supported for development, this will have undesirable consequences on the Council's development strategy and its ability to identify sustainable brownfield locations for future allocations.</p> <p>CHW suggests that the council delete part of paragraph 6.4 of the topic</p>	<p>CHW's comment is noted by the council. NPF4 generally prohibits development in flood risk areas. However, if a practical solution is available to manage flood risk for a potential development site, the council will consider the information in collaboration with all relevant stakeholders. Any proposals where flooding and viability are issues will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications. Only deliverable land allocations can feature in NLLDP2. The council welcomes CHW's input from their experience of overcoming flooding constraints.</p>

	<p>where it states that sites which are at risk of flooding...may be considered for other sustainable land uses purposes, as it is not permissible nor reasonable. The statement within NPF4 which states that for areas where climate change is likely to result in increased flood exposure...consideration should be given to alternative sustainable land use. This is very different from the implication that sites which are at risk of flooding may be considered for alternative land uses.</p>	
Scottish Water (SW)	<p>SW supports the Sustainable flood risk management guidance principles which look to manage surface water to reduce flood risk and support the delivery of integrated drainage.</p>	<p>SW's support is noted by the council.</p>
Scottish Water (SW)	<p>SW has a duty to support new developments whilst protecting existing customers and communities from any negative environmental impacts, such as flooding, resulting from additional connections to the public sewer network. Scottish Water expect a 'zero new detriment' approach to sewer flood risk from new connections. Strategic hydraulic model assessments can be utilised to support this duty.</p>	<p>SW's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where sewage connection is an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.</p>
Scottish Water (SW)	<p>Reference is made to SW's Storm Water Management policies which encourage all opportunities to find above ground nature-based solutions for the management of surface water of roads and curtilage water from new developments. New developments can offer opportunities of creating betterment of reducing surface water flood risk on existing communities by removing surface water from existing combined sewer networks.</p>	<p>SW's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where sewage connection, flooding and drainage are an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.</p>

	<p>SW are exploring opportunities to utilise blue green infrastructure to reduce flows entering the sewer and where possible disconnect surface water from the combined system, and welcome opportunity to work with North Lanarkshire Council and the wider development community to incorporate new surface water management measures in new developments.</p>	<p>SW's comment is noted by the council. Any proposals where blue/green infrastructure, sewage and flooding are an issue will be considered in line with NPF4 policy. All NPF4 policies will be considered with a holistic approach and collectively when applied to proposals. Specific issues raised will be considered as part of the site selection process for inclusion in NLLDP2, and any future planning applications.</p> <p>The council note and agree that a partnership approach is vital for reducing the risk of flooding and that new developments can offer opportunities to help achieve wider flood risk betterment to existing communities. These can potentially be identified in the site assessment process.</p>
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)	<p>SPT agree with the evidence and implication as set out. No further comment at this stage.</p>	<p>SPT's support is noted by the council.</p>
NatureScot	<p>NatureScot suggest the following additional datasets consider flood risk and its links to biodiversity, and should be included as part of the evidence base:</p> <p>Standing water database –  <a href="http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/pls/apex_ca gdb2/f?p=111">http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/pls/apex_ca gdb2/f?p=111</a></p> <p>Peatland Action feasibility and completed restoration datasets -  <a href="https://opendata.nature.scot/search?groupIds=dc87e2f315c0452f8b2f2fbbfa0eabd4">https://opendata.nature.scot/search?groupIds=dc87e2f315c0452f8b2f2fbbfa0eabd4</a></p>	<p>NatureScot's comment is noted by the council. The council has included Peatland Action feasibility and completed restoration datasets as evidence sources with the Evidence Report. Standing Water database is currently not available.</p>

**Table 12 - Topic Paper 33 Minerals - Responses**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	We recommend that Scotland's strategy for the historic environment, Our Past, Our Future (OPOF), should also be referenced. Our Past Our Future sets out the Scottish Government's strategy and direction of travel for issues relating to cultural heritage (historic assets and places). While the Minerals topic may have limited scope to impact on cultural heritage, the strategy laid out on OPOF should be borne in mind in any decision-making process.	Agree that Scotland's strategy Our Past, Our Future can be referenced in the Evidence Report.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	We do not understand the basis of the statement in section 5.10 that there is potential for positive effects for the Historic Assets and Places topic area. we recommend that the topic paper should also note that there is potential for negative effects on the Historic Assets and Places topic. Some of the quarry areas identified in the paper are close to designated cultural heritage assets such as scheduled monuments and designed landscapes which could experience adverse physical or setting impacts from quarry operations or expansions.	HES' comments are noted by the council and agree that the Evidence Report should note potential for negative effects on the Historic Assets and Places topic.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	We are content that the application of the existing topic policy in NPF4 along with other relevant policy and guidance should be sufficient and that no locally specific policy is required.	HES' support is noted by the council.
SPT	Agreement with the evidence base presented in Topic Paper 33 Minerals.	SPT's comment is noted by the council.
NatureScot	We suggest including information on protected areas, including Geological Conservation Review (GCR) sites. Detail on these for North Lanarkshire can be found via SiteLink <a href="https://sitelink.nature.scot/">https://sitelink.nature.scot/</a> .	Agree to include information on protected areas including Geological Conservation Review sites, as linked and referred to in NatureScot's comments.
NatureScot	The paper identifies the potential for positive effects on biodiversity at paragraph 5.11. While we agree that NPF4 policy is designed to secure positive effects, we consider that it would be useful to acknowledge the potential for negative effects.	Agree to update and acknowledge the potential for negative effects.

**Table 13 - Topic Paper 16 Quality Homes - Responses**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management and Taylor Wimpey	Reference should be made to Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation (2022)	Noted. Reference to this strategy is made in Chapter 12 Business & Industry of the Evidence Report.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey; Scotia Homes	The Existing Housing Need in North Lanarkshire report, commissioned by Homes for Scotland (HfS) should be listed independently from the national report.	Noted.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	Request to be consulted as part of the development of the council's site assessment methodology.	Noted.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	Request completions data is split into different tenures.	Noted.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	Agree with the proposed baseline data, however, request economic ambitions and job creation are also taken into consideration.	Noted. Both economic ambition and job creation have been taken into consideration in setting the iLHLR.
Hallam Land Management	There is a need to be ambitious and release additional land to ensure there is enough deliverable land.	The council intend to comply with NPF4 and ensure there is enough deliverable land to meet the LHLR.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	The Development Plan Scheme (DPS) posits an adoption date for the emerging LDP of around March 2028. Projected completions prior to this date cannot be included in seeking to meet the MATHLR nor the LHLR. All sites currently allocated are required to be reviewed.	In preparing the proposed LDP the council will carry out an up-to-date assessment of the likely potential contribution from the established deliverable supply towards meeting the LHLR in the plan period.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	Sites currently disputed by HFS in the draft 2024 HLA must be reflected in the Evidence Report.	Noted. The 2025 HLA has since been finalised and no disputes were recorded.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	No account is taken for demolitions (i.e., the net loss of habitable dwellings) within the discussion of the LHLR – this requires review and engagement with HFS.	The Council have engaged with HfS on this matter through the HLA process and conclude that all affected households in re-provisioning sites across North Lanarkshire council area are firstly re-housed in existing stock through vacant stock (mainly NLC, but in some instances local RSL), empty homes and buy backs being refurbished and re-let as council homes. Demolitions are taken into account as part of the preparation of the GCR Housing Need and Demand Assessment which forms part of the evidence base for setting the MATHLR and LHLR. Homes for Scotland noted the council's response in their email dated 27 November 2024. The council considers that no further action is required to account for demolitions.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	All authorities should complete a robust Call for Ideas/Sites stage.	Noted.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	Any indication that the Council intends to consider a new affordable housing policy requirement must be clearly set out at Evidence Report stage, not any later.	Noted.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	The Evidence Report (ER) should be informed by the Local Housing Strategy (LHS). HfS require to be consulted as part of the preparation of the next LHS.	A new LHS has been prepared and has been used to inform the ER. HFS were consulted.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	Dispute the topic paper's claims that setting a significantly higher LHLR will have significant implications on infrastructure capacity. New housing can help unlock new infrastructure.	Noted. There is a requirement for all infrastructure types if sites are to be developed. If a site has significant infrastructure requirements this could affect its deliverability and its ability to be included in the Deliverable Pipeline to meet the LHLR.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	Support is given to the Council's decision to contact landowners to ascertain development intentions. The responses should be set out in the Evidence Report and monitored on an annual basis, through the Delivery Programme.	Noted.
Homes for Scotland; Hallam Land Management; Taylor Wimpey	Although support is given to the sustainable reuse of brownfield land, if it cannot be demonstrated that a site can be viably delivered, it should not be allocated. A site needs to be available and deliverable and if policy interventions are required (such as CPO) then these should be set out at the outset.	The council intends to comply with NPF4 and only sites that are deliverable can be included in NLLDP2.
Scotia Homes; Albert Bartlett	Disappointed the iLHLR and housing land supply position were not available in the topic paper to comment on. The LHLR should meet or exceed the past completions figure to ensure an adequate supply of homes are delivered to meet existing need and support the economy, council tax receipts and investment in infrastructure.	Noted. The iLHLR in this Evidence Report exceeds past completions. The council intend to comply with NPF4 and ensure there is enough deliverable land allocated in NLLDP2 to meet the LHLR.
Scotia Homes	Although not housing emergency has been declared by NLC, the LHLR needs to be substantial to ensure an adequate supply of homes are delivered.	The council intend to comply with NPF4 and ensure there is enough deliverable land allocated in NLLDP2 to meet the LHLR.
Scotia Homes	Support is given for the review of the council's housing land supply to ensure sites that are no longer capable of delivery are replaced with new housing sites that can.	The council intend to comply with NPF4 and ensure there is enough deliverable land allocated in NLLDP2 to meet the LHLR.
Scotia Homes	Object to the council proposed strategy of prioritising the re-use of brownfield, vacant and derelict land, under used land and redundant buildings before moving towards a Call for Idea and review of Green Belt. The delivery of brownfield sites is often more challenging than greenfield and impacts site viability. A range of brownfield and greenfield should be identified in marketable locations to ensure delivery. Suggest it would be helpful to include the level of past completions from brownfield sites in the evidence base.	The council considers the housing topic paper position on preference for brownfield before greenfield release reflects the policy intent of NPF4 Policy 9 Brownfield, vacant and derelict land and empty buildings. A Call for Ideas (Sites) is currently ongoing and only deliverable sites in the right locations will be taken forward into the next plan. Evidence of completions on brownfield sites is presented in Chapter 6 Housing.
Albert Bartlett	More explicit LDP policy support should be afforded to sites not allocated in fresh LDPs but that can support	It is our intention to comply with the requirements of Policy 16 to meet our LHLR. Any application

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	regeneration objectives, particularly when it helps the delivery of vacant/derelict brownfield sites and substantial infrastructure. The restrictive nature of Policy 16 is unlikely to boost housing delivery unless a more flexible LDP policy and/or sufficient land is allocated via the LDP to meet housing needs.	on non-allocated sites will be assessed against all relevant NPF4 policy requirements and determined on the planning balance as a whole, as such we do not consider at this stage that we could justify an exceptions policy in the manner suggested.
Individual	The topic paper fails to give enough weight to the reuse of brownfield sites over greenfield sites, which should be protected. There should be a focus on town centres, maximising the use of marketable land so to create an attractive environment which ensures a housing mix that supports social inclusion and economic growth.	The topic paper sets out the council's preference for the re-use of brownfield sites, vacant and derelict land, under used land and redundant buildings for residential use, before the release of greenfield sites. This is supported by the policy intent of NPF4 Policy 9 Brownfield, vacant and derelict land and empty buildings which seeks to reduce the need for greenfield development. The topic paper also states that opportunities to identify new sites for residential use may be possible through the Town Action Plans (TAP).
Action to Protect Rural Scotland (APRS)	Support the connection made in the topic paper between future housing plans and the climate and nature emergency. However, raise concerns that raising the LHLR unnecessarily could hinder the achievement of environmental policy goals and outcomes.	Support is noted.
Stepps and District Community Council	The next LDP should identify what developer contributions are required to enable expansion of community facilities, pupil increases and health care provision as result of housing development. The NHS and NLC Education must include their calculations to allow future provision to be managed effectively. The LHLR calculations should be clarified and noted as a policy.	These requirements will be explored within the Evidence Report and are subject to change over time. The council considers it more appropriate to set out in the Delivery Programme which is expected to be reviewed and updated every two years. The indicative LHLR will be identified in the Evidence Report and will include a detailed explanation of how we have derived the figure using the evidence base as presented in the housing topic paper.
Stepps and District	NLLDP2 should include a requirement that adjoining houses must be varied in design, and each dwelling must include	Matters raised in relation to Design, Quality and Place are discussed further in the relevant

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Community Council	a minimum of two different wall materials. The general design principles of the current LDP need to be more prescriptive to achieve an improvement in design quality.	topic paper. It is expected that the next Local Development Plan will be more place based and may provide more opportunity for place-based design.
Bellway Homes; AC Land Regeneration; Orchard Brae; Robertson Residential Group (RRG); Persimmon Homes; Hallam Land Management	Promoting a new site for inclusion in the next LDP.	A Call for Ideas (Sites) is currently ongoing, this is the appropriate time to submit new sites.
Bellway Homes; AC Land Regeneration; Orchard Brae; Robertson Residential Group (RRG)	A Green Belt review is required. These should not be overly restrictive. Sufficient land must be allocated to allow for enough housing land supply over the LDP period.	Topic paper 8 Green Belt discusses matters in relation to the Green Belt. A review of the Green Belt is ongoing, and the outcome will help shape the site selection process for the next plan.
Bellway Homes; AC Land Regeneration; Orchard Brae; Robertson Residential Group (RRG)	Consideration of the increasing population and housing pressures is insufficient. Most the homes identified within the Housing Land Supply are also due to be completed prior to the adoption of the next LDP in 2028, therefore these will not count towards the MATHLR. The LHLR should exceed the MATHLR and HNDA figures.	Population and demographic changes have been considered within this housing chapter. The iLHLR set out takes an ambitious approach to ensuring enough land is deliverable to meet NPF4 expectations.
Robertson Residential Group (RRG)	The topic paper does not appear to account for demolitions during the period despite NLC's planned demolitions re-provisioning programme.	The council does not agree that demolitions should be accounted for when setting the LHLR, maintaining that all affected households in re-provisioning sites across North Lanarkshire council area are firstly re-housed in existing stock through vacant stock (mainly NLC, but in some instances local RSL), empty homes and buy backs being refurbished and re-let as council homes. Furthermore, demolitions are already taken into account as part of the preparation of the GCR Housing Need and Demand

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		Assessment which forms part of the evidence base for setting the MATHLR and LHLR. The council considers that no further action is required to account for demolitions.
Bellway Homes; AC Land Regeneration; Orchard Brae; Robertson Residential Group (RRG); Hallam Land Management	Reference is made to the Diffley Report on Housing Need in Scotland and North Lanarkshire and the acute housing need presented within both. Reference is also made to the Chief Planner's letters in relation to the importance of housebuilding in responding to the housing emergency.	Scottish Government's 'Planning and the Housing Emergency Delivery Plan' was announced to the Scottish Parliament on 12 November 2024 setting out actions to tackle the housing emergency, including actions to support the delivery of sites with existing planning permission. It is noted that none of the actions are in relation to the release of additional land for housing. Latest advice from Scottish Government is that the most up to date HNDA is a reliable baseline for the development of the LHLR.
Bellway Homes; AC Land Regeneration; Orchard Brae; Robertson Residential Group (RRG)	Reference is made to the report commissioned by Hallam Land and produced by Rettie on the Value and Benefits of Private Housebuilding in North Lanarkshire in August 2024, regarding the socio-economic impacts of house building and the contribution Private Housebuilding makes to the local economy.	<p>The housing topic paper lists various evidence sources including 'The Plan for North Lanarkshire', the council's 'Economic and Regeneration Delivery Plan' and its Town Actions Plans which recognises the benefits of housing in the right locations on improving health inequalities, local living objectives and retail and other facilities.</p> <p>As stated above, it is our intention to comply with the requirements of Policy 16 through the provision of deliverable housing site allocations to meet our LHLR.</p>
Hallam Land Management	The focus of the spatial strategy on the delivery of brownfield land is acknowledged. However, this will clearly have an impact on deliverability, impacting the acute housing need further. Accessible, deliverable sites, which meet the national focus on local living and contribute to the delivery of key infrastructure should be acknowledged and supported.	Noted. The council intends to comply with the requirements of Policy 16 through the provision of deliverable housing site allocations to meet our LHLR.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Cala Homes West (CHW)	The evidence suggests lower projected growth, a robust brownfield regeneration strategy and plentiful land/existing allocations. Considers that position of housing need has moved on since HNDA3. Post HNDA3 evidence should be taken into account in setting the LHLR.	This housing chapter recognises that the underlying drivers have been affected by wider demographic and economic changes. The council has also already accepted that significant weight should be given to the level of completions when assessing this baseline.
Cala Homes West (CHW)	Reference is made to the Diffley Report on existing housing need in North Lanarkshire and this should be considered when setting the LHLR.	Latest advice from Scottish Government is that the most up to date HNDA is a reliable baseline for the development of the LHLR.
Cala Homes West (CHW)	Recommend that other council ER's already subject to Gate Check are taken cognisance of. Evidence on the local housing market signals and analysis of how market demand operates across authority boundaries is not sufficiently captured in HNDA3. The council should engage with housebuilding industry and evidence the community wealth building/benefits new housing provides.	HNDA3 was found to be robust and credible. It is our intention to engage further with the housebuilding industry on the matters raised.
Cala Homes West (CHW)	The self-build register does not capture the full extent of need and an explanation of what more the Council could do would be useful.	The council will continue to review the self-build register and maintain dialogue with Homes for Scotland and its members, including matters in relation to self-build demand.
Cala Homes West (CHW)	The LHLR should be properly evidenced and should exceed the MATHLR. The growing local economy and levels of income, improved transport infrastructure and City Deal investment are all factors that suggest there is likely to be a need for additional homes to support improving local circumstances.	The iLHLR methodology and proposed figure are set out clearly in this housing chapter. The council considers an ambitious approach has been taken which considers the matters raised.
Cala Homes West (CHW)	Whilst the council's regeneration ambitions are commendable, there needs to be additional new homes not just a replacement of existing housing stock. Suggest North Lanarkshire would benefit from the provision of more private homes, balancing the demographics of the area which is shown to have higher levels of social housing than the Scottish average.	It is our intention to comply with the requirements of Policy 16 through the provision of deliverable housing site allocations to meet our LHLR. This will likely include a mixture of sites including new housing site allocations, private and social rent tenure, as well as the council's own re-provisioning sites.
Cala Homes West (CHW)	Prioritising the delivery of brownfield land is commendable, but there are	It is our intention to comply with the requirements of Policy 16

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	significant concerns about the pace and consistency of delivery to meet/alleviate housing pressures in the early part of the plan period. The early part of the plan period needs to address the housing emergency. A review of the existing housing land supply (HLS) is required.	through a review of the existing HLS and through the provision of deliverable housing site allocations to meet our LHLR. This will likely include a mixture of site types and sizes to address the issues raised.
Persimmon Homes	The new LDP is an opportunity to review the deliverability of already identified housing sites in NL and identify new residential allocations in the context of evidence that identifies what new homes are needed to serve residents' actual needs and demands. If a brownfield-first approach is to be adopted, a greater understanding of the deliverability and viability of brownfield sites is required.	It is our intention to comply with the requirements of Policy 16 through a review of the existing HLS and through the provision of deliverable housing site allocations to meet our LHLR.
Persimmon Homes	HNDA3 fails to identify all the housing need in NL by not counting concealed and overcrowded households separately. The Diffley Report on Housing Need for North Lanarkshire highlights there is a far greater need than presented in HNDA3.	Latest advice from Scottish Government is that the most up to date HNDA is a reliable baseline for the development of the LHLR.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Housing has a positive role as a driver of economic growth regeneration and investment, infrastructure and employment opportunities, including opportunities for growth of the UWS and New College Lanarkshire in accommodating a demand for skills and education. As well as a need for private and affordable housing, there is potential opportunity for homes built for private rent or mid-market rent. The age and stock condition homes is also a concern in terms of achieving net zero goals. Concerns are raised in relation to different tax measures, regulatory measures and cost inflation.	<p>Many of the matters raised by Scottish Property Federation are not solely housing related but have connections to various other topic areas, all of which will be discussed further in the Evidence Report.</p> <p>Comments in relation to private and mid-market rent opportunities are noted.</p> <p>In relation to comments on the age and condition of existing housing stock, the Council's re-provisioning programme is seeking to address issues in relation to council-owned stock on this matter. The council has less control over private stock. Comments made towards tax and regulatory measures are noted but are considered outwith the remit of this topic paper. However, the council is keen to work with developers to ensure that the allocation of</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		<p>housing sites to meet the LHLR are deliverable.</p> <p>It was announced in the Planning and the Housing Emergency Delivery Plan (November 2024) that work was stopping on the Infrastructure Levy and refocusing on improving guidance on section 75 planning obligations.</p>

**Table 14 - Topic Paper 17 & 19 Rural Homes and Rural Development - Responses**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
SEPA	No comment from SEPA for this topic paper.	Noted.
Scottish Water (SW)	<p>Scottish Water Agree with the evidence base.</p> <p>In rural settings, it is often the case that water, and wastewater enhancements will be required if new development is being considered. SW encourage early engagement with developers to identify where suitable capacity exists currently and to consider any likely extended delivery timescales in other locations where significant engineering or investment is required by SW.</p>	SW's agreement with the evidence base is noted.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	The historic environment is often a key element of the infrastructure of rural housing and businesses. The information in Part 2 of HES's response provides further detail on this. The HES 'Responsible Tourism Framework' contains information and advice that may be useful in considering this topic. Part 2 provides information on Historic Environment designations and development, Buildings at Risk and Grants, Tourism and Economy. In addition, there are 4 annexes providing additional information.	Noted, and the information provided in Part 2 of HES response will be taken into consideration as part of the Evidence Report.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Housing has a positive role as a driver of economic growth regeneration and investment, infrastructure and employment opportunities, including opportunities for growth of the UWS and New College Lanarkshire in accommodating a demand for skills and education. As well as a need for private and affordable housing, there is potential opportunity for homes built for private rent or mid-market rent. The age and stock condition homes is also a concern in terms of achieving net zero goals. Concerns are raised in relation to different tax measures, regulatory measures and cost inflation.	SPF's comments are addressed under the Housing Topic Paper Responses section.
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)	SPT has reviewed the first tranche of topic papers and agree with the evidence and implication as set out. We have no further comments currently and look forward to further engagement as you continue to develop the	SPT's agreement with the evidence base is noted.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	evidence base and move towards the proposed plan.	
Individual	Do not agree with the evidence base presented in this topic paper and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria on the basis that it is far too complex and should be reduced to key points.	Comments are noted. The purpose of this paper is to ensure that the council has included all relevant evidence for this topic paper for consideration in the Evidence Report.
Save Woodhall and Faskine (SWAF) Greenbelt	Agree with the evidence base presented in this topic paper and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria.	SWAF's agreement with the evidence base is noted.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Include reference to HFS's report titled Existing Housing need in North Lanarkshire 2024 undertaken by Retties and the Diffley Partnership. The housing need identified is North Lanarkshire wide and will include need for residents living in rural areas.</p> <p>There is a need to ensure that sufficient land is allocated for rural housing. Whilst Policy 16 does provide a "release" criteria under Policy 16 (f), it is limited and depending on the scale of development is weighted towards affordable housing provision when an all-tenure approach would offer greater potential to addressing Scotland's Housing Emergency.</p> <p>In the context of this Topic Paper and to assist in addressing the Housing Emergency HFS would be happy to share details of a future Call for Ideas with members, including SME builders, to support the delivery of rural homes. HFS members are likely to oversee the delivery of smaller rural developments.</p> <p>Alongside, or separate from, the Call for Ideas process, HFS could also prepare a traffic light assessment of settlements in North Lanarkshire, including rural locations, to detail locations where home builders would like to build and at what scale.</p> <p>As noted in the Topic Paper housing in rural areas and rural settlements will be more reliant on the use of private cars</p>	<p>Noted. Homes for Scotland's report on Existing Housing Need for North Lanarkshire 2024 has been included as evidence in the preparation of the Evidence Report.</p> <p>The council recognises that housing need is North Lanarkshire wide, and that the policy intent of Policy 17 Rural Homes is designed to cater for appropriately scaled development to support rural communities. The council intends to comply with NPF4 and allocate a range of deliverable housing sites across the council boundary area.</p> <p>A Green Belt review has since been undertaken by the council, and the topic and its results are discussed in more detail under Chapter 7 Green Belt. This may include future housing land opportunities to support rural communities. A Call for Sites/Ideas exercise is ongoing.</p> <p>The council have since received HfS's traffic light settlement matrix and this has been incorporated into the housing land audit process when considering deliverability of sites.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>rather than public transport. Additional homes could however help to support rural bus services.</p> <p>It is agreed that NPF4 Policy 29 part (c) is not applicable in North Lanarkshire, however some of the principles will be relevant where, for example, new rural housing could potentially support local services such as school provision where a school roll is falling due to an ageing local population.</p>	<p>The policy outcomes of Policy 17 Rural Homes are supportive of Homes for Scotland's comments in relation to the benefits that new rural housing, linked with service provision, can have on the sustainability of rural communities, including both school provision and supporting rural bus services.</p>
<p>FCC Environment Ltd</p>	<p>It is considered in relation to Section 6. Site Selection Implications of the Topic Paper, that in terms of the first point: "6.1 Consideration of impact on the Green Belt and Countryside (accessible rural locations) boundaries" that North Lanarkshire Council should also consider that there are sites which incorporate land with previous uses within the Green Belt and Countryside that could be allocated sites. These sites can contribute beneficially in terms of the environment, economy and social aspects.</p> <p>In relations to point 6.3 in the Site Selection Implications which states:</p> <p>"Consideration of relevant infrastructure to support proposals including sustainable transport and digital infrastructure as well as connections with urban areas."</p> <p>It is considered that North Lanarkshire Council need to be flexible in relation to sustainable transport as sites in rural locations do not always have existing infrastructure such standard footpaths, cycle paths and bus stops. It is noted that North Lanarkshire Council may require a policy intervention in the Local Development Plan to consider locally specific issues and it is considered by FCC Environment Ltd that flexibility in terms of sustainable transport is incorporated.</p>	<p>The council consider it is too early to identify new sites which incorporate land with previous uses within the Green Belt and Countryside. We will likely proceed towards a Green Belt review which may identify such sites, and we will potentially hold a call for ideas exercise. All proposed development sites will require to be assessed through the Site Assessment Matrix before they are allocated in the next Local Development Plan. Comments in relation to sustainable transport will be addressed though the application of NPF4 Policy 18 Infrastructure First.</p>
<p>Persimmon Homes</p>	<p>The Topic Paper describes where there are differences between North Lanarkshire's own mapping/allocations and the Scottish Government's Urban</p>	<p>The council has since undertaken a Green Belt review and the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>Rural Classification Map 2020 (URCM). Specifically, 'Accessible Rural' but where the Council has mapped/allocated them as urban/development areas. However, the Topic Paper does not discuss areas that are identified as 'Large Urban Areas' by the URCM but where the Council has mapped/allocated these as rural/green belt.</p> <p>A full review of the rural and green belt boundaries is required as part of this plan-making process to reflect the new policy context provided by NPF4 and specific identification of the development potential of areas identified as Urban by the Scottish Government's URCM.</p> <p>Persimmon is promoting the allocation of the now disused golf course land at Torrance Park for housing development. This site is identified by the Scottish Government in the URCM as within the 'Large Urban Area'. Persimmon supports this view.</p>	<p>Report and subsequent Local Development Plan. It is expected that new style Local Development Plans will be more map based. As such, all mapping included in the Plan will be reviewed and updated to the latest available versions.</p> <p>The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that sites were not to be identified or considered for inclusion in an LDP as part of the Evidence Report. Specific sites will be considered though any potential Call for Ideas if required, once the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages are complete.</p>

**Table 15 - Topic Paper 8 Green Belt – Responses**

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
AC Land Regeneration	<p>AC Land Regeneration welcome the recognition in the topic paper that it is anticipated a Green Belt review will take place for North Lanarkshire’s next Local Development Plan. However, we do not think that this should take place in connection with the LHLR and should be carried out on its own merits taking into consideration the requirements of NPF4, rather than waiting for the results of the LHLR, and seeing what Green Belt land is ‘required’.</p> <p>Since the last robust Green Belt Review took place in 2019 when NatureScot reviewed the Landscape Character Assessments from the 1990s, it is imperative that a Green Belt Review takes place to reflect the changed stance of the Scottish Government on Green Belts in NPF4: “Green belts will not be necessary for most settlements but may be zoned around settlements where there is significant danger of unsustainable growth in car-based commuting or suburbanisation of the countryside. Green belts should be identified or reviewed as part of the preparation of LDPs. Boundary changes may be made to accommodate planned growth, or to extend, or alter the area covered as green belt. Detailed green belt boundaries should be based on evidence and should be clearly identified in plans.” This makes clear that green belts are expected to be the exception, and not the norm and should be reviewed in preparation for the next Local Development Plan.</p> <p>It is stressed, that a green belt review is not discretionary being a clear requirement of NPF4 and the Guidance. It is therefore a significant risk that the Gate Check process may deem the Evidence Report to be deficient on this basis if a Green Belt Review does not occur as part of the preparation for NLLDP2.</p>	<p>Noted. The council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Local Development Plan. This has been an independent exercise to the LHLR.</p>
AC Land Regeneration	<p>AC Land Regeneration is currently promoting a residential development on Green Belt land on the urban-rural fringe of the settlement of Chapelhall.</p>	<p>The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		preparing a new LDP. A Call for Sites/Ideas exercise is ongoing. The council therefore cannot reply on the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.
AC Land Regeneration	<p>Our client believes that the Council (NLC) have failed to fully consider increasing population and housing pressures when allocating land for housing development. The current land supply is only enough to meet the Minimum All Tenure Housing Land Requirement (MATHLR) figure of 735 homes per annum as set by NPF4. It is stated within NPF4 that the Local Housing Land Requirement is expected to exceed the MATHLR, therefore a Green Belt review should take place regardless of the findings of the LHLR to identify sites for housing in the next (LDP).</p> <p>Additionally, the Clydeplan HNDA (June 2024) projects the need for up to 8,264 new homes in North Lanarkshire by 2040. This makes it imperative that NLC identify further sites for housing as part of the preparation of the next LDP, to exceed the MATHLR and HNDA figures.</p>	Comments in relation to housing matters for NLLDP2 are considered in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.
AC Land Regeneration	It is important that the Green Belt boundaries are not overly restrictive at this early stage of preparing the next LDP, as they are now to be carried out over longer 10-year timescales, and therefore sufficient land must be allocated to allow enough housing land supply over this period. In addition, whilst some policies place a constraint on development, the implications of such policies must be weighed against the need to identify sufficient housing sites to meet a LHLR which exceeds the MATHLR set in NPF4.	Comments in relation to housing matters for NLLDP2 are considered in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.
AC Land Regeneration	<p>The socio-economic benefits of private housebuilding in North Lanarkshire cannot be understated. The Rettie Report referenced above states that the private housebuilding industry contributes significantly to the local economy, through the provision of over 3,000 jobs, £133 million in GVA and £21.5 million in tax receipts annually in North Lanarkshire.</p> <p>The Topic Paper states that there has not been a housing emergency declared in North Lanarkshire to date. This is not consistent with the findings of the Rettie Report on The Values and Benefits of</p>	Comments in relation to the National Housing Emergency and the socio-economic benefits of housebuilding are recognised by the council. Comments in relation to housing matters for NLLDP2 are considered in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>Private Housebuilding in North Lanarkshire, published in August 2024. This states that there are approximately 17,000 households – equivalent to 32% in acute housing need in North Lanarkshire (4% higher than the Scottish average of 28% of households in housing need, which was identified in the Diffley Report on Housing Need in Scotland), highlighting the need for additional housing provision in North Lanarkshire, and therefore further release of the Green Belt.</p>	
<p>Albert Bartlett</p>	<p>NPF4 notes that Green Belts should be identified or reviewed as part of the preparation of LDP's and that changes should be based on evidence. In this respect, the Topic Paper refers to the Nature Scot 2019 Character Type Map to describe the character of North Lanarkshire's Green Belt, which is now very dated. More up-to-date studies should be commissioned and consulted upon to identify how the strategic sub areas within the Local Authority area contribute to the identified purposes of the Green Belt. It is noted that NPF4 states "Green Belts will not be necessary for most settlements" and goes on to restrict their designation to "settlements where there is a significant danger of unsustainable growth in car-based commuting or suburbanisation of the Countryside." This contrasts much looser circumstances whereby an LDP may wish to designate Green Belt. This reinforces the need for NLC to commission a Green Belt review based on up-to-date evidence.</p>	<p>The Council has undertaken a Green Belt review the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.</p>
<p>Albert Bartlett</p>	<p>The adopted policy approach to development within the Green Belt, which allows the scale, type and location of development to be considered, is considered more appropriate than adopting a blanket land-use restriction as per policy 8. The LDP spatial strategy for Green Belt was "intended to be a key drive in promoting urban regeneration and restoration of brownfield sites within North Lanarkshire in preference to greenfield development. NPF4 Policy 8 runs counter to this regeneration objective and permits only very limited forms of development within a Green Belt designated by an LDP. This includes essential infrastructure, recreation, leisure, and tourism but excludes housing or employment use other than residential accommodation for key workers or intensification of established uses. A more flexible approach should be applied to incentivise redevelopment of brownfield sites where limited development within Green Belt boundaries is required to achieve wider regeneration objectives.</p>	<p>The Council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan. This should ensure compliance with NFPF4 Policy 8.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Albert Bartlett	Albert Bartlett is promoting the following site: Land at East Airdrie as part of the potential pipeline of brownfield sites in support of the new LDP.	Noted. The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of preparing a new LDP.
APRS	APRS support the links made in the Topic paper 8 with climate and nature connectivity. We would have liked to see mention of the intention to use green belts to support nature networks - as stated in NPF4 policy 8 policy outcomes. Nature networks are specifically mentioned as a policy outcome of policy 8 in NPF4.	Noted and this can be included within the Evidence Report.
Bellway Homes	<p>Bellway Homes welcomes the recognition in the Topic Paper that a Green Belt Review will take place for North Lanarkshire. However, we do not think this should take place directly in connection with the LHLR and should be carried out on its own merits taking into consideration the requirements of NPF4, rather than awaiting the outcome of the LHLR, and seeing what Green Belt land is 'required'.</p> <p>To comply with NPF4, a Green Belt review should take place to identify land which can be released from the Green Belt for the Housing Land Supply in the next LDP, to exceed the MATHLR and HNDA figures above.</p> <p>A green belt review is not discretionary. It is a clear requirement of NPF4 and the Guidance. It is a significant risk that the Gate Check process may deem the Evidence Report to be deficient on this basis if a Green Belt Review does not occur as part of the preparation for NLLDP2. This view is supported by the North Lanarkshire Local Landscape Character Assessment (LLCA), published in November 2018, and describes the land within which the site is contained as "fragmented farmlands" which have a "dominant character of dereliction and decline". The LLCA also states that the site has low sensitivity to change, with scope for future development to improve the structure and quality of the landscape.</p>	The council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan. This should ensure compliance with NPF4 Policy 8. Housing related matters are considered in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	It is important that the Green Belt boundaries are not overly restrictive at this early stage of preparing the next North Lanarkshire LDP, as they are now to be carried out over longer 10-year timescales, and therefore sufficient land must be allocated to allow for enough housing land supply over this period.	
Bellway Homes	Bellway Homes is currently promoting a potential residential development site on land designated as Green Belt on the urban-rural fringe of the settlement of Plains. We believe this site can support sustainable growth and deliver necessary housing in the Airdrie area.	The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of preparing a new LDP. A Call for Ideas/Sites exercise is currently ongoing. The council cannot reply on the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.
Bellway Homes	In addition, whilst some policies place a constraint on development, the implications of such policies must be weighed against the need to identify sufficient housing sites to meet a LHLR which exceeds the MATHLR set in NPF4. It is recognised that in some cases constraints to development are too significant for a site to be allocated for housing under any circumstances, and it would be inefficient to subject such sites to assessment across a range of other criteria.	Noted and Comments in relation to housing matters for NLLDP2 are considered in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Cala Homes (West) contend that the Green Belt Topic Paper does not provide a robust or policy-aligned evidence base to support the preparation of the LDP, and note that existing Green Belt designations, largely established in 1996, were defined for a different policy context than that set out in NPF4. The fact that inner boundaries have been modified repeatedly over the past three decades demonstrates that they are not fixed and should be subject to review. However, the Topic Paper fails to demonstrate any meaningful relationship between these long-standing boundaries and more recent evidence, such as the 2019 Landscape Character Assessment.	The council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan. The Green Belt review has included mapping exercises.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>It is argued that the Council reliance on mapping exercises, both for landscape character types and natural environment assets such as SINCs, parks and special landscape areas is of limited value. While these maps illustrate overlaps between designations, it is considered that they do not provide meaningful or actionable evidence to inform decisions on Green Belt boundaries or support LDP preparation. A key criticism is that the Council has not drawn together various evidence sources into a coherent review of Green Belt boundaries. Cala Homes (West) regard this as a significant omission, particularly given the expectations of NPF4. It is suggested that the Topic Paper should have gone beyond description and instead set out a clear methodology and evidence base to guide decisions on boundary changes.</p>	<p>The council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan. The Green Belt review has included mapping exercises.</p>
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>Cala Homes (West) highlight the absence of any systematic assessment of the inner Green Belt boundaries, noting that these boundaries typically extend around the full edge of settlements and were historically defined for development control rather than support sustainable growth. As such, a strategic review is essential. The Topic Paper should have identified broad locations along the inner edges of the Green Belt where boundary changes could be considered at the Proposed Plan stage. The lack of a defined methodology for undertaking such a review it highlighted and the Council should have established clear criteria and an assessment framework within the Topic Paper. This could include identifying areas of poorer landscape quality along the inner edge of the Green Belt and assessing these locations against key sustainability factors such as proximity to 20-minute neighbourhoods, access to sustainable transport, and infrastructure capacity.</p> <p>Overall, Cala Homes (West) maintain that a more targeted and evidence-led approach would allow the Council to identify appropriate opportunities for sustainable development. Reviewing inner Green Belt boundaries could help address degraded urban edges, while also delivering wider benefits such as enhanced biodiversity, improved access to green space, and opportunities for community growing.</p>	<p>The council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan. The Green Belt review has included mapping exercises.</p>
FCC Environment Ltd	<p>FCC also support paragraph 6.1 of the topic paper which states that the proposed spatial strategy, concluded by an updated evidence</p>	<p>The council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	base, should determine the need to release green belt land for any planned growth.	this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan. The Green Belt review has included mapping exercises.
FCC Environment Ltd	FCC support the statement in paragraph 4.19 that the Green Belt review would also account for planning permissions granted since the current LDP was adopted, however it is considered that this should go further to include proposed strategic developments including the East Airdrie Link Road and Airdrie Masterplan. This is in accordance with policy 8 of the NPF which states that boundary changes can be made to accommodate planned growth.	Consideration has been given to the status of the East Airdrie Link Road and any associated development as part of the Green Belt Review. Otherwise, the merits of individual proposed sites are not being are at an early stage of consideration through a call for ideas/sites.
FCC Environment Ltd	FCC Environment Ltd note that the Survey Paper concludes that policy 8 of NPF4 should be applied in North Lanarkshire. FCC supports this conclusion and supports that tourism uses are acceptable in the Green Belt subject to the outlined criteria in NPF4. Tourism developments often have a locational requirement in the rural area, including within the Green Belt, with guests visiting for the specific purpose of being located within the rural area.	Noted and the council will take account of all relevant NPF4 policies in the Proposed Plan.
FCC Environment Ltd	FCC Environment Ltd is promoting a proposed holiday park within and around Airdrie Hill Quarry.	Noted, however, the Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of preparing a new LDP. The council has issued a Call for Ideas/Sites, although this is at an early stage. The council therefore cannot reply on the site-specific aspects

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	Hallam Land Management considers that the Scottish Government's Local Development Planning Guidance 2023 establishes that a green belt review/study should be undertaken to inform the preparation of Evidence Reports and Local Development Plans. Hallam Land are therefore of the opinion that a green belt review/study is required to properly inform the process. An Urban Boundaries Review was published in November 2018, and that informed the now adopted North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2022, and a new review is considered necessary as part of the evidence base for the new Plan. A robust survey and assessment should inform where the green belt should be maintained and where incursion into areas currently identified as green belt may be suitable, with particular consideration required relative to matters such as flooding, drainage, ecology/biodiversity, agricultural land quality, landscape character and value etc. The green belt can and should be reviewed and redefined as part of the Plan process in order that it continues to protect the most valuable environmental assets, whilst also supporting development in appropriate circumstances, not least to help address the housing emergency that has been declared by the Scottish Government.	Noted. The council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this have been incorporated the Evidence Report and will be in the subsequent Proposed Plan.
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	NPF4 establishes that LDPs should consider using green belts, to support their spatial strategy and to restrict development around towns and cities; green belts will not be necessary for most settlements but may be zoned around settlements where there is a significant danger of unsustainable growth in car-based commuting or suburbanisation of the countryside; and that green belts should be identified or reviewed as part of the preparation of LDPs. The topic paper establishes that a green belt review will be carried out, and as the previous green belt review was undertaken 7 years ago under the now superseded Scottish Planning Policy the current green belt boundaries require to be reviewed as an essential part of the LDP process. In the recently published Gate Check: Assessment Report relative to the emerging Fife Local Development Plan (LDP) 2, the Reporter noted that the Evidence Report included no mention of any review of green belt or settlement boundaries and that the Guidance outlines that evidence is	Noted. The council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this have been incorporated the Evidence Report and will be in the subsequent Proposed Plan.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	required to inform detailed green belt boundaries, stating: "If the plan area contains an existing green belt, planning authorities would be expected to review whether the existing boundary remains appropriate.	
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	Hallam Land Management is promoting land for release from the green belt and allocation for residential development at North Myvot Farm, Condorrat.	The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of preparing a new LDP. The Council has issued a Call for Ideas/Sites, but this is at an early stage and should not prejudice the Evidence Report. The council therefore cannot reply on the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	Hallam Land Management welcomes the recognition that it is anticipated a Green Belt Review will take place. However, paragraph 4.19 of Topic Paper 8 notes that a review 'has not commenced at this time' and that a number of other studies are being undertaken which 'have potential implications for a green belt review'. It is not considered that the green belt review should be undertaken as a result of other studies. It should be acknowledged that National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) has brought about a policy change regarding the identification of green belts. As such, it is expected that a comprehensive green belt review be undertaken to evaluate the suitability of existing boundaries, rather than undertaking a range of studies and seeing what green belt land is 'required' as a result.	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	The last Urban Boundaries Review was November 2018 to inform the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan (NLLDP) 2022. This was undertaken in the context of former Strategic Development Plans and Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) being in place. Given the new policy context, it is paramount that a green belt review be undertaken. It should be noted that within the Fife Council LDP2 Gate Check Assessment Report, the Reporter clearly outlines their concern with the fact that a green belt review had not been progressed.	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	The last Urban Boundaries Review was November 2018 to inform the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan (NLLDP) 2022. This was undertaken in the context of former Strategic Development Plans and Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) being in place. Given the new policy context, it is paramount that a green belt review be undertaken. It should be noted that within the Fife Council LDP2 Gate Check Assessment Report, the Reporter clearly outlines their concern with the fact that a green belt review had not been progressed.	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	Conducting a new green belt review is crucial to inform the policy framework for the upcoming 10-year LDP. This must be thorough and transparent to preserve the integrity of settlement boundaries while addressing the demand for housing and infrastructure. NPF4 Policy 8 states: 'Green belts will not be necessary for most settlements but may be zoned around settlements where there is a significant danger of unsustainable growth in car-based commuting or suburbanisation of the countryside. Green belts should be identified or comprehensively reviewed as part of the preparation of LDPs. Boundary changes may be made to accommodate planned growth or to extend or alter the area covered as green belt. Detailed green belt boundaries should be based on evidence and clearly identified in plans. It would seem appropriate, therefore, that to inform the next LDP a robust assessment be undertaken at the outset to assess the current green belt against the objectives of this new policy position. Only then will the information be available to robustly assess appropriate locations for new housing allocations.	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	<p>As part of the national policy change, green belt reviews must consider NPF4 outcomes, which includes delivering the Local Housing Land Requirement (LHLR). That does not mean that a green belt review should assess specific housing allocations, but it should take into account the potential of the current green belt to accommodate sustainable development.</p> <p>NPF4 Policy 8 is clear that the function of the green belt is to protect land around settlements where there is a danger of unsustainable growth. New development must be well-considered, mindful of context and respectful towards existing features.</p>	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	Hallam Land Management is promoting a residential development opportunity, land at Dullatur Golf Course. – within a semi-urban setting adjacent and within close proximity to Croy train station – as green belt is questioned.	The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of preparing a new LDP. The council has issued a Call for Ideas/Sites although this is at an early stage and shouldn't prejudice the Evidence Report process. The council therefore cannot reply on the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Historic Environment Scotland agrees with the content of Survey Paper 8 Green Belt.	Agreement noted.
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	Homes for Scotland consider that in preparing the Evidence Report, the Local Development Planning Guidance 2023, expects a green belt review/study of any existing or potential green belts to be carried out. Homes for Scotland would dispute any approach that does not include a	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review, the outcomes of which will be reflected within the

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>robust review of all land currently designated as green belt. The draft Evidence Report Survey Paper states that although it is anticipated that a green belt review will be carried out, this has not yet commenced. The previous formal green belt review was undertaken some time ago (in respect to a different national planning policy context). The national policy context regarding green belts has changed. The context surrounding their designation has shifted, and current boundaries are to be reviewed as a necessity.</p>	<p>Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.</p>
<p>Homes for Scotland (HfS)</p>	<p>Homes for Scotland note that a key change, for example, is that the green belt review considers NPF4 outcomes, which includes delivering the Local Housing Land Requirement (LHLR). That does not mean that a green belt review should consider specific housing allocations, but it should take into account the potential of the current green belt to accommodate sustainable development. Homes for Scotland considers that the approach outlined in the draft Evidence Report Survey Paper is unreasonable and does not allow for the local authority to robustly evidence which land is best placed to support the numerous new housing allocations that may be required across North Lanarkshire.</p>	<p>Noted and Comments in relation to housing matters for NLLDP2 are considered in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.</p>
<p>NatureScot</p>	<p>Glasgow &amp; Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership work on nature networks.</p> <p>Cultural landscapes – we recommend discussing potential evidence with Historic Environment Scotland (HES).</p> <p>Paragraph 4.19 identifies a future review of the green belt. We agree that this review is required and consider that it would significantly strengthen the evidence base. We note that the LDP Guidance identifies a review/study of existing green belt as part of preparing the Evidence Report (page 47). Based on that, a review should focus on evaluating the existing green belt against the outcomes set out in NPF4 Policy 8 and in relation to our remit and interests we highlight:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development is directed to the right locations ... unsustainable growth is prevented.</li> <li>• The character, landscape, natural setting and identity of settlements is protected and enhanced.</li> <li>• Nature networks are supported and land is managed to help tackle climate change.</li> </ul> <p>The Topic Paper does not identify a timescale for the green belt review but, based on the above, it</p>	<p>Consultation has been ongoing with NatureScot to finalise the Evidence Report and to make relevant changes to the document to reflect this process.</p> <p>The council has undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>appears to be necessary for preparation of the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>NatureScot suggest that more data is required in support of some of the evidence. For example, paragraphs 5.3 to 5.7 make statements on benefits such as the effect of the green belt on climate. It is unclear what this is based on other than the statement at paragraph 4.18 that the maps show benefits including prevention of unsustainable growth and “by virtue of the nature of the policy” a positive impact on climate change. While these are current policy outcomes, the statement of benefits is not supported by analysis of whether the green belt has achieved these outcomes and the maps do not present an assessment of this evidence. A broader evidence base would be required to achieve this. We also suggest that paragraph 5.4, which outlines the benefits of the green belt for nature, also requires evidence in support of this.</p> <p>Section 6: Site Selection Implications states that green belt release will be informed by the finalised Local Housing Land Requirement and Employment Land Strategy. We suggest that green belt review should precede this and that release should be based on appropriate green belt boundaries and how this would inform the Local Housing Land Requirement, Employment Land Strategy and the broader spatial strategy.</p>	
Northern Corridor Community Volunteers	North Corridor Community Volunteers agrees with the content of the Survey Paper for Policy 8 Green Belt.	Noted.
Orchard Brae	Orchard Brae welcomes the recognition in the Survey Paper that it is anticipated a Green Belt review will take place for North Lanarkshire’s next Local Development Plan. However, we do not think that this should take place in connection with the LHLR and should be carried out on its own merits taking into consideration the requirements of NPF4, rather than waiting for the results of the LHLR, and seeing what Green Belt land is ‘required’. The Green Belt review should consider site specific attributes and whether those sites currently identified as green belt meet the objectives of what the green belt is expected to do. It should be stressed, that a green belt review is not discretionary. It is a clear requirement of NPF4 and the Guidance. It is therefore a significant risk that the Gate Check process may deem the Evidence Report to be deficient on this	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>basis if a Green Belt Review does not occur as part of the preparation for NLLDP2.</p> <p>Consideration must also be given to the committed East Airdrie Link Road, which has confirmed funding and is now at detailed design stage. This will have a significant impact upon the Green Belt designation to the east of Airdrie and surrounding settlements.</p> <p>It is important that the Green Belt boundaries are not overly restrictive at this early stage of preparing the next North Lanarkshire LDP, as they are now to be carried out over longer 10-year timescales, and therefore sufficient land must be allocated to allow for enough housing land supply over this period. In addition, whilst some policies place a constraint on development, the implications of such policies must be weighed against the need to identify sufficient housing sites to meet a LHLR which exceeds the MATHLR set in NPF4.</p>	
Orchard Brae	<p>Orchard Brae is currently promoting a residential development via a planning application ref 18/00890/PPP on Green Belt land that is surrounded by urban development, to the west of Calderbank and north of the M8 at Eurocentral/Maxim. We believe that this site can support sustainable growth and deliver necessary housing in the area of Airdrie and Coatbridge. Taking into consideration the nature of this site, we consider that it is imperative that a Green Belt Review takes place to reflect the changed stance of the Scottish Government on Green Belts in NPF4. This makes clear that green belts are expected to be the exception, and not the norm and should be reviewed in preparation for the next Local Development Plan. Our client's land is not a countryside location and is surrounded by urban environment on all sides.</p>	<p>Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review, the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.</p>
Orchard Brae	<p>The Topic Paper states that there has not been a housing emergency declared in North Lanarkshire to date. Whilst this is noted, it is not consistent with the findings of the Rettie Report on The Values and Benefits of Private Housebuilding in North Lanarkshire, which was published in August 2024. The report states that there are approximately 17,000 households - equivalent to 32% in acute housing need in North Lanarkshire. This is 4% higher than the already significant Scottish average of 28% of households in housing need, which was identified in the Diffley Report on Housing Need in Scotland, highlighting the need</p>	<p>Noted and Comments in relation to housing matters for NLLDP2 are considered in Chapter 6 Housing of the Evidence Report.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>for additional housing provision in North Lanarkshire, and therefore further release of the Green Belt land.</p> <p>The socio-economic benefits of private housebuilding in North Lanarkshire cannot be understated. The Rettie Report referenced above states that the private housebuilding industry contributes significantly to the local economy, through the provision of over 3,000 jobs, £133 million in GVA and £21.5 million in tax receipts annually in North Lanarkshire.</p>	
Persimmon Homes	<p>NPF4 has been noted as a main data set for consideration and this recognition is important as the change in the planning policy context means that the role and function of green belt sites and green belt boundaries should be reconsidered against the new policy objectives. Persimmon considers that the robustness of the green belt boundary at their site should be reconsidered against the new green belt objectives outlined in NPF4 and removed from the green belt as a result.</p> <p>Persimmon considers that the continued allocation of this land as green belt is not required or justified in light of NPF4. The development of it would not give rise to unsustainable growth in car-based commuting or suburbanisation of the countryside. The dictionary definition of 'countryside' is "land not in towns, cities, or industrial areas, that is either used for farming or left in its natural condition". The site is, therefore, not countryside - it is a golf course with industrial uses within it and immediately adjacent to it. It is not used for farming, and it has not been left in its natural condition. Development would not represent the suburbanisation of the countryside. It would be an extension of the existing Torrance Park housing area and of Newarthill as a settlement which would help 20-minute neighbourhood principles. It would not give rise to unsustainable car-based commuting given its proximity to existing public transport infrastructure – rail, bus and park and ride. There is also a core path NL/249/1 running through the site.</p>	<p>The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of preparing a new LDP. The council has issued a Call for Ideas/Sites although this is at an early stage, and the process should not prejudice the Evidence Report and vice versa. The council therefore cannot reply on the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.</p>
Persimmon Homes	<p>This GBR must consider the most up-to-date information available. The NatureScot Landscape Character Assessment (republished in 2019) is noted as a main data set as is the North Lanarkshire Local Landscape Character Assessment Background Report (November</p>	<p>Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	2018). Persimmon do not consider these reports to be accurate assessments of this site.	subsequent Proposed Plan
Persimmon Homes	Persimmon considers that new site visits and evidence gathering are required to robustly assess the green belt and that historic studies undertaken at a more macro level should not be relied upon	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Persimmon Homes	The Torrance Park site is within the 'Plateau Farmland - Glasgow & Clyde Valley' character area set out in NatureScot's Scottish Landscape Character Types Map and Descriptions but does not display these characteristics. While the site is extensive, development immediately adjacent to the site is visible from all elevations, impacting the rural character. Furthermore, the site has already been altered due to its historic use as a golf course, commercial uses, and the above-ground infrastructure, which is visibly intrusive. Beyond the site boundary to the east, the characteristics associated with this character type are a little better displayed. There is some pastoral farming beyond Biggar Road but there are insets of commercial development and a concentration of urban uses at Newhouse Roundabout – park and ride, hotel, restaurant, petrol station, and garden centre. The other three sides the site is contained by urban development. Therefore, the boundary of the area considered as Plateau Farmland should be reconsidered as the area displays little of these characteristics. This site and indeed the neighbouring land east of Biggar Road is more akin to the Urban Fringe Farmland character type which are areas with "a damaged and fragmented character which occurs where urban fringe and industrial activity has broken up previous land patterns to the extent that they are no longer predominant in the landscape".	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Persimmon Homes	The North Lanarkshire Local Landscape Character Assessment Background Report (November 2018) also identifies the site as 'Plateau Farmlands' subcategory '6b – South Plateau Farmlands'. However, it acknowledges that the landscape has a low to medium sensitivity to development due to the prevalence of infrastructure and development within the area. This is more accurate. The areas around the site are identified as Urban.	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Persimmon Homes	As noted in the topic paper, the last robust green belt review took place in 2019 when NatureScot reviewed the Landscape Character Assessments. However, since then the Scottish Government's stance on Green Belts has changed, stating in NPF4 that: "Green belts will not be necessary for most settlements but may be zoned around settlements where there is a significant danger of unsustainable growth in car-based commuting or suburbanisation of the countryside. Green belts should be identified or reviewed as part of the preparation of LDPs. Boundary changes may be made to accommodate planned growth, or to extend, or alter the area covered as green belt. Detailed green belt boundaries should be based on evidence and should be clearly identified in plans	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan
Robertson Residential Group (RRG)	This makes clear that Green Belts are expected to be the exception, as opposed to the norm. A green belt review is not discretionary. It is a clear requirement of NPF4 and the Guidance. The Gate Check process may deem the Evidence Report to be deficient on this basis if a Green Belt Review does not occur as part of the preparation for the next LDP.	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Robertson Residential Group (RRG)	Robertson Residential Group is currently promoting a residential development site on land designated as Green Belt to the east of Stepps Road, Auchinloch.	The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of preparing a new LDP. The council has issued a Call for Ideas/Sites although this is at an early stage. The council therefore cannot reply on the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Robertson Residential Group (RRG)	The above figures also do not appear to account for demolitions during this period, despite NLC's plan to demolish 1,700 flats over a 20–25-year period since 2018, with tenants to be rehoused in new, high-quality housing.	Comments in relation to housing matters for NLLDP2 are discussed under Survey paper 16 Quality Homes and the relevant Chapter of the Evidence Report.
Robertson Residential Group (RRG)	<p>Additionally, the Clydeplan HNDA published in June 2024 projects the need for up to 8,264 new homes in North Lanarkshire between 2022 and 2040.</p> <p>To comply with NPF4, a Green Belt review should take place to identify land which can be released from the Green Belt for the Housing Land Supply in the next Local Development Plan (LDP), to exceed the MATHLR and HNDA figures above.</p> <p>The report also noted that the percentage of those in housing need in North Lanarkshire is 32%. This is 4% greater than the Scotland average of 28% of households in housing need as identified in the Diffley Report on the Existing Housing Need in Scotland. This finding contradicts the statement in the Topic Paper that there is currently no housing emergency in North Lanarkshire.</p>	<p>Comments in relation to housing matters for NLLDP2 are discussed under Survey paper 16 Quality Homes and the relevant Chapter of the Evidence Report.</p> <p>Comments in relation to the National Housing Emergency and the socio-economic benefits of housebuilding are recognised by the council, however for appropriateness such housing matters for NLLDP2 will be discussed under Survey Paper Policy 16 Quality Homes and the associated chapter of the Evidence Report.</p>
Robertson Residential Group (RRG)	It is important that the Green Belt boundaries are not overly restrictive at this early stage of preparing the next LDP, which are now to be carried out over longer 10-year timescales, and therefore sufficient land must be allocated to allow for enough housing land supply over this period. In addition, whilst some policies place a constraint on development, the implications of such policies must be weighed against the need to identify sufficient housing sites to meet a LHLR which exceeds the MATHLR set in NPF4. It is therefore essential that a Green Belt review is carried out to identify sites which are suitable for future sustainable development and can provide much needed housing in North Lanarkshire.	Noted. The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Scottish Water (SW)	Scottish Water have no additional comments to make on this Survey Paper.	Agreement noted.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Stepps and District Community Council	Stepps and District Community Council generally agrees with the evidence as presented.	Agreement noted.
Stepps and District Community Council	Stepps and District Community Council is in agreement that the topic policy in NPF4 Green belts should be applied as per NPF4 in North Lanarkshire.	Agreement noted.
Stepps and District Community Council	Stepps and District Community Council considers that the green belt boundary around Stepps, Millerston and Cardowan should remain with no boundary alterations and be clearly identified in the emerging NLLDP2 Promote Map. The land should not be allocated for planned development or unnecessary speculative development. It prevents urban sprawl from the large-scale housing developments currently underway at Robroyston (Glasgow City Council) and prevents coalescence with Muirhead and Chryston and Auchinloch. This green belt plays a significant role in helping to mitigate and adapt to climate change thus contributing to NPF4 Biodiversity Policy 3.	The council acknowledges the concerns raised regarding the future of the Green Belt boundary around Stepps, Millerston and Cardowan. As part of new planning legislation and planning guidance, the council are required to undertake a Green Belt review, which has now been completed. The outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Stepps and District Community Council Stepps and District Community Council	<p>S&amp;DCC set out a case for protecting the existing Green Belt designation as currently defined in NLLDP including the positive contributions it currently makes to the environment and amenity of the adjacent settlements.</p> <p>The green belt area contributes to the preservation of green spaces and their protection from development. It is a valued local amenity, well-used for outdoor recreational and educational activities. It provides opportunities for public access the open countryside including active travel and core paths including the new right of way from Stepps to Auchinloch. All of this offers opportunities to support and improve the mental and physical health and well-being of all generations. Existing community green space recreational grounds should also be maintained. Retention of the green belt boundary at Stepps, Millerston and Cardowan in the forthcoming NLLDP 2 will support environmental and social aspects and the Scottish Government's policy objectives on community involvement and the Just Transition.</p>	<p>The council acknowledges the concerns raised regarding the future of the Green Belt boundary around Stepps, Millerston and Cardowan. As part of new planning legislation and planning guidance, the council are required to undertake a Green Belt review, which has now been completed. The outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.</p> <p>Any updates to the council's Local</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p><a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/transition-commission-national-missionfairergreener-scotland/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/transition-commission-national-missionfairergreener-scotland/</a></p> <p>In addition to the outcomes stated in NPF4, the greenbelt around Stepps will support the spatial strategy in the forthcoming NLLDP2 by:</p> <p>Making effective use of land and supporting regeneration (prioritising the re-use or re-development of brownfield, vacant and derelict land and empty buildings first, before new development takes place on greenfield sites) and minimising the need to travel using unsustainable modes.</p> <p>The following comments are made in relation to the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan. NLLDP2 evidence could also reference the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 which helps communities to do more for themselves and have more say in decisions that affect them; and in particular Part 2 Community Planning: 6. Local Outcomes Improvement Plan. Stepps and District sits within the Northern Corridor Local Outcomes Improvement Plan which could be referenced viz priorities Children and Young People, Health Inequalities, Community Transport and Social Integration and Inclusion and connecting how the green belt at Stepps, Millerston and Cardowan contributes positively to these priorities.</p>	<p>Outcome Improvement Plan's will be reflected in the Proposed Plan and subsequent Local Development Plan.</p>
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport agree that the correct evidence is set out in the policy/topic Survey Paper.	Agreement noted.
Taylor Wimpey	Taylor Wimpey notes that the Scottish Government's Local Development Planning Guidance 2023 establishes that a green belt review/study should be undertaken to inform the preparation of Evidence Reports and Local Development Plans. Taylor Wimpey is therefore of the opinion that a green belt review/study is required to properly inform the process. An Urban Boundaries Review was published in November 2018, and that informed the now adopted North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2022, and a new review is considered necessary as part of the evidence base for the new Plan. A robust survey and assessment should inform where the green belt should be maintained and where incursion into areas currently identified as green belt may be suitable, with particular consideration required relative to matters such as flooding, drainage,	Noted. The council has now undertaken a Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>ecology/biodiversity, agricultural land quality, landscape character and value etc.</p> <p>The green belt can and should be reviewed and redefined as part of the Plan process in order that it continues to protect the most valuable environmental assets, whilst also supporting development in appropriate circumstances, not least to help address the housing emergency that has been declared by the Scottish Government. NPF4 establishes that LDPs should consider using green belts, to support their spatial strategy and to restrict development around towns and cities; green belts will not be necessary for most settlements but may be zoned around settlements where there is a significant danger of unsustainable growth in car-based commuting or suburbanisation of the countryside; and that green belts should be identified or reviewed as part of the preparation of LDPs. The topic paper establishes that a green belt review will be carried out, and as the previous green belt review was undertaken 7 years ago under the now superseded Scottish Planning Policy the current green belt boundaries require to be reviewed as an essential part of the LDP process.</p>	
Taylor Wimpey	Taylor Wimpey is promoting land for release from the green belt and allocation for residential development at Whitehill Farm, Stepps.	The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of preparing a new LDP. The council has issued a Call for Ideas although this is at an early stage and should not prejudice the Evidence Report process. The council therefore cannot reply on the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Individual	Individual does not agree with the evidence base presented in Survey Paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Individual	Plans or information detailing how land in the green belt is currently being utilised by local communities should be used to inform any green belt review undertaken, to ensure that where the local community is using the green belt for community uses/benefit, e.g. locations where community parks have been established should be protected. For example, Local Place Plans or feedback from community councils.	The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Individual	Individual does not agree with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	Noted.
Individual	Individual considers that the Survey Paper does not offer enough protection of the Green Belt from the council selling it off to housing developers.	The Survey Paper and Evidence Report support the parameters set out in NPF4 which is considered to be a robust means of protecting the Green Belt within North Lanarkshire. It should also be noted that the council intends to undertake a Green Belt review and the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Local Development Plan. The review will focus on relevant land regardless of ownership.
Individual	Individual also highlights a lack of public access and maintenance of facilities in the areas, so making them underutilised and suggests that there is a need to improve access to such areas and provide facilities such as a cafe and boats that people can use with the large parks like	Noted and these comments will be considered when producing the Evidence Report.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	Broadwood Loch and Fannyside Loch given as examples.	
Individual	Individual suggests that there is also a need identify the areas of scientific interest and endangered species and use them for education purposes, etc.	While designated sites (protected areas) are covered within the Green Belt Survey Paper, they are considered in more detail within the Survey Paper dealing with Biodiversity, Natural Places and Blue and Green Infrastructure. The council will considered designated sites (protected areas) in the preparation of the Evidence Report.
Individual	Individual does not agree with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Individual	Individual considers that Green Belt areas are crucial to our health and highlights that this is an important issue to her. Concern is expressed that the village will be no more, it will be smothered by the new builds with negative environmental impacts such as increased pollution. The question is also raised as to why the council cannot use brown belt areas.	The council recognises the importance of the Green Belt and has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review, the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Local Development Plan. Survey Paper 9 Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings discusses brownfield land in detail and prioritises development on brownfield land, although both brownfield and greenfield land will be

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		part of NLLDP2's Spatial Strategy.
Individual	Individual suggests that Animals have little or no spaces to go to, forcing them from their habitat.	Noted and new Nature Network Mapping is currently being prepared for North Lanarkshire in partnership with Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network for consideration in the Evidence Report.
Individual	Individual highlights that local services cannot support any more houses, nor can the road and water services, or Doctors and Dentists. It is also noted that schools are struggling at the moment, and more houses will only make matters worse.	Noted. The council is currently required to consider the infrastructure requirements related to development and an approach that puts Infrastructure First will be a key component of the Evidence Report going forward.
Individual	Individual does not agree with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Individual	Individual considers that Stepps has no infrastructure to support any more housing. Stepps primary school is full as is the RC school in Cardowan the development at Earls Court has caused significant damage to the area. We have no bank or post office not even an ATM to use the bus and train service is the worst in Scotland.	Noted. The council is currently required to consider the infrastructure requirements related to development and an approach that puts Infrastructure First will be a key component of the Evidence Report going forward.
Individual	Individual also highlights the health impact would be massive people's mental health should be considered. The community of Stepps should be considered above builders' profit and the health and well-being of the people of Stepps.	Specific sites would be considered through a robust call for sites/ideas process, and thereafter planning applications should

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
		site selection be favourable.
Individual	Individual agrees with the evidence base presented in the Survey Paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.
Individual	Individual agrees with the evidence base presented in the Survey Paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.
Individual	Individuals agrees with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.
Individual	Individual does not agree with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be considered within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Individual	Individual considers that there are absolutely no facilities in Stepps as it is without building more houses. Schools, doctors, dentists are all full to capacity. It is highlighted that there are no decent shops, no bank post office or even an atm. Bus service is seen as a joke and the trains seem to suit themselves. It is suggested that no more houses should be built in the area.	Noted. The council is currently required to consider the infrastructure requirements related to development and an approach that puts Infrastructure First will be a key component of the Evidence Report going forward.
Individual	Individual agrees with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in the Survey Paper.
Individual	Individual agrees with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Individual	Individual agrees with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.
Individual	Individual agrees with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.
Individual	Individual does not agree with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council has now undertaken a robust Green Belt review and the outcomes of this will be considered within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Individual	Individual agrees in general with the evidence as presented but has added some specific comments for consideration.	Noted. The council will consider these comments as part of the preparation of the Evidence Report.
Individual	Individual agrees that Green Belt policy should be applied as per NPF4 in North Lanarkshire.	Noted. The council will consider these comments as part of the preparation of the Evidence Report.
Individual	The green belt area contributes to the preservation of green spaces and their protection from development. It is a valued local amenity, well-used for outdoor recreational and educational activities. It provides opportunities for public access the open countryside including active travel and core paths including the new right of way from Stepps to Auchinloch. All of this offers opportunities to support and improve the mental and physical health and well-being of all generations. The green belt offers a buffer preventing urban sprawl from the large-scale housing developments currently underway at Robroyston (Glasgow City Council).	The council recognises the importance of the Green Belt and intends to undertake a Green Belt review and the outcomes of which will be reflected within the Evidence Report and subsequent Proposed Plan.
Individual	To inform the review, the Individual suggests that a community engagement study is a carried out in relation to the green belt at Stepps, Millerston and Cardowan. This would provide local evidence of the importance of retaining (with no alterations) the green belt boundary around Stepps, Millerston and Cardowan.	Any updates to the council's Local Outcome Improvement Plan's will be considered in the Proposed Plan and subsequent Local Development Plan.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Individual	Stepps and district sits within the Northern Corridor Community Board and associated Northern Corridor Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP). The LOIP could be referenced viz priorities Children and Young People, Health Inequalities, Community Transport and Social Integration and Inclusion the positive contribution the green belt makes in supporting these priorities.	Any changes to the council's Local Outcome Improvement Plan's will be considered in the Proposed Plan and subsequent Local Development Plan.
Individual	Individual agrees with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council notes the Individual's agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.
Individual	Individual agrees with the evidence base presented in the Topic paper 8 - Green Belts and the implications this has for the spatial strategy and site selection criteria for the North Lanarkshire Council area.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.

**Table 16 - Topic Papers 18 & 24 Infrastructure First and Digital Infrastructure - Responses**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Network Rail	As stated in comments relating to the Sustainable Transport paper Network Rail suggest the council investigate the potential of improving the proposed transport links between the new Monklands Hospital and its closest rail station, including linking directly to Drumgelloch Station, potentially via a new entrance to Platform 2 rather than terminating at Towers Road in order to shorten the walking and wheeling distance between the hospital and station.	<p>Network Rail and have agreed in writing to confirm that Network Rail are supportive of the approach the council are taking on the Sustainable Transport topic for NLLDP2. This was discussed at a meeting involving Network Rail/Scotrail and the council's Planning and Transportation staff. This is set out below.</p> <p>The council's City Deal Team are undertaking a Walking, Cycling and Horse-riding Assessment and Review (WCHAR) as part of the East Airdrie Link Road (EALR) DMRB Stage 3 design commission. The WCHAR will assess current active travel provision and highlight areas for improvement or enhancement. This will include investigating options to accessing key destinations, such as the new hospital. This is further supported by action AT-3 in the council's draft Local Transport Strategy, which states 'Deliver new active travel infrastructure within the City Deal Programme, working with partners where there are added value opportunities. This includes... East Airdrie Link Road Active Travel.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Network Rail	Network Rail also recommend that the council priorities a bus service to the hospital which interchanges with rail at both Drumgelloch and Airdrie stations, allowing more travel options for residents and visitors. This would be an example of integrating the Sustainable Travel to Stations strategy into NLLDP2. A copy of the draft report on Rail Connectivity to New Monklands Hospital is included in Network Rail's comments.	<p>Network Rail and have agreed in writing to confirm that Network Rail are supportive of the approach the council are taking on the Sustainable Transport topic for the new NLLDP2. This was discussed at a at a meeting involving Network Rail/Scotrail and the council's Planning and Transportation staff. This is set out below.</p> <p>Public Transport requirements for the Monklands Replacement Hospital were included in the Transport Assessment and assessed as part of the planning application. This included input from SPT and others. Planning permission for the new hospital is the basis of a planning condition which requires a Public Transport Accessibility Strategy to be agreed and implemented. This would entail discussions between the Council (including the Planning Service and the Infrastructure &amp; Transportation Service) NHS Lanarkshire and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport. This is reflected in action PT-3 of the council's draft Local Transport Strategy, which states 'Work with partners to explore opportunities for... Services connecting to University Hospital Monklands...'</p>
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) has provided comments on several of the Topic Papers and while there have been no specific comments supplied following the publication of the Joint Topic Paper on Infrastructure First & Digital Infrastructure, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) have referred to their Evidence Sources by NPF4 (Document 009) Policy and accompanying Glossary which should be used by the Council to for checking the information provided and to fill any gaps as appropriate relating to specific NPF4 (Document 009) Topic areas.	Noted and the council will seek to follow the relevant Guidance issued by SEPA as NLLDP2 progresses. This has been referenced in Chapter 13 Site Selection Methodology of the Evidence Report

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Scottish Water (SW)	Scottish Water supports the content of the NPF4 (Document 009) Policy 18 – Infrastructure First and Policy 24 Digital Infrastructure joint Topic Paper and have provided notes to supplement their response.	The council welcomes Scottish Water's general support for the content of the joint Topic Paper on Infrastructure First and Digital Infrastructure.
Scottish Water (SW)	In terms of Policy 18 – Infrastructure First, Scottish Water supports the Infrastructure First approach to enable development and are funded to provide growth for domestic and domestic elements of non-domestic developments. Our policy is to deliver growth just ahead of need, this is to ensure good value for investment of public funds.	Scottish Water's support for an Infrastructure First approach to enabling development is noted by the council.
Scottish Water (SW)	Scottish Water agrees with the content of the paper; however, we would ask for the following amendments be made in paragraph 6.7. "Data obtained from Scottish Water for example has highlighted that while there are no immediate water supply capacity issues across North Lanarkshire, there are waste water treatment capacity issues at a number of locations including in the Eastern half of Cumbernauld, across the Airdrie and Coatbridge area, as well as most of the Bellshill, Motherwell, Wishaw and Shotts areas, where additional investment will be required to upgrade existing facilities or to provide new ones. "It is suggested that the text be changed too, there is potential need for investment at a number of locations depending on what development comes forward across the Airdrie and Coatbridge area, as well as most of the Bellshill, Motherwell, Wishaw and Shotts areas.'	Agreed and the council will ensure that what Scottish Water have advised will be reflected in the Evidence Report.
Scottish Water (SW)	Scottish Water will continue to work closely with North Lanarkshire and Developers to gain a better understanding of the future proposed developments (scale, location, and timescales) which will inform strategic plans to identify where future growth investment priorities are and support a flourishing Scotland	The council looks forward to continuing to work closely with Scottish Water to understand the implications that future development will have on infrastructure requirements and will continue to share all relevant data that is necessary to support the work of Scottish Water and other relevant agencies.

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Scottish Water (SW)	For Policy 24 – Digital Infrastructure, Scottish Water recognise the importance of Digital Infrastructure and its' significant environmental, social and economic impact. We fully support this document and the plans to ensure future and current homes and businesses in North Lanarkshire are digitally connected.	The council notes Scottish Water's comments and welcomes the support offered to the Digital Infrastructure component of our Survey Paper.
Scottish Water (SW)	We will work with infrastructure providers to ensure any new digital infrastructure or upgrades to existing digital infrastructure do not impact on Scottish Water assets. Access and stand-off distances may be required, where applicable, and further details on our policy are contained within the "Asset Policy Standard Water Mains Protection Distances (2016)" guidance.	The council welcomes Scottish Water's commitment to working with infrastructure providers to ensure that new or upgraded digital infrastructure development does not impact upon Scottish Water assets, and we will endeavor to ensure that the "Asset Policy Standard Water Mains Protection Distances (2016)" guidance is referred to used when formulating policy relating to infrastructure provision within NLLDP2.
Individual	The Individual considers the Topic Paper to be 38 pages of obfuscation clearly designed to defeat analysis by any concerned citizen with less than a postgraduate planning qualification. Useless, except as an exercise to prove consultation has been done. The Individual is a retired chartered civil engineer and considers that the Paper looks like the sort of flimflam that was inflicted on him by landscape architects.	The council notes disappointment with the format and content of the document and has taken on board the comments regarding the length and complexity of the document. The evidence provided in the chapter of the Evidence Report has significantly changed is a robust position that has been supported by comments provided by key stakeholders following engagement with them on sufficiency.
Individual	The Individual filled in the Online Form and agreed with the Evidence presented.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.
Individual	The Individual filled in the Online Form and agreed with the Evidence presented.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.
Individual	The Individual filled in the Online Form and agreed with the Evidence presented.	The council notes agreement with the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.
Individual	The Individual filled in the Online Form and agreed with the Evidence presented.	The council notes agreement on the evidence presented in this Survey Paper.

**Table 17 - Topic Paper 30 Tourism - Responses**

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
HES	<p>HES note and welcome the inclusion of cultural heritage assets in this section of the paper, including the Frontiers of the Roman Empire (Antonine Wall) World Heritage Site (WHS). Historic Environment Scotland is responsible for the management of sections of the WHS at Garnhall, Dullatur, Tollpark and Castlecary HES's Responsible Tourism Framework defines our understanding of, and role in, responsible tourism. It outlines the principles guiding our organisation's decision-making and around which we can build actions going forward. The framework sets out how tourism in the historic environment can contribute to better quality of life and meaningful experiences for all, now, and for future generations. Although this plan is intended to inform and guide staff within our organisation, the principles it contains may be of interest to others.</p>	<p>Note the welcomed inclusion of key related documents and agree with the relevance of HES' Responsible Tourism Framework document. The framework has been added to the 'Tourism' evidence base.</p>
HES	<p>We note and agree with the conclusions that there are overlaps between the Tourism and Historic Assets and Places topic areas. We also agree that tourism could result in both positive and negative effects on cultural heritage interests.</p>	<p>Note the agreement with the overlaps between Tourism and Historic Assets, as well as potential for both positive and negative effects on cultural heritage interests. Text added to Chapter 4 Natural and Built Environment and Chapter 11 Business and Economy.</p>
HES	<p>We note the conclusion that the topic policy in NPF4 may require a policy intervention to address local issues within North Lanarkshire. We would be happy to offer further information and advice to assist in that process.</p>	<p>Note and appreciate the offer of assistance from HES to offer further information to assist in any policy intervention in relation to local issues. Wording has been inserted in Chapter 11 Business and Economy, and a link is in the Built environment section.</p>
SPT	<p>SPT has reviewed the third batch of topic papers and agree with the evidence and implication as set out. We have no further comments currently and look forward to further engagement as you continue to develop the evidence base and move towards the proposed plan.</p>	<p>Note the agreement with the evidence and implications as set out and look forward to engaging further with SPT as we develop the new Local Development Plan.</p>
Scottish Water	<p>Scottish Water agrees with the content in the above policy paper, we encourage North Lanarkshire to engage with us for any new non-domestic developments and will continue to work with partners and licenced providers to facilitate such developments.</p>	<p>Note agreeance with the topic paper and will continue to encourage engagement in relation to new non-domestic developments.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
FCC Environment Limited	FCC consider that the North Lanarkshire LDP2 should take a wider approach to new tourism proposals assessing each proposal on a case-by-case basis considering the merits and benefits of the scheme against any concluded impacts and against the criteria of Policy 30 of NPF4. This approach would be in accordance with the North Lanarkshire Tourism Strategy 2022-2026 which encourages appropriate investment and growth. Identifying specific areas where tourism proposals will only be acceptable is considered too restrictive and may constrain this type of development unnecessarily and limit economic investment into the local area.	The council agrees that tourism proposals will be considered against the criteria of NPF4 Policy 30 and any relevant Tourism Strategy will be taken into account where necessary. The tourism evidence acknowledges that a more localised policy approach may require to be developed for LDP2. Tourism Strategy is now linked to and discussed in Chapter 11 Business and Economy.
FCC Environment Limited	FCC are committed to seeing their landholding at Airdrie Hill Quarry restored and redeveloped. Airdrie Hill Quarry provides a unique opportunity for a sustainable tourism development within a visually contained site, designed to retain existing habitats and provide substantial ecological enhancements. The proposed redevelopment of the site will ensure the future restoration, occupation and management of the site whilst contributing to the local economy.	Following submission of the Evidence Report to Gate Check, the Council will invite a Call for Ideas at which point sites for proposed redevelopment can be submitted for consideration. Additionally, they will be assessed against a site assessment matrix as outlined in the Evidence Report.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
People Opposing Palacerigg Planning Application	<p>We would like to see more consideration given to environmental tourism in Cumbernauld and NL as a whole county, based on recent NEW ecological findings e.g. more biodiversity environmental assessments of council-owned land, such as the land which has been earmarked to be developed at Palacerigg under phase 2 of the Cumbernauld development. We believe that tourism should not be solely focussed on the country parks, but on the entire area surrounding them. For example, it is short-sighted for tourism to ignore the greenbelt grab surrounding Palacerigg when it could be incorporated into a larger strategy for climate change and resilience as well as generating tourism income from visitors internationally based on its endangered species. This is also true for developments in NL such as Berryhill Village in Stand. The very fact that these area of environmental importance are being used as private housing developments to generate profit instead of a natural tourist attraction (whilst they could retain the ability to sustain habitats that lock in carbon, protect endangered species and prevent flooding) seems to indicate that North Lanarkshire council are not looking at the wider picture beyond the Net Zero target goal.</p>	<p>Any environmental related impact (positive and negative) will be considered by the council as any tourism related policy or priorities are developed for Local Development Plan 2. In relation to site specific proposals or 'ideas', the opportunity will also be afforded to consider such impacts as part of a site assessment. Additionally, the council is undertaking a review of the green belt to be incorporated into the new NLLDP2. The permissions for GB release near Palacerigg and Berryhill have been given and decided.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
<p>People Opposing Palacerigg Planning Application</p>	<p>Rewilding and other such methods in other parts of Scotland are being invested in, showing foresight on a global scale. For tourism, purposes places such as Norway use the Sustainable Destination labelling system for locations likely to attract a specific demographic of visitor. We believe that relevant, RECENT government tourism studies from Scandinavian countries and Northern Europe (that are similar to Scotland) should be taken into consideration when planning for North Lanarkshire's future. More environmental assessments should be carried out and then the information used from these to map the biodiversity across North Lanarkshire before consulting with the public, and that new information should be provided for consideration in easily accessible data sets.</p>	<p>NPF4 policies 3 and 4 directly link with the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and the natural places that sustain it. The Evidence Report provides biodiversity specific data and information across multiple sources and assessments.</p> <p>NLLDP2 will utilise the findings of the OSS in conjunction with other current survey work such as the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and Woodland Strategy to inform and identify potential projects on council owned land that can contribute to nature networks for the creation of new habitats and the restoration of degraded habitats as well as be a key consideration in the site selection process. The Evidence Report identifies issues to inform site selection process and includes consideration of opportunities to incorporate masterplans and design briefs to ensure that biodiversity and habitat improvements are fully considered for proposals and ensure that they deliver the positive impacts intended.</p>
<p>Carbrain &amp; Hillcrest Community Council</p>	<p>We would like to see tourism ideas based on recent population data and feedback from communities within North Lanarkshire. This would include wide-reaching surveys in areas of high deprivation to record and collate the views of residents who are often overlooked. This data set would serve to inform the council of the priorities and desires of a major subset of residents/communities therefore mimicking similar regions which border North Lanarkshire such as Glasgow, Falkirk et al which also have many pockets of deprivation. Other considerations we would like to see is more data mapping for environmental aspects of the county within the last 3 years, creating a complete picture of what assets we have at our disposal when it comes to the various forms of tourism and balancing investment/generating income as well as upholding the ideals of North</p>	<p>NPF4 policies 3 and 4 also directly link with the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and the natural places that sustain it. The Evidence Report provides biodiversity specific data and information across multiple sources and assessments, and analysis is also ongoing as part of the councils draft Open Space Strategy. The council has also undertaken a 'Place Survey' across North Lanarkshire which allows the gathering of local information from residents. This information will help us to inform NLLDP2.</p>

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
	Lanarkshire and it's residents which become attractive to visitors.	

**Table 18 - Topic Paper 13 Sustainable Transport - Responses**

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>Cala Homes note that Regulation 9 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 sets out the information that planning authorities must have regard to when preparing a Local Development Plan. This information includes a Local Transport Strategy (LTS).</p> <p>The Scottish Government’s Local Development Planning Guidance reiterates this requirement on page 54. It is therefore clear that planning authorities must consider the content of an LTS during the preparation of its LDP.</p> <p>Paragraph 4.29 of the Topic Paper states that ...There is not presently an up-to-date transport baseline for North Lanarkshire to underpin NLLDP2 with the current LTS having been published in 2010. The Topic Papers states that the council is ...currently exploring producing a new LTS for North Lanarkshire.</p> <p>In accord with the relevant regulations and Scottish Government Guidance the council must go further than exploring the option of preparing a new LTS. It must commit to its production within its Evidence Report whilst outlining the transport baseline and a commitment to preparing a transport appraisal.</p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements.</p> <p>A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan. The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals</p>
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>Cala Homes notes that, this is all in accord with the Local Development Planning Guidance (LDPG) which states that ...The Evidence Report is an opportunity for the authority to establish their transport baseline, present evidence of their commitment to produce a transport appraisal and to demonstrate that discussions have taken place with Transport Scotland to establish next steps.</p>	<p>The council have consulted on <a href="#">a draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements.</p> <p>A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan. The council will work closely with</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Cala Homes note that if the council does not commit to the carrying out of a new Local Transport Strategy and a Transport Appraisal, it is unlikely that its Evidence Report will be approved by the Scottish Government. This is demonstrated by the returning of both Fife Council and Glasgow City Council's own Evidence Reports.	The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a> , expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan. The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Cala Homes suggests that in preparation of its Evidence Report, the council should also review the outcome of recently completed Gate Check exercises.	Noted. The council has been and will continue to consider Gate Check exercises as part of producing the Evidence Report.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>Fife Council's Evidence Report was recently returned as it was deemed by the Reporter to contain ...insufficient information to enable the planning authority to prepare its local development plan. One of the key issues raised by the Reporter relates to a lack of information regarding transport.</p> <p>In their Assessment Report, the Reporter raised concerns that the Evidence Report provided no summary report ...to enable an understanding of what the council's Transport Strategy means for the local development plan.</p> <p>The Topic Paper advises that ...It is anticipated that the new LTS will inform the NLLDP2 transport appraisal that the council will commit to in the Evidence Report to be produced for the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>Based on the Reporter's conclusions for the Fife Evidence Report Gate Check, the failure of the</p>	The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a> , expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>Council to fully commit to the production of an LTS to inform its Evidence Report will not be supported during the Gate Check process.</p> <p>The LDPG is clear that a local authority must demonstrate within its Evidence Report that discussions have taken place with Transport Scotland. The statement that the Council will endeavor to engage with Transport Scotland is not considered to be sufficient to demonstrate compliance with the LDPG.</p>	<p>The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.</p> <p>The council has been and will continue to consider Gate Check exercises as part of producing the Evidence Report.</p>
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>Cala Homes notes that Glasgow City Council's Evidence Report was recently returned to the Reporter during the Gate Check Process. Within their recommendations, the Reporter highlighted a lack of evidence that Transport Scotland had been properly engaged in the preparation of the Evidence Report. The Council's Evidence Report must therefore evidence discussions with Transport Scotland rather than simply attempting to do so.</p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan. The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.</p> <p>The council has been and will continue to consider Gate Check exercises as part of producing the Evidence Report.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>Cala Homes also has concerns with the council's proposed site selection process.</p> <p>Cala Homes agrees with the statement in Section 6 of the Topic Paper that sites which promote sustainable transit, increase connectivity and reduce car usage should be supported in accord with NPF 4. However, it does not agree with the statement that locations already viewed as sustainable for transit will be a factor in the allocation of sites in the next LDP.</p> <p>Appendix 2 North Lanarkshire Strategic Connectivity Map and Appendix 3 North Lanarkshire Local Connectivity Map of the Topic Paper highlight that the majority of the settlements in North Lanarkshire scored poorly for connectivity by the Strathclyde Partnership for Transport. If it is the council's proposed intention to only allocate land within locations deemed to be of medium-high existing connectivity, this will significantly limit locations for new development.</p> <p>As part of its site selection methodology, the council needs to recognise that new development provides opportunities to improve connectivity within a settlement. For example, development proposals can incorporate opportunities for wheeling and walking as well as connecting into existing active travel links, thereby strengthening connectivity within an area.</p>	<p>A holistic approach to site-selection is required by NPF4 and the council is currently in dialogue with Homes for Scotland regarding this. The council will continue to engage with Homes for Scotland and other stakeholders on developing a site-selection methodology and hold site-selection and topic-based stakeholder workshops where site-selection and supporting evidence can be explored further with future actions discussed/agreed.</p>
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>The Topic Paper references the Glasgow City Region City Deal. The council's site selection methodology is required to take cognisance of any projects within the City Deal (such as the East Airdrie Link Road) which will facilitate improved connectivity to areas within North Lanarkshire.</p>	<p>A holistic approach to site-selection is required by NPF4 and the council is currently in dialogue with Homes for Scotland regarding this. The council will continue to engage with Homes for Scotland and other stakeholders on developing a site-selection methodology and hold site-selection and topic-based stakeholder workshops where site-selection and supporting evidence can be explored further with future actions discussed/agreed.</p>
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	<p>Cala Homes note that new development will also generate additional patronage for existing public transport services. Additional revenue generated from this increased patronage will encourage operators to invest in improvements to existing</p>	<p>Noted and the council will consider this comment when producing the Evidence Report.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	services or indeed create additional services thereby improving connectivity within an area.	
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Cala Homes suggest that there is also a need for the Council to recognise that the development of new homes can contribute to sustainable transport. For example, Cala Homes are constructing new homes with EV charging capabilities, thereby encouraging residents to transition away from diesel / petrol generating cars. This will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in accord with policies 1 and 2 of NPF4.	Noted and the council will consider this comment when producing the Evidence Report.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Cala Homes also provides residents with a travel pack which provides details of the nearest public transport links and routes to get to these services. The provision of this information encourages residents to consider sustainable methods of transport in accord with Policy 13 of NPF 4.	Noted and the council will consider this comment when producing the Evidence Report.
Cala Homes (West) (CHW)	Cala Homes suggest that the Council's site selection methodology must be developed to recognise that new development (specifically new homes) can contribute to improvements to sustainable transport. This will ensure that allocations in the next LDP are focused on areas which can deliver improved sustainable transport connections to address the shortfalls identified in appendices 2 and 3 of the Topic Paper.	A holistic approach to site-selection is required by NPF4 and the council is currently in dialogue with Homes for Scotland regarding this. The council will continue to engage with Homes for Scotland and other stakeholders on developing a site-selection methodology and hold site-selection and topic-based stakeholder workshops where site-selection and supporting evidence can be explored further with future actions discussed/agreed.
FCC Environment Ltd	Sirius Planning Ltd on behalf of FCC Environmental Limited (herein referred to as 'FCC') have been instructed to make representations in response to the North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) Topic Paper Consultation for Sustainable Transport, in respect of their Airdriehill Quarry landholding which lies within the administrative boundary of North Lanarkshire.	Noted.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
FCC Environment Ltd	<p>Paragraph 4.29 of the topic paper states that there is no up-to-date transport baseline for North Lanarkshire, with the current local transport strategy published in 2010.</p> <p>FCC supports the idea that the Council is currently exploring producing a new local transport strategy for North Lanarkshire.</p> <p>It is considered that the local transport strategy should take into consideration new proposed infrastructure projects including the East Airdrie Link Road</p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.</p> <p>Proposed roads infrastructure is noted in the LTS, and new City Deal infrastructure is noted in the Evidence Report.</p>
FCC Environment Ltd	<p>It is noted that NPF4 states that priority should be given to sites and locations in the spatial strategy for future development that are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>FCC supports the statement in paragraph 4.12 of the topic paper which states that not all travel can be undertaken by active travel modes and in this scenario, the spatial strategy will have to make transit as sustainable as possible.</p>	<p>Noted. The council thanks FCC Environment Ltd for this comment and will consider this as part of producing the Evidence Report.</p>
FCC Environment Ltd	<p>Section 6 of the topic paper relates to site selection for LDP2 with paragraph 6.1 stating that sustainable transport should be a consideration in the site selection process.</p> <p>Paragraph 6.2 goes on to state this means favouring proposals promoting sustainable transit, increasing connectivity and reducing car use.</p> <p>Paragraph 6.4 states that a place-based approach combined with effective transport</p>	<p>A holistic approach to site-selection is required by NPF4 and the council is currently in dialogue with Homes for Scotland regarding this. The council will continue to engage with Homes for Scotland on developing a site-selection methodology and hold site-selection and topic-based stakeholder workshops where site-selection and supporting evidence can be explored further</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>appraisal will therefore inform site selection for LDP2.</p> <p>The topic paper concludes that new and updated allocations proposed within the LDP2 will take account of the sustainable transport approach set out in NPF4 and the NPF4 policy for sustainable transport should be applied in North Lanarkshire.</p>	with future actions discussed/agreed.
FCC Environment Ltd	<p>Whilst FCC agrees that sustainable transport should be a consideration in site selection, certain proposed developments have a locational requirement, for example in a rural location or near strategic road networks for logistic purposes. Tourism developments, such as a holiday park, have a locational requirement to be in a rural location with guests visiting for the specific purpose of being located in a rural area. Therefore, private cars for transport are relied upon as is the case for many existing rural leisure developments. Restricting allocations within LDP2 to those with existing sustainable transport connections could be detrimental to developments which have a locational requirement and could limit economic investment into the region. FCC consider that site selection as part of LDP2 should also take into account locational requirements for proposed uses.</p>	<p>A holistic approach to site-selection is required by NPF4 and the council is currently in dialogue with Homes for Scotland regarding this. The council will continue to engage with Homes for Scotland on developing a site-selection methodology and hold site-selection and topic-based stakeholder workshops where site-selection and supporting evidence can be explored further with future actions discussed/agreed.</p>
FCC Environment Ltd	<p>FCC support paragraph 7.4 of the topic paper which states that extant planning permissions will be part of the spatial strategy as they have already been consented and may be developed and also support paragraph 7.5 which states that infrastructure projects known to the Council, such as proposed City Deal projects, will feature in the LDP2.</p>	<p>Noted. The council thanks FCC Environment Ltd for this comment and will consider this as part of producing the Evidence Report.</p>
FCC Environment Ltd	<p>Airdrie Hill Quarry Landholding  Site description  Site Access  Proposed Development  A planning application (ref. 23/00760/FUL) is currently in determination</p>	<p>The Evidence Report is not the stage where site-specific issues and land allocations are addressed. The council therefore cannot reply on the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.</p>
FCC Environment Ltd	<p>Whilst FCC agree that sustainable transport should be a consideration in site selection for new and updated allocations proposed within the LDP2, it is considered that site selection should also review locational requirements for certain proposed uses, for example uses which need to be situated within a rural area of near strategic road networks for logistical purposes. Restricting all development to areas with existing</p>	<p>A holistic approach to site-selection is required by NPF4 and the council is currently in dialogue with Homes for Scotland regarding this. The council will continue to engage with Homes for Scotland on developing a site-selection methodology and hold site-selection and topic-based</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	sustainable transport could be detrimental to developments with locational requirements and would therefore limit economic investment into the region	stakeholder workshops where site-selection and supporting evidence can be explored further with future actions discussed/agreed.
FCC Environment Ltd	FCC are committed to seeing their landholding at Airdriehill Quarry restored and redeveloped. Airdriehill Quarry provides a unique opportunity for sustainable tourism development within a visually contained site, ensuring the future restoration, occupation and management of the site whilst contributing to the local economy. FCC have sought to improve access to sustainable modes of transport within the design and are actively engaging with North Lanarkshire Council's Road Development Management Team regarding opportunities to improve pedestrian network on surrounding roads.	The Evidence Report is not the stage where site-specific issues and land allocations are addressed. The council therefore cannot reply to the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	Hallam Land Management states that the council should consider the approved Scottish Government Local Living and 20-Minute Neighbourhoods: Planning Guidance.  There is also a data set on the annual estimates of the number of entries/exits and interchanges at estimates of station usage ( <a href="https://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/">https://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/</a> ) which could allow the council to assess impacts of development on local stations	The council notes Hallam Land Management's comment and the documents highlighted will be considered as the Evidence Report is prepared.
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	The council has stated in this Topic Paper that "In site selection, this should mean favouring proposals that promote sustainable transit, increase connectivity, and reduce car use in the spatial strategy. This approach is also an opportunity to address social and economic issues as well as tackling the climate and nature crises, including climate mitigation and adaptation	A holistic approach to site-selection is required by NPF4 and the council is currently in dialogue with Homes for Scotland regarding this. The council will continue to engage with Homes for Scotland and key stakeholders on developing a site-selection methodology and hold site-selection and topic-based stakeholder workshops where site-selection and supporting evidence can be explored further with future actions discussed/agreed.
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	Hallam Land Management are currently progressing a planning application on land at Dullatur Golf Course. This site is appropriate for development due to its close proximity to Croy train station, bus routes and walking/cycling routes; therefore, development here does not encourage unsustainable growth in car-based commuting.	The Guidance for Local Development Plans was issued by the Government in May 2023 and confirmed that a Call for Ideas (including sites) should take place after the Evidence Report and Gate Check stages of the process of preparing a new LDP. As such the council will not be issuing a

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>New development would also offer sustainable living, with walkable connections, greenspace and easy access to community resources and employment in Dullatur and connections to the wider Cumbernauld area. Sites such as this should be supported as part of a sustainable transport approach and focus on local living.</p>	<p>Call for Ideas until those stages are complete. The council therefore cannot reply to the site-specific aspects of the comments made at this point as this would not be appropriate.</p>
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	<p>Hallam Land Management notes that the council plan to undertake public consultation using the Place Standard Tool. Whilst it is stated that the Topic Paper that analysis “will identify the place-specific issues faced in North Lanarkshire’s places as well as highlighting any planned interventions linked to this topic area”, the Place Standard Tool should also be used to identify opportunities for housebuilding.</p> <p>This should occur as part of a Call For Ideas exercise, to contribute to local living through the identification of residential development near local facilities, such as education, employment and retail opportunities.</p>	<p>The council has obtained the views of local communities about their place by undertaking a Place Survey based on the Place Standard Tool. This Survey has closed and the council has received over 1,000 responses. The findings will be taken into consideration in the preparation of the Evidence Report and Proposed Plan.</p>
Hallam Land Management (HLM)	<p>Hallam Land Management considers that the council should prepare an appropriate and effective transport appraisal to support the new-style LDP and to allow consistent assessment on impacts of development on the road network. As the infrastructure first approach is bedded into the development plan process it is key that an up-to-date transport baseline is established, and the local transport strategy (LTS) is updated. The LTS should also align with the Council’s forthcoming Delivery Programme to ensure that the strategy for delivering transport-related infrastructure aligns with the delivery of new homes.</p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.</p>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Homes for Scotland welcomes NLC’s commitment to undertake a public consultation using the Place Standard Tool. Whilst it is stated that the survey and analysis “will identify the place-specific issues faced in North</p>	<p>A holistic approach to site-selection is required by NPF4 and the council is currently in dialogue with Homes for Scotland regarding this. The council will</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>Lanarkshire's places as well as highlighting any planned interventions linked to this topic area", the Place Standard Tool should also be used to identify opportunities for homebuilders, following a call for ideas exercise, to contribute to local living through the potential provision of local facilities, such as retail, if the allocation is of a sufficient scale to support this as well as the provision of active travel connections.</p>	<p>continue to engage with Homes for Scotland on developing a site-selection methodology and hold site-selection and topic-based stakeholder workshops where site-selection and supporting evidence can be explored further with future actions discussed/agreed. This may include the Place Standard tool if appropriate.</p>
<p>Homes for Scotland (HfS)</p>	<p>Homes for Scotland would encourage NLC to prepare an appropriate and effective transport appraisal to support the new-style LDP. As the infrastructure first approach is bedded into the development plan process it is key that an up-to-date transport baseline is established, and the local transport strategy (LTS) is updated. The LTS should also align with the Council's forthcoming Delivery Programme to ensure that the strategy for delivering transport related infrastructure aligns with the delivery of new homes.</p> <p>The draft Evidence Report Survey Paper refers to National Planning Framework (NPF) 4 Policy 13 Sustainable Transport and the potential support for developments that are ambitious in terms of low/no car parking. At present, however, NLC apply the SCOTS parking standard which sets out minimum parking requirements based on the number of bedrooms. If this standard was applied as a maximum it would potentially reduce space for car provision, assist in reducing the reliance on private cars and help meet the Scottish Government target to cut car miles by 20% by 2030. It may be that some additional visitor spaces are required to cater for changes in car ownership within a development.</p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.</p>
<p>Homes for Scotland (HfS)</p>	<p>As the council recognise when considering implications for North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2 (NLLDP2), extant planning permissions will be part of the spatial strategy given that they may be developed. Regard however should be had to the duration of the consent and landowners' intentions to ascertain whether these sites may contribute to housing delivery during the duration of NLLDP2. Sites that are allocated, and do not benefit from an extant consent, should only be considered if they are proven to be deliverable and subsequently allocated in NLLDP2 at Proposed Plan stage.</p>	<p>Noted. Housing matters in relation to the review of the existing housing land supply are addressed under Chapter 6 - Housing Survey of the Evidence Report</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Homes for Scotland has identified several additional evidence sources that should be included in the Evidence Report, these include:</p> <p>Link to evidence ScotPHO Profiles – Public Health Scotland Range of over 250 indicators of public health at local authority and Scotland-wide levels. It also links to the NTS2 priority to improve health and wellbeing.</p> <p><a href="https://scotland.shinyapps.io/ScotPHO_profiles_tool/">https://scotland.shinyapps.io/ScotPHO_profiles_tool/</a></p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and have used many data sources to produce Technical Reports to supplement this. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and supporting Technical Note with data sources agreed with Transport Scotland who will also sign-off on the analysis, with the main findings being presented in the Evidence Report.</p>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Homes for Scotland has identified a number of additional evidence sources that should be included in the Evidence Report, these include: Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation Ranking of North Lanarkshire data zones by access deprivation and links to NTS2 priority to reduce inequality.</p> <p><a href="https://simd.scot/#/simd2020/BTTTTFTT/11/-3.9485/55.8750/">https://simd.scot/#/simd2020/BTTTTFTT/11/-3.9485/55.8750/</a></p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and have used many data sources to produce Technical Reports to supplement this. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and supporting Technical Note with data sources agreed with Transport Scotland who will also sign-off on the analysis, with the main findings being presented in the Evidence Report.</p>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Homes for Scotland has identified a number of additional evidence sources that should be included in the Evidence Report, these include: Estimates of station usage 1997-2023 – Office of rail and Road Annual estimates of the number of entries/exits and interchanges at Estimates of station usage.</p> <p><a href="https://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/">https://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/</a></p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and have used many data sources to produce Technical Reports to supplement this. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and supporting Technical Note with data sources agreed with Transport Scotland who will also sign-off on the analysis, with the main findings being presented in the Evidence Report.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Homes for Scotland has identified a number of additional evidence sources that should be included in the Evidence Report, these include: National Cycle Network routes – Sustrans Scotland</p> <p>Map network of NCN routes in North Lanarkshire.  <a href="https://www.sustrans.org.uk/national-cycle-network#:~:text=The%20National%20Cycle%20Network%20is%20a%20UK-wide%20network%20of%20signed">https://www.sustrans.org.uk/national-cycle-network#:~:text=The%20National%20Cycle%20Network%20is%20a%20UK-wide%20network%20of%20signed</a></p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and have used many data sources to produce Technical Reports to supplement this. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and supporting Technical Note with data sources agreed with Transport Scotland who will also sign-off on the analysis, with the main findings being presented in the Evidence Report.</p>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Homes for Scotland has identified a number of additional evidence sources that should be included in the Evidence Report, these include: Hands Up Scotland Survey – Sustrans National Report 2023  Results of National travel to school Survey - <a href="https://www.sustrans.org.uk/our-blog/projects/hands-up-scotland-survey/">https://www.sustrans.org.uk/our-blog/projects/hands-up-scotland-survey/</a></p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and have used many data sources to produce Technical Reports to supplement this. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and supporting Technical Note with data sources agreed with Transport Scotland who will also sign-off on the analysis, with the main findings being presented in the Evidence Report.</p>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Homes for Scotland has identified a number of additional evidence sources that should be included in the Evidence Report, these include: Transport and Travel in Scotland (TATIS) 2021: Results from Scottish Household Survey.</p> <p>Transport and Travel statistics at local authority level taken from the SHS 2021.  <a href="https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/transport-and-travel-in-scotland-2021/">https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/transport-and-travel-in-scotland-2021/</a></p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and have used many data sources to produce Technical Reports to supplement this. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and supporting Technical Note with data sources agreed with Transport Scotland who will also sign-off on the analysis, with the main findings being presented in the Evidence Report.</p>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Local living and 20-minute neighbourhoods: planning guidance  Guidance on local living and 20-minute neighbourhoods aims to encourage, promote and facilitate the application of the Place Principle and create connected and compact neighbourhoods which prioritise environmental, social and economic sustainability.</p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and have used many data sources to produce Technical Reports to supplement this. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-government-planning-guidance-local-living-20-minute-neighbourhoods/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-government-planning-guidance-local-living-20-minute-neighbourhoods/</a>	<p>is a robust transportation baseline and supporting Technical Note with data sources agreed with Transport Scotland who will also sign-off on the analysis, with the main findings being presented in the Evidence Report.</p>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2019 Sets out a pathway to meeting Scotland's emissions reduction targets over the period to 2032. It also links to NTS2 priority to take climate action.</p> <p><a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/15/enacted#:~:text=The%20Bill%20for%20this%20Act%20of%20the%20Scottish%20Parliament%20was">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2019/15/enacted#:~:text=The%20Bill%20for%20this%20Act%20of%20the%20Scottish%20Parliament%20was</a></p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and have used many data sources to produce Technical Reports to supplement this. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and supporting Technical Note with data sources agreed with Transport Scotland who will also sign-off on the analysis, with the main findings being presented in the Evidence Report.</p>
Homes for Scotland (HfS)	<p>Cleaner air for Scotland 2 (2021) Sets out the Scottish Government's air quality policy framework for the next five years and a series of actions to deliver further air quality improvements.</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/cleaner-air-scotland-2-towards-better-place-everyone/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/cleaner-air-scotland-2-towards-better-place-everyone/</a></p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and have used many data sources to produce Technical Reports to supplement this. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and supporting Technical Note with data sources agreed with Transport Scotland who will also sign-off on the analysis, with the main findings being presented in the Evidence Report.</p>
Network Rail	<p>Network Rail consider that further evidence on Rail Freight is required and that information on the key Rail Freight sites within NLC should be provided. Rail Freight – NLC is a critical corridor for rail freight in Scotland. Approx 86% of all Rail Freight passes through Mossend or Coatbridge. Information on the key RF sites should be included in the Evidence Report. Focus on last mile delivery is also required.</p> <p>NPF4 Policy 13 a) ii. provides support for a mode shift of freight from road to more sustainable modes, including last-mile delivery. No evidence is included in the report regarding rail freight in NLC and its strategic importance for Scotland. It is not sufficient to rely on NPF4's</p>	<p>Network Rail and have agreed in writing to confirm that Network Rail are supportive of the approach the council are taking on the Rail Freight topic for the new LDP. This was discussed at a meeting involving Network Rail and the council's Planning staff. This is set out below.</p> <p>Improving connectivity between the Monklands Replacement Hospital and Drumgelloch Rail Station has been considered and further investigated within the Local Transport Strategy. This was</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>support for the shift to Rail Freight without providing evidence for its importance in the North Lanarkshire area.</p> <p>Key freight sites include: Mossend International Railfreight Park, Mossend – EuroTerminal, Coatbridge Rail Terminal, Tarmac in Uddingston. There are also unused rail-freight connections (Liberty Steel Distribution Limited, Sheildmuir Mail Terminal)</p>	<p>an issue which was highlighted at workshops. In addition, the council's City Deal Team are introducing new linkages from the Hospital site as part of the EALR project and are undertaking a Walking, Cycling and Horse-riding Assessment and Review (WCHAR) as part of the EALR DMRB Stage 3 design commission. The WCHAR will assess current active travel provision and highlight areas for improvement or enhancement. This will include investigating options to access key destinations, such as the new hospital.</p> <p>The council is in dialogue with Network Rail and have agreed how to progress the Evidence Report in respect of concerns raised. The council will work closely to identify specific gaps in information being collected for the Local Transport Strategy and presented in supporting Technical Notes. This will then be agreed with Network Rail as per the Rail requirements section in Transport Scotland, Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance to ensure requirements have been met.</p>
Network Rail	<p>Network Rail considers that further evidence on Sustainable Travel to Railway Stations is required. In line with the National Transport Strategy's Sustainable Travel Hierarchy, a key strategic focus of Scotland's Railway at the moment is improving access to our rail stations for people walking, wheeling, cycling, or connecting to other sustainable travel modes such as bus and ferry. Network Rail request that the Scotland's Railway 'Sustainable Travel to Stations Strategy (2023)' is read, understood, and integrated into the evidence report. Following the Sustainable Travel to Stations strategy will encourage a focus on facilitating both active travel and sustainable travel, as well as integrating travel modes to benefit residents of and visitors to North Lanarkshire.</p>	<p>Network Rail and have agreed in writing to confirm that Network Rail are supportive of the approach the council are taking on the Sustainable Transport topic for the new LDP. This was discussed at a at a meeting involving Network Rail/Scotrail and the council's Planning and Transportation staff. This is set out below.</p> <p>Following dialogue between the council and Network Rail (Strategy &amp; Investment Team) there is agreement on how to progress the Evidence Report in</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>The strategy is available at: <a href="https://scotlandsrailway.com/assets/site/Sustainable-Travel-to-Stations-FINAL.pdf">https://scotlandsrailway.com/assets/site/Sustainable-Travel-to-Stations-FINAL.pdf</a> and the guide for local authorities, the rail business, and other involved parties is available at <a href="https://scotlandsrailway.com/assets/site/STtS-Practitioners-Guide-FINAL.pdf">https://scotlandsrailway.com/assets/site/STtS-Practitioners-Guide-FINAL.pdf</a> .</p>	<p>respect of concerns raised. The aims and objectives of the Scotland's Railway 'Sustainable Travel to Stations Strategy (2023)' will be added as an Evidence Source within the LDP. The Councils <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a> supports the aim and objectives of sustainable travel to key locations such as transportation hubs and supports the delivery of active and sustainable travel projects and working with partners to deliver these. Network Rail have agreed that Active travel to stations and station accessibility will be considered in the LDP through the NLC site selection process, constraints mapping and Delivery Programme with regard to proposed new housing or mixed use/commercial developments in terms of factoring in how proposed sites link with existing public transport/active travel, or whether they would need this provision in future, as well as the developer contribution element..</p>
Network Rail	<p>Network Rail considers that improved transport links are required between the new Monklands Hospital and its closest rail station and suggest that the council investigate the potential of improving the proposed transport links between the new Monklands Hospital and its closest rail station, including linking directly to Drungelloch station potentially via a new entrance to Platform 2 rather than terminating at Towers Road in order to shorten the walking and wheeling distance between the hospital and station.</p>	<p>Network Rail and have agreed in writing to confirm that Network Rail are supportive of the approach the council are taking on the Sustainable Transport topic for the new LDP. This was discussed at a meeting involving Network Rail/Scotrail and the council's Planning and Transportation staff. This is set out below.</p> <p>The council's City Deal Team are undertaking a Walking, Cycling and Horse-riding Assessment and Review (WCHAR) as part of the East Airdrie Link Road (EALR) DMRB Stage 3 design commission. The WCHAR will assess current active travel provision and highlight areas for improvement or enhancement. This will include investigating options to accessing key</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		<p>destinations, such as the new hospital. This is further supported by action AT-3 in the council's draft Local Transport Strategy, which states 'Deliver new active travel infrastructure within the City Deal Programme, working with partners where there are added value opportunities. This includes East Airdrie Link Road Active Travel.</p>
Network Rail	<p>Network Rail considers that improved transport links are required between the new Monklands Hospital and its closest rail station and recommends that the council prioritises a bus service to the hospital which interchanges with rail at both Drumgelloch and Airdrie stations, allowing more travel options for residents and visitors. This would be an example of integrating the Sustainable Travel to Stations strategy into the Local Development Plan.</p>	<p>Network Rail and have agreed in writing to confirm that Network Rail are supportive of the approach the council are taking on the Sustainable Transport topic for the new LDP. This was discussed at a meeting involving Network Rail/Scotrail and the council's Planning and Transportation staff. This is set out below.</p> <p>Public Transport requirements for the Monklands Replacement Hospital were included in the Transport Assessment and assessed as part of the planning application. This included input from SPT and others. Planning permission for the new hospital is the basis of a planning condition which requires a Public Transport Accessibility Strategy to be agreed and implemented. This would entail discussions between the Council (including the Planning Service and the Infrastructure &amp; Transportation Service) NHS Lanarkshire and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport. <a href="#">This is reflected in action PT-3 of the council's draft Local Transport Strategy, which states 'Work with partners to explore opportunities for... Services connecting to University Hospital Monklands...'</a></p>
Network Rail	<p>Network Rail can provide information on the accessibility of railway stations. If the council is interested, we could provide a travel-to-station survey results with the percent of people who get to a station by walking, cycling, or bus, as a car</p>	<p>Network Rail and have agreed in writing to confirm that Network Rail are supportive of the approach the council are taking on the Sustainable Transport topic for</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>driver, car passenger, etc. This survey is done periodically by ScotRail using station wifi and is available at 3 of the 25 stations in North Lanarkshire (Airdrie, Croy and Motherwell).</p>	<p>the new LDP. This was discussed at a at a meeting involving Network Rail/Scotrail and the council's Planning and Transportation staff. This is set out below.</p> <p>The council have agreed a transportation baseline with Key Agencies and data from <a href="#">The Office of Rail and Road</a> (ORR) on rail station entries and exits across all stations in the United Kingdom. Using data from 2013 to 2024, patronage levels at stations within North Lanarkshire has been presented in the Rail Station Usage section of this Chapter of the Evidence Report.</p> <p>The survey data noted by Network Rail was passed on to the Consultants working on the <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>. The council in dialogue with Network Rail (Strategy &amp; Investment Team) and have agreed how to progress the Evidence Report in respect of concerns raised. The council's Local Transport Strategy supports the aim and objectives of sustainable travel to key locations such as transportation huds and supports the delivery of active and sustainable travel projects and working with partners to deliver these.</p> <p>Network Rail have agreed that Active travel to stations and station accessibility will be considered in the LDP through the NLC site selection process, constraints mapping and Delivery Programme with regard to proposed new housing or mixed use/commercial developments in terms of factoring in how proposed sites link with existing public transport/active travel, or whether they would need this provision in future, as well as the developer contribution element.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Northern Corridor Community Volunteers	<p>Bus connectivity across the Glasgow city region and the economic benefit of wider connectivity is well outlined in the recent Centre for Cities report <a href="https://www.centreforcities.org/publication/miles-better-improving-public-transport-in-the-glasgow-city-region/">https://www.centreforcities.org/publication/miles-better-improving-public-transport-in-the-glasgow-city-region/</a></p>	<p>The council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan. The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.</p>
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	<p>We are not in a position to comment on each individual paper; therefore we are going to comment only on topic papers where we can add most value to the evidence gathering process. These are:  SFRA and flood risk  Water management  Blue and Green infrastructure  Biodiversity and Nature Networks  Climate Change  SEA</p> <p>For everything else we refer to you to our Evidence Sources and Glossary (attached) to check the information provided and fill in any gaps as appropriate.</p>	<p>As noted in External Evidence we have considered how we could use the CO2 Emissions tool in the Evidence Report.</p>
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	<p>Scottish Property Federation consider that the growth of the distribution and logistics sector is a clear and developing opportunity. This is a positive industry story for North Lanarkshire and one that can be enhanced. There are few local authorities better positioned in Scotland to maximise the potential of this sector. The council has also taken a positive stance on issues such as empty property rates with a view to encourage and facilitate redevelopment of vacant and derelict sites. There is an opportunity for the council in such a strong strategic location</p>	<p>The council welcomes your comments on Logistics and Distribution and agrees that geographically North Lanarkshire is strategically positioned on the road and rail networks to play a key role in distribution for Central Scotland/Scotland. We also agree with the importance this sector plays in the online retail market.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>in the heart of Scotland to plan and direct this form of development.</p> <p>However, the strategic location of the Council being located less than an hour from Edinburgh to the east and right on the doorstep (East and South) of Scotland's largest city, Glasgow, are we would argue a strength. The strong motorway networks as well as freight facilities around Eurocentral support this strategic disposition, making North Lanarkshire a sought-after location for logistics and distribution. This is a market set to continue to grow strongly as online retail develops. Indeed, in its 2024 Scottish Property review major property consultants Ryden listed 2 of the top 3 industrial investment deals as being located in Eurocentral (the third such deal was in nearby Cambuslang, South Lanarkshire). This illustrates the strength of the location to major investors in this sector.</p>	<p>The council has worked with Transport Scotland and Network Rail to agree sufficiency of data and information in the transportation baseline on roads and rails per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. These have been agreed and the council will also work closely with Transport Scotland to undertake a robust transport appraisal through Development Plan Transport Assessment Guidance (DPTTAG) work.</p>
<p>Scottish Property Federation (SPF)</p>	<p>Scottish Property Federation consider that the rejuvenation and upgrading of sites with large populations and significant public transport links to Glasgow such as Cumbernauld should also be seen as opportunities to make a destination that was not necessarily apparent beforehand. Similarly, Motherwell, Airdrie and Coatbridge have sufficient critical mass of population as well as public transport to support expansion and increased town facilities, affordability and attractiveness as destinations within the Greater Glasgow orbit.</p> <p>We welcome the Council's indication in September last year of a direction to explore this new market and we believe the range of brownfield sites with good access to public transport within North Lanarkshire and with Glasgow could support this policy approach.</p>	<p>The council welcomes your comments on Housing and Infrastructure and advises the council have consulted on a <a href="#">draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Scottish Property Federation consider that there needs to be a full spectrum offer of accommodation to meet people's needs at different levels of life, affordability and tenure. But this will also require good social and transport infrastructure to support sustainable communities and to meet the intentions of the 20-minute neighbourhood policy.	The council welcomes your comment on Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods and agrees this has a wider role to play in achieving benefits for the area. The council can advise we have considered Scottish Government Local Living and 20-Minute Neighborhoods: Planning Guidance and further in the Community Infrastructure Chapter of the Evidence Report and will continue to do so the Plan develops.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Scottish Property Federation have focused on specific commercial property policies, opportunities and factors for North Lanarkshire and where helpful, pointed to national benchmarks and issues for property investment and related data. We hope this is helpful for the Council's LDP insights and development.	Noted.
Scottish Water (SW)	Scottish Water recognises the importance of sustainable transport as a contributor to supporting development in the local catchment area.	Noted.
Scottish Water (SW)	Scottish Water recommends that consideration be made to the positive contributions that could be made to the management and conveyance of surface water.	The Scottish Government's <a href="#">Water-Resilient Places: A Policy Framework for Surface Water Management and Blue-Green Infrastructure</a> as a source of evidence and referred to it in Chapter 5 under Flooding and Flood Risk of this Evidence Report.
Scottish Water (SW)	Any change to the surface to create linear networks to move people more sustainably can create space and connections for blue-green infrastructure and positively support the Scottish Government Water Resilient Places Policy Recommendations.	The Scottish Government's <a href="#">Water-Resilient Places: A Policy Framework for Surface Water Management and Blue-Green Infrastructure</a> as a source of evidence and referred to it in Chapter 5 under Flooding and Flood Risk of this Evidence Report.
Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport agrees with the information supplied in the survey paper, however SPT suggests a change to 4.40 with amended text below:  Replace the last sentence as follows; Some of these are operated commercially, others are operated with support from SPT providing services which are socially necessary,	The council has reflected what Strathclyde Partnership for Transport has advised in the Evidence Report and has agreed on the Transportation Baseline with them and Transport Scotland.  Information on Bus Accessibility has been provided in the Public

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>but not attractive to commercial operator's. MyBus Rural is available to communities in the more rural parts of North Lanarkshire where there no local bus services or where public transport links are poor Community Transport organisations also provide a range of local and targeted services for communities across North Lanarkshire.</p>	<p>Transport section of this Chapter of the Evidence Report. This analyses data from The <a href="#">Scottish Accessibility to Bus Indicator</a> (SABI) to provide an objective measure of accessibility to public transport by bus. This has been built on analysis of SPT provided bus stop 2025 Q2 data, which has been reviewed at the North Lanarkshire level to identify gaps in the local bus network.</p>
<p>Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)</p>	<p>Strathclyde Partnership for Transport suggested additional text to be added on Clyde Metro, Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy and the Regional Active Travel Strategy.</p> <p>Information is provided in a Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)rate email on briefing note setting out the key strategic workstreams towards delivering the vision and objectives of the Regional Transport Strategy which will interact with LDP process</p>	<p>The council can confirm Clyde Metro; Strathclyde Regional Bus Strategy and the Regional Active Travel Strategy have all been reflected in the Evidence Report.</p>
<p>Transport Scotland</p>	<p>Evidence Report does not include sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport or active travel or the implications of this data for the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>Specific issues raised in response have not been listed as they are all related to the above.</p>	<p>The council is in dialogue with Transport Scotland and has agreed on how to progress the Evidence Report in respect of concerns raised.</p> <p>The council has worked closely to identify specific gaps in information being collected for the Local Transport Strategy and presented in supporting Technical Notes.</p> <p>Minor issues have been resolved to enable agreement with Transport Scotland to ensure requirements are identified in the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance have been met.</p> <p>The council will also work closely with Transport Scotland further DP TAG work required for the Plan.</p>
<p>Individual</p>	<p>Respondent expressed concerns about perceived links to 20-minute city policies. <i>Comment edited in line with publication standards.</i></p>	<p>The council advises that Local Living and 20 Minute Neighborhoods are 20-minute neighborhoods are promoted by the Scottish Government.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
Individual	<p>Respondent expressed concerns about proposed cycle infrastructure, traffic congestion and the perceived environmental impact of transport policies.</p> <p><i>Comment edited in line with publication standards.</i></p>	<p>The council advises that Active Travel is promoted by the Scottish Government and the council. The council has an Active Travel Strategy which sets out the council's position that is available on the council website.</p>
Individual	<p>The individual considers that the Survey Paper does not meet the requirements set out by the Scottish transport minister (Kevin Stewart).</p> <p>It fails to link up with facilities like transport to Palacerigg and other public spaces so reducing people needing to take cars and increases carbon footprint and also makes these places under utilised.</p> <p>It also fails to join the transport links together to make it easier and safer for people to not only move around the district but get access to the two main cities of Glasgow and Edinburgh using cars.</p>	<p>The council have consulted on <a href="#">a draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.</p>
Individual	<p>The individual considers that the plan needs to join the dots between all the transport services and improve them and the times the services are on offer to the public to access</p>	<p>The council works with Strathclyde Passenger Transport on issues relating to public transport, however transport services are provided by private companies, and the council has no control over the frequency of these services.</p> <p>The council have consulted on <a href="#">a draft Local Transport Strategy</a>, expected to be approved Autumn 2026, and worked with Transport Scotland to agree sufficient baseline data information on roads, rail, parking, public transport, or active travel as per the Local Development Plan Evidence Report - Transport Scotland baseline information</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		<p>guidance requirements. A consultant has undertaken the analysis required to ensure there is a robust transportation baseline and will carry forward this work and undertake a transport appraisal of the Strategic and Local road networks through DP TAG work for the Proposed Plan. The council will work closely with Transport Scotland and Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to agree requirements for both appraisals.</p>

**Table 19 - Topic Paper 27 & 28 City, Town, Local & Commercial Centres and Retail - Responses**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Stakeholder Comment</b>	<b>Council Response</b>
Aldi Stores Ltd	Aldi welcome the opportunity to engage with and respond to this stage of the Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) process to ensure that the evidence base is properly reflective of the deficiencies in certain communities in North Lanarkshire. This will then hopefully allow our client to bring forward plans to meet those needs in the future.	The council welcomes the comments made by Avison Young on Behalf of Aldi Stores Ltd on the Evidence Paper and note the desire to ensure that the evidence base is properly reflective of the deficiencies in certain communities in North Lanarkshire.
Aldi Stores Ltd	The Avison Young response provides details of Aldi's current format and business model and notes that they have stores in Airdrie, Bellshill, Motherwell, Wishaw and Coatbridge. They emphasise that their stores generally require smaller catchments than larger supermarkets and serve more localised areas, meeting the needs of smaller more sustainable communities. Aldi's growth plans for North Lanarkshire are also highlighted with a stated aspiration to expand over the next 10 years with the benefits associated with future new stores highlighted.	The council recognises the important contribution made to the local economy by Aldi from their existing portfolio of stores located across North Lanarkshire. Comments relating to Aldi's format and business model are noted as are the aspirations to expand operations over the next 10 years.
Aldi Stores Ltd	Commenting on the evidence base presented in the Council's Topic Paper, the general comments on retail trends and desires, as set out in NPF4, to promote more local living and more sustainable shopping patterns are noted. Aldi supports this, and notes that their stores are typically able to serve more localised needs and become embedded in local communities.	The council notes the general support offered for the Topic Paper's comments on retail trends and desires, as set out in NPF4 to promote more local living and more sustainable shopping patterns.
Aldi Stores Ltd	Reference is made to NPF4's requirement for Local Development Plans to consider where there may be a need for further retail provision, to address deficiencies in terms of the quality or quantity of the offer within certain areas. This also applies to new residential expansion areas to ensure shopping requirements can be met locally. And having reviewed the evidence presented, it is noted that the Consultants cannot identify where these matters have been given full consideration and as a result, have	<p>The council notes the comments made on the NPF4 requirement for Local Development Plans to consider where there may be a need for further retail provision, to address deficiencies in terms of the quality or quantity of the offer within certain areas, and further note Aldi's concerns that it cannot identify where these matters have been given full consideration in the Topic Paper.</p> <p>The recently published GCV Retail Study is a key piece of evidence that</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	<p>prepared this representation to assist. Reference is also made to the Ryden / Roderick Maclean Retail Study, and it is concluded that this does not appear to consider convenience expenditure potential in any detail, with a focus on comparison goods. In any case, given its strategic considerations, Avison Young do not believe that this will adequately identify any localised deficiencies across individual settlements within North Lanarkshire.</p>	<p>will underpin the town centre and retail topic, examine emerging retail trends and consider whether there is likely to be a strategic requirement for additional floorspace across the GCV area. It concluded that there is no strategic requirement for additional convenience floorspace. However, it also suggested that opportunities for additional convenience floorspace may be identified in LDPs to address local shortfalls and to support local living, and this will be explored by the council in the next phases of the plan preparation process.</p>
<p>Aldi Stores Ltd</p>	<p>Additional Retail Evidence is provided by Avison Young to show a clear deficiency in provision within the Chryston/Moodiesburn area of North Lanarkshire, although it should be noted that Aldi has not identified a site within this location and that the representation is not seeking to identify a specific site. This includes the provision of Retail capacity tables which look at expenditure in the area compared to current shopping provision. This concludes that only 25% of the total expenditure available within the catchment is retained, with remaining expenditure drawn to retailers in surrounding town such as Kirkintilloch, Cumbernauld and Coatbridge resulting in less sustainable journeys that run counter to the principles of local living and 20-minute neighbourhoods.</p> <p>The assessment then looks at how Aldi might meet this deficiency and what its impacts might be. It suggests that a new store of 1,356 sqm gross floorspace would turnover £12.24 million in convenience sales and £2.43 million in comparison sales per annum compared to a £10.4 million and £2.97 million turnover generated within the catchment respectively for convenience and comparison goods, concluding that this could therefore easily be accommodated within the local area, whilst avoiding any significant adverse</p>	<p>The council welcomes the additional evidence provided to support consideration of whether there is a deficiency in convenience provision in the Chryston / Moodiesburn area and will consider whether additional capacity assessment work is required in general as we proceed to the next steps in the Plan preparation process.</p> <p>It is also noted that Aldi has not identified a site within this geographical area or presented any evidence as to whether any existing centre/centres could accommodate such development as part of a Town Centre First approach, although it should be noted that there will be an opportunity to put forward sites at the "call for ideas stage" (including sites) of the plan preparation process which will take place after the Evidence Report and Gate check stages have been completed.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	effects on any protected centre, particularly given the extent of expenditure leakage currently present.	
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Historic Environment Scotland note that there is considerable overlap in the cultural heritage interests affected by NPF4 Policies 11, 12, 19 and 27, particularly in relation to historic buildings.	Noted. The council acknowledges the cross-over between the historic environment and the NPF4 policies listed, and these interests are considered throughout the relevant Chapters contained within the Evidence Report, notably within Chapter 4 (Natural and Built Environment).
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	<p>Historic Environment Scotland note that following publications contain useful information relevant to topics in the current round of consultation.</p> <p>Our Past, Our Future   Historic Environment Scotland - this is the national strategy for the historic environment. It sets out priorities for the historic environment and identifies ways to achieve them.</p> <p>A Guide To Climate Change Impacts   Historic Environment Scotland - provides an outline of the main issues that climate change poses for the historic environment and the action that can be taken to counter them.</p> <p>Short Guide: Climate Change Adaptation for Traditional Buildings   HES (historicenvironment.scot) - provides an overview of measures that can be taken to adapt buildings to meet the challenges of climate change.</p>	The Historic Environment Scotland documents highlighted have been considered within the Evidence Report and this Guidance will also be referred to in the formulation of policies relating to development affecting historic buildings within NLLDP2.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	In para 3.1 Historic Environment Scotland note and welcome the inclusion of Historic Environment Scotland's Buildings at Risk Register (BaRR) as a main evidence source. The response letter to the first Topic paper Consultation (31 May 2024) contains detailed information on the BaRR which could be relevant to Survey Paper 27 and 28 going forward.	<p>The Evidence Report regards the Buildings at Risk Register as key part of the historic environment evidence base, using it to identify heritage assets at risk and to inform policy, regeneration and delivery considerations. This provides sufficient evidence to demonstrate that key historic environment risks and vulnerabilities have been identified and integrated to support the preparation of NLLDP2.</p> <p>In particular, the Evidence Report draws on the BaRR to inform policy implications relating to conservation,</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		adaptive reuse, enabling development and town centre regeneration, and to demonstrate alignment with NPF4 policy expectations on safeguarding and re-using historic assets.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	In para 4.19 of the 2024 Survey Paper, Historic Environment Scotland agreed that the Buildings at Risk Register could help to identify redevelopment opportunities within town centres. Such redevelopment can provide multiple benefits provided it is carried out in an appropriate and sustainable manner in accordance with NPF4 Policy 7m.	Noted and the Town Action Plans, and other town centre initiatives that are currently being progressed by the council and referred to in the Evidence Report will continue to consider opportunities to enhance the built environment including any relevant properties identified in the Buildings at Risk Register.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	In para 5.1 of the 2024 Survey Paper, Historic Environment Scotland agree that these topics have a potential connection in evidence with Policy 7 Historic Assets and Places (misnumbered as Policy 3 in the list provided at 5.1). Effects could be positive or negative depending on the nature of decisions made.	The council notes Historic Environment Scotland agreement that these topics have a potential connection in evidence with Policy 7 Historic Assets and Places (misnumbered as Policy 3 in the list provided at 5.1) and that the effects could be positive or negative. The erroneous reference to Policy 3 instead of Policy 7 is noted and will be corrected going forward.
Historic Environment Scotland (HES)	Unlike other Topic Papers, this paper does not state whether NPF4 Policies 27 and 28 are considered sufficient for these topics or if there is a need for locally specific policy in addition. It would be helpful to have this clarified.	<p>The Survey Paper's main purpose was to highlight the evidence that will be used to inform policy in the forthcoming LDP, including NPF4, and this early-stage consultation with key stakeholders was undertaken to gauge whether the evidence base highlighted was appropriate, and to determine whether there were any key areas of evidence that have been omitted or ignored. Whilst it is recognised that the Topic Paper did not explicitly state that NPF4 Policies 27 and 28 were considered sufficient, it should be noted that the emerging Evidence Report has addressed this issue.</p> <p>The Evidence Report clarifies that NPF4 Policies 27 and 28 are considered sufficient as the overarching national policy framework for centres and retail. However, the evidence also demonstrates a need for additional locally specific policy detail in NLLDP2 to guide how these policies</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		are applied across North Lanarkshire's diverse network of centres. In particular, locally tailored policy is likely to be required to support mixed-use and residential-led regeneration, manage diversification away from traditional retail, and respond proportionately to differing centre roles, scale and performance. Any locally specific policy approach would complement and supplement NPF4, rather than depart from it, ensuring national policy objectives are delivered in a locally responsive way.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Scottish Property Federation is pleased to contribute to the council's consultation work ahead of the next (and 'new style') LDP for North Lanarkshire and provide comments on specific commercial property policies, opportunities and factors for North Lanarkshire and where helpful, point to national benchmarks and issues for property investment and related data.	Noted and the council welcomes the input from the Scottish Property Federation.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Scottish Property Federation highlight that the real estate sector has a vital role to play in delivering the Council's aspirations for employment, investment in the public realm and housing, with research undertaken for SPF by the Fraser of Allander Institute identifying that the commercial property industry added £73m to the economy for every £100m of new demand, and for every 100 jobs needed for new construction activity a further 85 FTE jobs are needed in the wider economy. The sector is therefore a driver of economic growth.	Noted.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Scottish Property Federation note that the Council are taking a positive approach to many aspects of its built environment, highlighting Fusion Assets success in developing brownfield sites and the 2023 SHIPs positive approach to supporting alternative forms of residential development and tenure.	Noted.
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Scottish Property Federation consider that the rejuvenation and upgrading of sites with large populations and significant public transport links to Glasgow such as Cumbernauld should	Noted.

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
	also be seen as opportunities to make a destination that was not necessarily apparent beforehand. Similarly, Motherwell, Airdrie and Coatbridge have sufficient critical mass of population as well as public transport to support expansion and increased town facilities, affordability and attractiveness as destinations within the Greater Glasgow orbit.	
Scottish Property Federation (SPF)	Scottish Property Federation highlight a concern that the lack of opportunity for good jobs and the attraction of major city centre destinations is a draw that can make it difficult to retain amenities and thriving hospitality venues.	Noted.
Scottish Water (SW)	Scottish Water offer overall support for the content of the NPF4 27 & 28 – City town and local commercial centres and Retail topic paper.	Noted and the council welcomes the overall support offered by Scottish Water to the content of the joint Survey Paper covering NPF4 Policy 27 City, Town, Local and Commercial Centres and Policy 28 Retail.
Scottish Water (SW)	Scottish Water highlight that consideration should be given for surface water management principles when designing for brownfield sites and regeneration in city, town and local commercial centres. Additionally, opportunities to install water efficient infrastructure in regeneration development should be explored fully to support water sustainability measures.	<p>Noted and The Evidence Report supports this approach through its regeneration-first spatial strategy, Infrastructure First principle, and Environmental and Design Quality requirements. The evidence demonstrates that brownfield and town-centre locations often present historic drainage constraints, increased surface-water flood risk and reliance on combined sewer systems, which must be addressed through high-quality design.</p> <p>In this context, regeneration proposals are expected to fully integrate sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS), blue-green infrastructure and nature-based solutions to manage surface water close to source, reduce pressure on existing networks, and improve climate resilience. Opportunities to incorporate water efficient infrastructure, such as demand reduction measures, modern drainage design and, where appropriate, surface water separation, will be explored as part of regeneration and placemaking.</p>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		<p>These principles are reflected in the site appraisal, flooding and water environment evidence, and will be embedded through site selection, master planning and early engagement with Scottish Water to ensure regeneration development is both deliverable and sustainable. Scottish Water's comments on the need to apply surface water management principles and explore water-efficient infrastructure within brownfield and regeneration development are addressed across multiple sections of the Evidence Report. In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chapter 4: Natural &amp; Built Environment</b> sets the strategic context for managing flood risk, protecting the water environment and integrating blue-green infrastructure and sustainable drainage, informed by the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and climate change projections.</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 5: Climate Change, Energy &amp; Resources</b> reinforces the role of sustainable drainage, natural flood management and climate-resilient design in reducing surface water risk, particularly in urban and brownfield locations.</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 8: Strategic Infrastructure</b> establishes an Infrastructure First approach, requiring early engagement with Scottish Water and ensuring development is aligned with water and wastewater capacity and surface water constraints.</li> <li>• <b>Chapter 13: Site Assessment Methodology</b> explicitly assesses flood risk, surface and foul drainage,</li> </ul>

Stakeholder	Stakeholder Comment	Council Response
		<p>and utilities capacity as part of determining the suitability and deliverability of brownfield and regeneration sites.</p> <p>It should also be noted that these elements were previously considered as part of the Adopted LDP's <b>Environmental and Design Quality Policies (EDQ1 - EDQ3)</b> which embed requirements for site appraisal, sustainable urban drainage systems, protection of water body status and integrated water management within them and it is likely that some aspects of these policies will be carried forward into NLLDP2.</p>

## Completed Key Agency/Infrastructure Provider Sufficiency Templates

### Key Agency/Key Infrastructure Providers – Sufficiency Templates

All key agencies and relevant infrastructure providers were invited to complete sufficiency templates to confirm their agreement with, or identify any issues relating to, the Evidence Report. Below is a full set of all completed templates.

#### Historic Environment Scotland (HES)

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Historic Environment Scotland
	Contact Details	<a href="mailto:Cailee.mellen@hes.scot">Cailee.mellen@hes.scot</a>
	Date response provided	22/05/2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	<p>We are broadly content with the evidence supplied regarding the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, inventory sites (gardens and designed landscapes and historic battlefields), conservation areas, and sites of archaeological interest. We welcome that it is anticipated that future policies will be in line with current council policies and the relevant respective NPF4 policies.</p> <p>However, in terms of implications of the plan for the historic environment, we find the evidence report to be quite high level and lacking in detail. The links between the proposed plan and implications for the historic environment should be clearly explained and should expand beyond the safeguarding of designated assets. It may be useful to consider separating the historic environment into its own chapter,</p>

Section	Prompt	Response
		<p>distinct from the natural environment, in order to present these matters more clearly. In its current format, implications for the historic environment appear often conflated with or secondary to those presented for the natural environment.</p> <p>Our comments on specific aspects of the evidence report are presented below.</p> <p>While we welcome that the protection of assets and their settings is reiterated throughout, the evidence report should also thoroughly consider what opportunities from and enhancements to the historic environment can be presented in the plan. In other words, the historic environment should not always be considered as a barrier to potential development. For instance, the opportunities around retrofitting and adapting empty or other historic buildings and the positive implications this may have from climate, zero waste, and/or circular economy perspectives as well as the contribution our heritage can make for regeneration and placemaking. We note that this is referenced in the discussion of the Town Centre Action Plans and the re-use of civic buildings and the preservation of well-defined town centres, but this approach could also be applied more widely. The link between natural preservation and the enhancement of historic assets is also well established. I would draw attention to previous comments and resources we shared on the nature topic papers produced in 2024, which highlighted a report produced by Historic England that illustrates how heritage assets can be beneficial for biodiversity and natural places.</p> <p><u>Spatial Strategy Implications</u></p> <p>We note that the only reference to the historic environment in this section is related to tourism and the visitor economy, but it should also be reflected in other subsections.</p> <p>Designated heritage assets and their settings should be included in the list of sensitive environmental assets.</p>

Section	Prompt	Response
		<p>Conservation areas or other historic settlement patterns (defined town centres, etc) could also be included under landscape and place.</p> <p>The retrofit and re-use of existing historic buildings (particularly those on the BARR) would be sustainable opportunities for development and this could be reflected under 'Prioritise sustainable locations for growth.'</p> <p><u>Climate and Nature Crisis Implications</u> As noted above, there are both positive and negative interactions between the climate crisis and the historic environment, which should be clearly explained in the evidence report.</p> <p>We welcome that the re-use of existing buildings is referenced in this section, but the benefits of this (especially toward net zero targets) could be expanded upon. In contrast, potential negative effects could also arise; for example, from improper adaptations to traditional buildings in order to facilitate the transition to net zero or potential physical or setting impacts from the development of energy generation, transmission and storage facilities.</p> <p>Building resilience of heritage assets against climate change should also be considered as part of the plan and reflected in the evidence report, as there can be specific impacts from climate change unique to the historic environment and these can also vary between types of assets. Our guides to Climate Change Impact and Climate Change Adaptation for Traditional Buildings would be useful references, as they provide an outline of the main issues that climate change poses for the historic environment and the action that can be taken to counter them, as well as an overview of measures that can be taken to adapt buildings to meet the challenges of climate change.</p>

Section	Prompt	Response
		<p><u>Delivery and Implementation Implications</u></p> <p>Historic Environment Scotland should be included in the list of partnership stakeholders that will be consulted to deliver historic environment related outcomes.</p>
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

## NatureScot

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	NatureScot
	Contact Details	Diane Beveridge
	Date response provided	18.5.26
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	<p>Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification /amendments</p> <p>Please delete as appropriate.</p>
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The authority has previously consulted with us on individual draft topic papers, met with us and other key agencies on several occasions via Teams and held in person discussion days on their proposed site selection process.</p>

	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	<p>Although there is mention of them in the main text some key documents don't appear to be in the Spreadsheet of Evidence Sources, in particular: Sitelink and The Carbon &amp; Peatland Map 2016.</p> <p>You may also find these useful:  <a href="https://www.nature.scot/doc/advising-peatland-carbon-rich-soils-and-priority-peatland-habitats-development-management">https://www.nature.scot/doc/advising-peatland-carbon-rich-soils-and-priority-peatland-habitats-development-management</a>  <a href="https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/planning-and-development/planning-and-development-advice/planning-and-development-soils">https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/planning-and-development/planning-and-development-advice/planning-and-development-soils</a></p> <p>Habitat Map of Scotland – NatureScot  <a href="https://opendata.nature.scot/datasets/snh::habitat-map-of-scotland/explore">https://opendata.nature.scot/datasets/snh::habitat-map-of-scotland/explore</a></p> <p>30x30  <a href="https://www.nature.scot/doc/30-30-framework">https://www.nature.scot/doc/30-30-framework</a></p> <p><b>Chapter 4: Natural &amp; Built Environment</b>  <b>Landscape Character</b></p> <p>You explain that land use character and landscape character are not the same, some further explanation of this may be useful here.</p> <p>It would be useful if a map of the LCT's could be included.</p> <p><b>Landscape Designations</b></p> <p>Under Natural Environment Assets, while NatureScot's Sitelink system (<a href="https://sitelink.nature.scot/home">https://sitelink.nature.scot/home</a>) lists 11 SSSIs as being within North Lanarkshire, this is based on North Lanarkshire being the 'primary' local authority area (i.e. the area that all or most of the site lies in). There are, however, additional SSSIs which have another Council identified as the 'primary' local authority but which nonetheless lie partly within North Lanarkshire (Garrion Gill and Hamilton Low Parks). As such, there are <b>13</b> SSSIs wholly or partly within North Lanarkshire.</p> <p>Also, if SPAs are listed here, for consistency SACs should also be listed.</p>

		<p><b>NLLPAB Protected Species</b>  There is, or at least was recently, also a great-crested newt population at Drumshangie Moss, near Airdrie. This has been subject to pressure from development. The Council should hold ecological survey information for the area associated with development proposals at Stirling Rd, Stand.</p> <p><b>Nature Designations</b>  Garrion Gill is part of the Clyde Valley Woods Special Area of Conservation, thus there are 4 SACs wholly or partly within NLC.  Along with details of their condition information is available via Sitelink on the pressures affecting statutory protected areas (SPA's SACs and SSSIs). It would be useful to review this information to identifying issues of relevance to the preparation of the LDP in terms of ensuring sites are protected from further impacts and opportunities for restoration are highlighted.</p> <p><b>Woodland Cover</b>  Could you put a hectareage on the area of woodland which has been subject to NLC management and identify what type of woodland this work has taken place in? This will allow a comparison with total woodland cover.</p> <p><b>30 x 30 Designated Sites</b>  Achieving 30 x 30 will be reliant on the identification of 'Nature30' sites outside of existing traditional protected areas. Although it may involve the designation of a few new statutory protected areas this will involve identifying lots of new non statutory areas to be managed for wildlife (<a href="https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/30-30-and-nature-networks/30-30-explained">https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/protected-areas-and-species/30-30-and-nature-networks/30-30-explained</a>). It would be useful to consider the implications of this for the LDP.</p> <p><b>Carbon &amp; Peatland Mapping</b>  The Carbon &amp; Peatland Map 2016 is a predictive tool which provides an indication of the likely presence of peat on each individually mapped area, at a coarse scale, rather than an accurate representation of where peat definitely occurs. It is particularly useful as a tool to use in the site selection process for development to screen where areas of peatland are likely to occur and where detailed peat survey is therefore likely to be required (<a href="https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/planning-and-development/planning-and-development-advice/soils/carbon-and-peatland-2016-map">https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/planning-and-development/planning-and-development-advice/soils/carbon-and-peatland-2016-map</a>). We would suggest that it would be useful to consider that settlement expansion is not the only potential development impact that could affect designated sites – e.g. renewables.</p>
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		<p>In general, we would welcome a more explicit commitment to the mitigation hierarchy in this chapter, ensuring that avoidance of impacts is the default position and support for restoration and protection measures across all the natural environment.</p> <p><b>Chapter 5 Climate Change</b>  You recognise at the start of this section that tackling the twin climate and nature crises are of key importance to NPF4. You list other relevant NPF4 policies but do not mention biodiversity, trees or soils. This chapter could make stronger links between the two crises and the contribution that nature can make towards climate change via nature-based solutions, eco-system services and blue-green infrastructure. The importance of conserving and restoring natural spaces and maintaining and improving their biodiversity in general. The interdependence and connections between the two crises could be strengthened in this regard.  <a href="https://www.nature.scot/climate-change/nature-based-solutions">https://www.nature.scot/climate-change/nature-based-solutions</a></p> <p><b>Wind</b>  In relation to landscape sensitivity, we would suggest including the renewable energy map of Scotland. This is particularly useful for considering cumulative impacts and providing cross boundary context.</p> <p><b>Chapter 7 Green Belt</b>  We welcome that the Council is committed to carrying out a GB review informed by NPF4 Policy 8. This will be important for assessing potential sites in the future. In relation to GB review there is also some information within the LDP guidance which is useful and includes advice on things to consider, such as undertaking a landscape character assessment.</p> <p><b>Chapter 13 Site Assessment Methodology</b>  The methodology proposed appears to capture most of what was previously discussed. There are just a couple of sections which may benefit from some greater refinement.</p> <p><b>Prioritisation of Sites (Step 2)</b>  In terms of priorities, it appears that an urban site with some form of protection would be preferred for development over a non-urban, non-protected site. While this may, on the face of it, support the presumption in favour of continuing development in existing built-up areas it doesn't recognise that protected urban sites could have more biodiversity, landscape and /or recreational value than the non-urban site. Such sites can be highly valuable both for nature and the local population. We would suggest that further mechanisms need to be in</p>
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		<p>place to allow for a balanced decision to be reached, fully considering these elements and not purely based on a general location.</p> <p><b>For Sustainable Places</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Given the restrictions NPF4 places on development on peatland, perhaps asking for a justification of how it complies with those restrictions is needed, alongside information on how the habitat will be protected?</li> <li>• Given that sites with hard constraints, such as landscape or environmental designations, would be sifted out under Step 1 as 'Not Preferred' should the questions here focus on the "in proximity/could affect" elements to allow consideration of connectivity with protected areas for developments located outside of them? What [indirect] impacts there could be and how it's proposed to mitigate these?</li> </ul> <p>Will the scoring system be subject to further refinement? Will the different categories i.e. Communities, Environment and Economy be separated the allow for each to be considered separately?</p>
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	All covered above.
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above.

## Scottish Water

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Scottish Water
	Contact Details	Sophie Kennedy (Sophie.day@scottishwater.co.uk)
	Date response provided	14 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient to proceed
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes – Scottish Water have been engaged throughout the preparation of the Evidence Report and North Lanarkshire have considered Scottish Water's comments, and these are reflected in the Evidence Report.
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	None
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes.  Scottish Water look forward to continuing to work with North Lanarkshire and to supporting the next stages of the Local Development Plan.

## Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT)

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
	Contact Details	Amanda Horn, Amanda.horn@spt.co.uk
	Date response provided	12 05 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	<p>Yes – sufficient to proceed  <del>Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification</del>  <del>No – not sufficient</del>                      Please delete as appropriate.</p> <p>Please note that SPT has only completed an in-depth review of Chapter 10 Sustainable Transport. We are satisfied with the changes made to this latest draft in light of SPT comments on the draft topic paper.</p> <p>We have completed a 'light touch' review of chapters 4,5,6,7,8, 9,11 &amp; 12, and are satisfied that sustainable transport policy is sufficiently integrated into these topics.</p>
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	<p>Yes  <del>No</del>  <del>Please delete as appropriate.</del></p>
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	<p>1) Chapter 8 page 60 / Bus Infrastructure and Provision</p> <p>SPT would request minor changes to the following sentence: "SPT have advised that bus operators are unlikely to provide information on the levels of <b>demand</b> to allow us to identify the viability of services to ensure they will continue to be provided <del>get any suitable information,</del> however the below map identifies frequency of services and has been provided by SPT."</p> <p>2) Chapter 8 / Transport – please consider if Clyde Metro should be included here.</p>

<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above No Please delete as appropriate.

### Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Homes for Scotland
	Contact Details	<a href="mailto:f.watkins@homesforscotland.com">f.watkins@homesforscotland.com</a>
	Date response provided	27/05/2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	

<p><b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b></p>	<p>If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required</p>	<p>The Council does not rule out releasing more greenfield land for any use; however, it is likely that the Council will likely have to allocate greenfield land in the emerging LDP. Between 2018 and 2024 NLC saw a decrease of 8.5% of Vacant and Derelict Land (VDL). This modest decrease, aligned with the inherent difficulties in delivering these sites does not lend well to a brownfield-only Spatial Strategy. Viability matters require to be fully understood in the context that every allocated site will need to be deliverable in the emerging LDP. HFS and our members would be willing to share our knowledge of constraints associated with housing sites that have not been brought forward for development. As set out above, viability and marketability are matters to be considered alongside place making principles in informing the next spatial strategy. It is vital to highlight the need for the Spatial Strategy in the next LDP to consider both sustainable and marketable locations for new developments. If a sustainable site is not in a marketable location, it is unlikely to be delivered, and both the Local Housing Land Requirement and spatial strategy will not be achieved.</p> <p>Allocating a suitable volume of deliverable land for development will improve housing affordability. The Barker Review of Housing Supply (2004), which was updated in 2024, clearly shows how a lack of land availability has led to a lack of housing supply with consequences for housing affordability:  <a href="https://www.hbf.co.uk/documents/13441/HBF_Report_-_Beyond_Barker.pdf">https://www.hbf.co.uk/documents/13441/HBF_Report_-_Beyond_Barker.pdf</a>.</p> <p>Research from Christian Hilber (2015) also shows how house prices would be lower with fewer regulatory restrictions, including those on the allocation of deliverable land: <a href="https://cep.lse.ac.uk/pubs/download/EA033.pdf">https://cep.lse.ac.uk/pubs/download/EA033.pdf</a>.</p>
<p><b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b></p>	<p>Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report</p>	<p><b>Strategic Environmental Assessment</b>  HfS recognises the importance of the SEA to ensure development is sustainable. The Council state that in the SEA they will weigh up options alongside “economic and social considerations”. It is imperative that the Council take into account the social and economic benefits that homebuilding brings to Scotland which will be discussed further in this response. It is also essential that the material consideration of the national housing emergency, which was announced in May 2024, is considered alongside the Council’s ambition to surpass the MATHLR within the SEA framework. A lack of land supply for housing and a subsequent housing shortfall would be catastrophic socially and economically.</p> <p><b>Landscape Designations</b>  It is important to recognise that the site selection process must also consider other factors alongside matters relating to biodiversity, including marketability and deliverability. This</p>

		<p>is particularly important for settlements within an area designated for its landscape quality and where this may affect the location. Considering both marketability and deliverability will ensure development happens in the areas where there is a significant demand for housing, rather than where there is less demand and assist in exceeding the Council's Minimum All Tenure Housing Land Requirement (MATHLR).</p> <p><b>Biodiversity and Nature Networks</b></p> <p>Homes for Scotland (HFS) members are fully committed to protecting biodiversity and already consider sustainability as an integral part of their business. Significant investment is often made in incorporating biodiversity improvement measures into new developments, ensuring that any opportunity to enhance biodiversity is seized. This includes strengthening habitat connectivity by providing permeable boundaries to allow safe movement for nature.</p> <p>It is vital that the presence of trees/woodland on sites that are promoted for development do not preclude the site from being considered as suitable of being developed. Indeed, whilst the trees/woodland will improve the amenity and biodiversity value of the development it can also benefit from a management plan. The presence of trees and woodland can be incorporated into the design of any site layout, thus contributing to the creation of quality places and providing an asset for the local community. When selecting sites for allocation within the LDP it is paramount that all factors are considered in the round in order that a balanced decision can be made on sites that come forward for development.</p> <p>The delivery of high quality blue and green infrastructure (BGI) is a priority for HFS members with significant investment often made in incorporating green spaces into new developments. This includes biodiversity improvement measures such as wildflower meadows and tree planting, helping to make homes more nature friendly and provide assets for the local community. National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) Policy 20b states "<i>development proposals for or incorporating new or enhanced blue and/or green infrastructure will be supported</i>" and should therefore be reflected in the Chapter.</p> <p>Furthermore, home building has the ability to manage, maintain and enhance BGI whilst also creating connections, helping to strengthen habitat connectivity to allow safe movement for nature, with the Topic Paper detailing how improving connectivity is a key priority for North Lanarkshire.</p>
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		<p><b>Forestry, Woodland and Trees</b></p> <p>When discussing implications for North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2 (NLLDP2) the draft Chapter states new and updated development allocations in the proposed plan will need to take account of existing native woodland areas, areas for potential native woodland expansion or land identified as being suitable for woodland creation and semi-natural ancient woodland by limiting development and allocations on such areas and where possible redirecting development to locations that do not erode a valuable resource.</p> <p>It is important that the presence of trees/ woodland on sites that are promoted for development do not preclude the site from being considered as suitable of being developed. The presence of trees and woodland can be incorporated into the design of any site layout thus contributing to the creation of quality places and providing an asset for the local community. Trees and woodland can also benefit from management through site factoring arrangements. When selecting sites for allocation within the LDP it is paramount that all factors are considered in the round in order that a balanced decision can be made on sites that come forward for development.</p> <p>Furthermore, one consideration that has not been presented within the Chapter and which we believe is of high importance is marketability, especially as the Chapter mentions redirecting development to locations that do not erode a valuable resource. HFS acknowledges forests, woodland and trees are key assets, particularly those of high nature conservation value, however, tackling the nature crisis and increasing Scotland's woodland cover must be balanced with ensuring Scotland's housing needs are also met as we seek to address Scotland's Housing Emergency. Enabling HFS members to build homes in marketable locations is key to not only ensuring housing targets are met, but that people have access to high quality housing in the areas which they want to live in. Housing proposals in settlements with high value woodland can deliver the Policy outcomes outlined in Policy 6 by expanding woodland through tree planting and both protecting and managing woodland or trees through a suitable management plan. The latter could incorporate biodiversity enhancement measures which may not have otherwise been delivered. This would align with North Lanarkshire's efforts at restoration and protection of forestry and woodland areas</p>
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		<p>which will continue to be a focus for the Council going forward.</p> <p>It is accepted that the loss of woodland will only be supported where clearly defined public benefits can be demonstrated. HFS notes the range of social and economic benefits which woodland can bring; however, the socio-economic benefits of home building cannot be understated. Our members contribute millions of pounds annually to infrastructure investment across the district. As outlined in the report commissioned by HFS, and published in March 2022, <i>The Social and Economic Benefits of Home Building in Scotland</i>, in 2019 the home building sector supported 79,200 jobs, equivalent to 3.5 jobs for every home built. This was made up of 45,000 direct jobs, 24,750 indirect jobs and 9,450 induced jobs (link: <a href="https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/">https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/</a>).</p> <p>The Chapter notes where woodland is removed, compensatory planting will most likely be expected to be delivered, however, lacks any guidance on the level of compensatory planting that it would consider to be reasonable and if this could be off-site. It is requested that further guidance is provided on the levels of compensatory planting that should be provided.</p> <p><b>Soils and Peatland</b></p> <p>Throughout the draft Topic Paper it discusses how the plan will seek to protect and avoid allocations or extensions to settlements that would impact peat and high organic matter rich soils. It is important to note any policy included in NLLDP2 needs to recognise there are tools which can be utilised to minimise the impact of development peat and high organic matter rich soils. It would be helpful for the draft Chapter to acknowledge that such risks can be controlled through the preparation of a Construction Environment Management Plan. This document lists controls that will be implemented to avoid said risks. This is something that can be used by Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) when allocating/consenting development and as such provides a degree of control, as should the document not be implemented LPAs can use their enforcement powers.</p>
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		<p><b>Prime Agricultural Land</b></p> <p>The draft Chapter states given the limited nature of prime agricultural land within North Lanarkshire it is envisaged that the potential for conflict with development aspirations in most circumstances will also be limited. This is positive, however, the Council will still seek to protect the limited areas of prime agricultural land where possible and any land of a lesser quality that has been identified as culturally or locally important for primary use, as identified by North Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2 (NLLDP2).</p>
<p><b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b></p>	<p>Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?</p>	<p>Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above</p>

### Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<p><b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b></p>	<p>Name of Key Agency / Organisation</p>	<p>Homes for Scotland</p>
	<p>Contact Details</p>	<p>f.watkins@homesforscotland.com</p>
	<p>Date response provided</p>	<p>27/05/2026</p>
<p><b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b></p>	<p>Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?</p>	<p>Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification</p>
<p><b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b></p>	<p>Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	<p><b>Flood Risk and Management Opportunities for Compensatory Storage / Blue and Green Infrastructure</b></p> <p>HFS are aware that SEPA are open to exploring work with Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) to look at whether compensatory storage can be provided to the same volume in the same catchment to allow a site to be developed. It is therefore suggested that, as part of a strategic approach, the Council working with SEPA and landowners identify opportunities for compensatory flood storage. This is paramount given new Local Development Plans (LDPs) will be created applying an Infrastructure First approach.</p> <p>New residential development presents the opportunity to implement these measures as HFS members consider sustainability as an integral part of their business and are fully committed to implementing high-quality blue and green infrastructure into new developments, ensuring that flood risk is minimised.</p> <p>By overlaying existing housing allocations and call for ideas housing proposals with flood extents there may be opportunities for homebuilders to be part of a flood mitigation solution through incorporating or delivering compensatory storage within or on adjacent land to housing proposals. This approach may be of particular benefit where; to achieve 20-minute neighbourhoods or deliver development on brownfield sites, land that is initially identified as not to be used for development could be developable, if alternative land is used for sustainable flood management. The maintenance and associated programming of flood storage and any associated planting would be undertaken by a factor and agreed through planning conditions.</p>

		<p>Whilst SEPA's Flood Hazard Maps and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment will provide a steer on areas that are at risk of flooding there may be opportunities to incorporate mitigation or flood resilience into development proposals. As noted above alternative compensatory flood storage may allow areas identified as being at risk of flooding to be developed. Incorporating flood depth on public GIS mapping will assist in identifying areas that could potentially be brought forward for housing, subject to mitigation, particularly if a more pragmatic approach is adopted.</p> <p><b>SEPA Flood Maps and Guidance</b></p> <p>Recently updated SEPA flood maps and guidance makes several housing sites undevelopable, some of which were being built in phases. Later phases can no longer proceed. The ClimateXChange (CxC) recently undertook research which suggests a more pragmatic approach to flood modelling with options based on potential scenarios. Whilst SEPA's response to this research is awaited it may allow sites that are currently undevelopable to be brought forward and reduce the need for protracted discussions on applications such as 23/03962/FUL which had to be considered by Scottish Ministers'.</p> <p>The CxC in its report titled 'Using future climate scenarios to support today's decision making' prepared for the Scottish Government suggests that decision makers should adapt to a 2°C global temperature rise and prepare for a 4°C rise. This scenario-based assessment is based upon relative certainty that we are on a path towards a 2°C global temperature rise over the next 40 or so years, but beyond that it is more difficult to predict, hence the need to prepare for a potential a 4°C rise by 2100. Preparation can take the form of design mitigation and management for the worst-case flood risk scenarios that can be incorporated into new developments.</p> <p>This pragmatic approach is completely at odds with SEPA's current guidance, detailed above, which is used to inform their assessment of planning applications. This states:</p> <p><i>"The future flood maps have been developed using projections from a high emissions scenario where little or no action is taken to avoid dangerous levels of climate change, with greenhouse gases continuing to rise and leading to a greater global temperature increase."</i></p>
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		<p>This complete risk mitigation approach has led to objections being lodged by SEPA against developments that otherwise meet all aspects of NPF4 - redevelopment of brownfield sites in sustainable town centres to provide new homes in town centres and in some instances for sites that are being promoted by local authorities themselves with public funding for their delivery.</p> <p>SEPA use a 95<sup>th</sup> percentile measurement (i.e. in 95% of instances flooding will not occur) for its high emissions scenario. This equates to a 5.5°C global temperature rise by 2100 and is detailed in Table 3 p.25 of the CxC Report. This figure is being used to formally object to new housing developments in the middle of existing residential areas where steps will already need to be taken by Councils as the Flood Prevention Authority to manage flood risk moving forward - as set out in the Scottish Governments National Flood Resilience Strategy.</p> <p><b>National Planning Framework 4</b> The glossary to NPF4 (p.149) states, <i>'...An appropriate allowance for climate change should be taken from the latest available guidance and evidence available for application in Scotland.'</i></p> <p>LPA's should also be mindful of the CxC report when preparing their new LDPs and considering proposed development sites. The Council are urged to adopt this scenario-based approach to adapt to a 2°C global temperature rise and prepare for a 4°C rise.</p> <p>The glossary to NPF4 (p.149) states, <i>'...An appropriate allowance for climate change should be taken from the latest available guidance and evidence available for application in Scotland.'</i> LPA's should be mindful of this when preparing their new LDPs and should also encourage applicants to adopt this scenario-based approach to adapt to a 2°C global temperature rise and prepare for a 4°C rise. Given that several towns and cities were formed around water courses, it is likely, as SEPA maps demonstrate, that a number of brownfield sites will be undevelopable if LPA's base their decision on SEPA's advice when it objects. There needs to be a more pragmatic approach, especially given the recent CxC research.</p> <p>The Scottish Government published a <a href="#">Chief Planner Letter</a> on 13 October 2025 replacing the letter published in June to improve clarity around NPF4 Policy 22. This letter outlines the roles and responsibilities of SEPA, The Scottish Government and LPA's in the application of NPF4 Policy 22.</p>
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		<p><b>Construction Environment Management Plans</b>  Any policy needs to recognise that there are tools which can be utilised to mitigate existing and future flood risk and erosion. It would be helpful for the schedule to recognise that such risks can be controlled through the preparation of a Construction Environment Management Plan. This document lists controls that will be implemented to avoid said risks. This is something that can be used by LPAs when allocating/consenting development and as such provides a degree of control, as should the document not be implemented the LPA could use their enforcement powers.</p> <p><b>Scottish Government National Flood Resilience Strategy</b>  In the HFS response to the Scottish Government Flood Resilience Strategy consultation in 2024, it was emphasised that each scenario is different and a flood resilient solution may not always be the most appropriate solution if the principles of the Scottish Government’s Just Transition are applied. HFS support the principle of flood resilient places and where this is appropriate the home building sector can be an active partner in achieving this. However, as the schedule highlights, each settlement has different flooding issues, and it is HFSs view that a balance needs to be struck between investing in fixing flooding problems and the potential loss of investment, businesses and homes within areas that may be at risk of flooding by the year 2100. The latter may include areas currently protected by existing defence or flood protection schemes. The financial cost of providing or upgrading these requires to be understood and where appropriate the “fixing flooding problems” approach maintained rather than adopting the flood resilient approach detailed in the consultation.</p> <p><b>Energy</b></p> <p><b>Grid Re-Enforcement Planning</b>  It should be recognised that any strengthening of the network associated with new build homes can be planned due to the forecast demand being known based on expected new homes energy usage and delivery through housing land audits programming, unlike retrofitting to existing housing stock. The Council and energy providers are urged to work with housing developers to identify opportunities for grid re-enforcement and upgrades associated with new home building that could result in cost savings for both the developer and SPEN whilst also benefiting the wider community.</p>
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		<p><b>Heat Network Zones and Building Regulations</b></p> <p>Heat Network Zones are supported in principle, however, where there are multiple landowners and interests', development is likely to be delayed due to the requirement to form an Energy Services Company (ESCo). Additionally, it is not clear how infrastructure belonging to an ESCo within the potentially adopted road network would be considered by a road authority. Additionally, the recent changes to the Building Regulations combined with the New Build Heat Standard mean that new build homes are more energy efficient and will have less heat demand therefore more homes will be required to connect to a heat network to make the heat network viable.</p> <p>It would be unreasonable to require a development to be designed and constructed to connect to a potential future heat network at a later date. The extent of any safeguard within the adopted road network, private garden ground and homes would be unknown whilst the cost associated with retrofitting a solution is likely to be prohibitive. There is also no guarantee that homeowners will be willing to convert from an existing energy provider to an ESCo.</p> <p>The council should also consider the Cabinet Secretary for Housing October 2025 Letter regarding SME homebuilders where a proportional approach to planning conditions and a “due consideration is given to the economic viability of proposals as they are progressed” is strongly encouraged. Homes for Scotland and Velux’s research into SME home builders for 2025 evidenced that many SME homebuilders are ceasing to operate and 58% of SMEs estimate that new regulation since 2021 has added more than £20,000 to the cost of building a new home. The introduction, nationally or locally, of further requirements should be avoided to aid development viability.</p> <p>The implications of the Scottish Government’s Climate Change Act – Section 72: fourteenth annual report should also be considered. Section 72 of the Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 introduced Section 3F into the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. Section 3F requires local development plans to contain policies that require new buildings to be designed to avoid a specified and rising proportion of greenhouse gas emissions from their use through the installation and operation of low and zero-carbon generating technologies.</p> <p>As of 1 April 2024, the latest national planning policy, heat policy and associated building regulations go much further than what section 3F can achieve. The</p>
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		<p>requirement to include policies within development plans under Section 3F is therefore no longer necessary and as detailed within the Climate Change Act – Section 72: fourteenth annual report work has commenced to repeal Section 3F through Scottish Statutory Instrument 2025/283.</p> <p>The selection of sites must be underpinned by the acknowledgement that more home building is better for the economy. The socio-economic benefits of home building cannot be understated. Our members contribute millions of pounds annually to infrastructure investment across the district and their role as a principal funder of future investments must be fully recognised. As outlined in the report commissioned by Homes for Scotland, and published in March 2022, The Social and Economic Benefits of Home Building in Scotland, in 2019 the home building sector supported 79,200 jobs, equivalent to 3.5 jobs for every home built. This was made up of 45,000 direct jobs, 24,750 indirect jobs and 9,450 induced jobs (link: <a href="https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/">https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/</a> ).</p> <p>Care should be taken to ensure that the pipeline of new homes is not delayed through unreasonable requests and associated social and economic benefits disrupted. New homes will contribute to a just transition where the new homes are cheaper to run, and the technology used is likely to be retrofitted in existing homes in the future.</p>
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

## Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Homes For Scotland
	Contact Details	L.Knowles@HomesforScotland.com
	Date response provided	4th June 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be	Yes – however we suggest the Evidence Report could be improved through including visual

<b>the Evidence Report</b>	sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	representation of vacant and derelict land availabilities in North Lanarkshire.
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Topic Paper on Housing. Homes for Scotland (HFS) provided comments on the draft chapter on 17<sup>th</sup> April and 27<sup>th</sup> May and it is positive to see much of this feedback has been incorporated into this version of the paper.</p> <p><b>Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land</b> While it is welcomed that more information has been provided on brownfield, vacant and derelict land, HFS considers the Evidence Report would benefit from visual representations of the scale of these types of land availabilities over time.</p>
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes

## Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Homes for Scotland
	Contact Details	f.watkins@homesforscotland.com
	Date response provided	05/06/2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes - sufficient
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	HfS welcomes the Council's decision to carry out a new comprehensive Green Belt Review. The Green Belt Review, however, is required to be made available for public scrutiny prior to the submission of the Evidence Report to the Gate Check. HfS would dispute any alternate approach. It is also important to note that the green belt is not automatically good for addressing climate change. It leads to leapfrogging development and longer commutes in many cases and can stop villages and towns growing to the extent where they can viably support sufficient amenities/facilities to encourage local living.
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	The council states in the Chapter that Local Place Plans (LPPs) are a material consideration in the preparation of the emerging LDP. Some LLPs oppose any release of greenfield land and the Stepps LPP is stated as directly opposing any release of green belt sites through the Housing Land Supply Audit or emerging LDP instead advocating for the allocation of brownfield and derelict land.

		<p>Whilst Gartcosh and Stepps Local Place Plans express a retention of Green Belt designations; this is from a long-held resistance by sectors of the community against any developmental growth around such settlements. The LPP may not fully represent all views in the community, and this is evidenced from the very successful record in delivery of allocated sites in these locations, as popular places to live. The comment that Gartcosh has a distinct rural character seems out of context given the CGA developments. Stepps likewise has had a consistent approach to no green belt release for over a decade and direct focus on brownfield development, however there is no acknowledgement that there is no brownfield land in Stepps, unlike Gartcosh Business Park which a location of economic redevelopment.</p> <p>HfS's views on allocating land for housing on brownfield, vacant and derelict land are covered in response to Chapter 4. Whilst community views are an important material consideration, they do not substitute for the technical evidence that a formal green belt review would provide. Allocating an adequate supply of land to allow the Council to exceed their MATHLR and meet their LHLR must also be a material consideration when considering allocating greenfield sites for housing along with community views.</p>
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	<b>Yes</b>

## Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Homes for Scotland
	Contact Details	Kevin Murphy – <a href="mailto:k.murphy@homesforscotland.com">k.murphy@homesforscotland.com</a>
	Date response provided	27/5/26
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency</b>	Do you consider the Evidence	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification

<b>of the Evidence Report</b>	Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	<p>Page 26 – Under Electric Vehicles reference should be made to the requirement for new build EV charging and retrofitting to existing homes reducing the demand for public charging points.</p> <p>Page 77 – under point 6 of the Summary of Implications for the Proposed Plan the second bullet should be amended to include the following additional text in bold:</p> <p><b>The NLLDP2 and associated Delivery Programme</b> must set clear expectations for contributions, ensure obligations are fair and early identified, and align with provider investment cycles.</p>
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	It is important that all stakeholders recognise that the timing of the PAN Lanarkshire corridor has an impact on the delivery of significant housing allocations at Ravenscraig and wider infrastructure. Delays will have a knock-on effect.
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

## Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Homes for Scotland
	Contact Details	Kevin Murphy – k.murphy@homesforscotland.com
	Date response provided	27/5/26
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	<p>Page 3 – It is unreasonable to suggest a flexible approach to healthcare contributions on the basis of incomplete data and potential changes to the healthcare estate strategy based on the need to upgrade or replace existing buildings. Any contribution would have to comply with the tests outlined in Policy 18 of NPF4 and be proportionate to the impact/need for the new homes. HFS is aware of at least one scenario where an appeal against a planning obligation towards healthcare was successful (POA-110-2015 and POA-110-2017) due to the local health board's contribution request not meeting the appropriate tests. Any evidence base to support seeking health-care developer contributions must be robust and NHS Lanarkshire must be clear on the tests to be met to support an infrastructure first approach.</p> <p>Page 4 – under Resources the principles of the Scottish Government's <a href="#">Infrastructure Investment Plan for Scotland 2021-25</a> should be referred to. The use of existing assets should be maximised and as per NPF4 Infrastructure first requirements</p>

Section	Prompt	Response
		<p>“...used sustainably, prioritising low-carbon solutions”.</p> <p>Either within the education section on page 23 or within an appendix detail of existing and forecast capacity, school rolls, planned extensions etc. by school should be provided to aid site assessments and understanding of where mitigation may be required. The data within the Evidence Report or guidance referred to does not make this clear and other Evidence Reports have previously been found to be insufficient at Gate Check for not including this information.</p> <p>Page 86 - Under Supporting Local Living, it is suggested that the second bullet point is expanded to allow for development enhancing accessibility as per the following additional wording in red:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct growth to areas with existing infrastructure capacity <u>or can be enhanced as a result of the development</u> and require infrastructure first approaches where capacity is constrained.</li> </ul>
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

## Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Homes for Scotland
	Contact Details	Kevin Murphy – <a href="mailto:k.murphy@homesforscotland.com">k.murphy@homesforscotland.com</a>
	Date response provided	27 May 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification

<b>Evidence Report</b>	sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	<p>Page 8 – The Climate Change Plan section should be updated to reflect that as of April 2025 new cars from 2030 are to be hybridised then in 2035 all cars are to be zero emission. Here is a link the UK Government website detailing this:</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/phasing-out-sales-of-new-petrol-and-diesel-cars-from-2030-and-supporting-the-zev-transition/outcome/phasing-out-sales-of-new-petrol-and-diesel-cars-from-2030-and-supporting-the-zev-transition-summary-of-responses-and-joint-government-response">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/phasing-out-sales-of-new-petrol-and-diesel-cars-from-2030-and-supporting-the-zev-transition/outcome/phasing-out-sales-of-new-petrol-and-diesel-cars-from-2030-and-supporting-the-zev-transition-summary-of-responses-and-joint-government-response</a></p> <p>Page 16 – Reference should be made within the Switched-on Scotland section that Building Regulations require EV charging as part of all new housing proposals.</p> <p>Page 25 – Reference is made to Census data as of August 2024 not being available to inform the Baseline data. If this data is now available, it should be referred to.</p> <p>Page 41 – Under Electric Vehicle Charging reference should be made to Building Regulations requiring EV charging as part of all new housing proposals. The evidence can be further expanded to note a minimum amount of domestic EV charging points based on forecast new build completions within housing land audit programming. This is in addition to domestic charging points being fitted to existing housing stock.</p>

		<p>Page 56 – As per page 24, if Census data has become available it should be referred to.</p> <p>Page 74 – whilst the focus will be on connected places consideration should be given to proposals that will enhance wider connectivity.</p>
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	<p>Under section 10 it is suggested that the first bullet point is expanded to allow for development enhancing accessibility as per the following additional wording in red:</p> <p><b>10. Delivering the LTS Transport Planning Objectives</b>  Planning policy and site selection must collectively support TPO1–TPO5 by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• locating development where accessibility is strongest <u>or can be enhanced as a result of the development</u></li> <li>• promoting modal shift and sustainable behaviour</li> <li>• safeguarding public transport and freight infrastructure</li> <li>• embedding safe, inclusive street design</li> <li>• supporting adaptation and resilience</li> </ul>
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

## Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Homes for Scotland
	Contact Details	<a href="mailto:f.watkins@homesforscotland.com">f.watkins@homesforscotland.com</a>
	Date response provided	22/05/2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient,	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification

<b>the Evidence Report</b>	up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	<p>The Topic Paper does not cover the social and economic benefits of house building. Residential developments, even in the short-term, will generate and support indirect local employment through use of local services, such as retail provision.</p> <p>It is important to recognise that the success of any economic, business or industrial strategy relies on a range and choice of homes and tenures to support both existing employees within the council area but to also aid in attracting investment in North Lanarkshire. Additionally, through the construction process itself home builders will employ direct and indirect local employment and support the local economy through sub-contractors, such as plumbers, joiners etc.</p> <p>The socio-economic benefits of home building cannot be understated. Our members contribute millions of pounds annually to infrastructure investment across the district and their role as a principal funder of future investments must be fully recognised, as should their</p>

		role in the journey towards net zero through the delivery of increasingly energy efficient homes as well as local living neighbourhoods. As outlined in the report commissioned by HFS, and published in March 2022, The Social and Economic Benefits of Home Building in Scotland, in 2019 the home building sector supported 79,200 jobs, equivalent to 3.5 jobs for every home built. This was made up of 45,000 direct jobs, 24,750 indirect jobs and 9,450 induced jobs (link: <a href="https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/">https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/</a> ).
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

### Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Homes for Scotland
	Contact Details	L.Knowles@homesforscotland.com
	Date response provided	27 April 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Centre, Networks and Retail chapter. Homes for Scotland (HfS) provided comments on the Centres, Networks and Retail Evidence Report Topic Paper in July 2024.</p> <p>HfS does not disagree with the notion of allocating sites for residential development within town centres, however, this should not be at the expense of placemaking principles, nor viability factors. If the LDP is to identify a proportion of the LHLR in town centres, then any site needs to be available and deliverable and if policy interventions are required (such as a compulsory purchase order) then these should be set out at the outset.</p> <p>HfS supports the sustainable reuse of brownfield land including vacant and derelict land and empty buildings. However, viability requires to be considered in this context. If it cannot be demonstrated a site can viably be delivered, it should not be allocated regardless of whether it is a brownfield or greenfield site.</p> <p>It is positive this Evidence Report Chapter refers to recent examples of planning applications for mixed-use development and neighbourhood scale centres integrated with major housing growth areas. This highlights the role housebuilding can play in creating new 20-minute neighbourhoods which would be compliant with National Planning Framework NPF4 aspirations. As highlighted in the Evidence Report Chapter, there are significant opportunities for mixed-use development in and around North Lanarkshire's town centres.</p>
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

Section	Prompt	Response
	Local Development Plan?	

## Homes for Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Homes for Scotland
	Contact Details	L.Knowles@homesforscotland.com
	Date response provided	27 April 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	Establishing a coherent Site Assessment Methodology will require significant engagement with Homes for Scotland (HFS) and our members. Establishing a robust Site Assessment Methodology is critical to ensuring that the next plan is able to deliver the range and quantum of new homes

		<p>required. HFS is keen to build on the positive engagement work being undertaken as part of the annual housing land audit process to assist North Lanarkshire Council (NLC) in allocating, and de-allocating (where appropriate), future deliverable housing sites.</p> <p>It is positive that the Site Assessment Methodology refers to HFS's settlement marketability matrix.</p> <p>The selection of sites must be underpinned by the acknowledgement that more home building is better for the economy. The socio-economic benefits of home building cannot be understated. Our members contribute millions of pounds annually to infrastructure investment across the district and their role as a principal funder of future investments must be fully recognised, as should their role in the journey towards net zero through the delivery of increasingly energy efficient homes as well as local living neighbourhoods. As outlined in the report commissioned by HFS, and published in March 2022, <i>The Social and Economic Benefits of Home Building in Scotland</i>, in 2019 the home building sector supported 79,200 jobs, equivalent to 3.5 jobs for every home built. This was made up of 45,000 direct jobs, 24,750 indirect jobs and 9,450 induced jobs (link: <a href="https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/">https://homesforscotland.com/download/the-social-and-economic-benefits-of-home-building-in-scotland/</a>). Private sector home building is also a key contributor to the delivery of affordable housing.</p> <p>The council's approach proposes an initial assessment (Step 1) of sites against "<i>absolute constraints</i>", with not-preferred sites not progressing to the next assessment stages. Whilst HFS does not disapprove of this approach, in principle, the Council must be careful to not discount sites at a preliminary stage that may have been considered deliverable given further assessment.</p> <p>The prioritisation of sites hierarchy (Step 2) outlines that existing sites, vacant and derelict sites, urban brownfield sites and urban sites will be prioritised. While HFS supports the sustainable reuse of brownfield land including vacant and derelict land and empty buildings, it is important that viability is considered in this context. If it cannot be demonstrated that a site can viably be delivered, it should not be allocated regardless of whether it is brownfield or greenfield. Additionally, while North Lanarkshire has a significant amount of brownfield</p>
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		<p>land, the Council has set an ambitious indicative Local Housing Land Requirement. To achieve this, the council will be required to release greenbelt land.</p> <p>An exercise should be carried out to understand why sites that have been allocated for housing have not come forward. Viability matters require to be fully understood, given that every allocated site will need to be deliverable in the emerging LDP. HFS and our members would be willing to share our knowledge of constraints associated with housing sites that have not been brought forward for development.</p> <p>As set out above, viability and marketability are matters to be considered alongside place making principles in informing the next spatial strategy. It is vital to highlight the need for the spatial strategy in the next LDP to consider both sustainable and marketable locations for new developments. If a sustainable site is not in a marketable location, it is unlikely to be delivered, and the housing requirement will not be met.</p> <p>Regarding flood risk, HFS are aware that SEPA are open to exploring work with Local Authorities to look at whether compensatory storage can be provided to the same volume in the same catchment to allow a site to be developed. It is therefore suggested that, as part of a strategic approach, NLC work with SEPA and landowners to identify opportunities for compensatory flood storage. This is paramount given new LDPs will be created applying an Infrastructure First approach.</p> <p>By overlaying call for sites housing proposals with flood extents there may be opportunities for housebuilders to be part of a flood mitigation solution through incorporating or delivering compensatory storage within or on adjacent land to housing proposals. This approach may be of particular benefit where; to achieve 20-minute neighbourhoods or deliver development on brownfield sites, land that is initially identified as not to be used for development could be developable if alternative land is used for sustainable flood management. The maintenance and associated programming for flood storage and any associated planting would be undertaken by a factor and agreed through planning conditions.</p>
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		<p>Rather than rely on proposals for new facilities being included in site proposals, NLC should publish 20-minute neighbourhood mapping to allow site promoters to identify gaps in local facilities that they may, subject to viability, be able to incorporate into the development proposal. Alternatively, where facilities would be beneficial, but have not been proposed, and the site scores highly otherwise NLC should engage with site promoters to understand whether new facilities can be incorporated into the proposal.</p> <p>NPF4 advocates local living to try to reduce car trips. This doesn't just apply to proposed housing development. The Council has an obligation to stimulate ways to enable all areas to become a 20-minute neighbourhood if they are currently not. Home building can positively influence local living factors and as detailed above, could potentially support or deliver local facilities.</p> <p>Care must be taken with regards to any requirement for site promoters to confirm/evidence contact with utility providers. Many infrastructure providers will not commit to creating capacity in their networks or engaging unless a site is consented (not just allocated) – a lack of response on these matters from providers should not necessarily count against a site. Input from utility providers to the site assessment process is key to understanding deliverability and potential for site promoters to jointly address any utility/infrastructure constraints that may emerge.</p> <p>With regards to the assessing the potential loss of green belt, the Evidence Report Chapter notes that NLC will need to undertake a full review of the green belt. Land not meeting green belt objectives must be considered for release. With regards to landscape impacts, as a whole, the preparation of updated landscape assessments is encouraged as part of the LDP preparation. Furthermore, NPF4 makes no reference to coalescence when considering green belts. The draft Methodology states: "<i>Physical coalescence should be resisted to avoid</i></p>
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		<p><i>coalescence.</i>” As it pertains to green belts, this approach is not supported by national policy.</p> <p>Care requires to be taken regarding sites located on prime agricultural land. It is noteworthy that the Local Development Planning Guidance (2023) does not reference prime agricultural land. Additionally, Policy 5 of NPF4 clearly outlines circumstances in which prime agricultural land can be developed. This includes for: “<i>Essential infrastructure and there is a specific locational need and no other suitable site</i>”. In order to achieve its Local Housing Land Requirement (LHLR) by allocations in sustainable locations, it is possible that some prime agricultural land be used for housing. Prime agricultural land should therefore be a matter to be weighed against other planning considerations at the detailed site assessment stage.</p> <p>With regards to ancient woodland, NPF4 indicates that LDPs should identify and protect existing woodland (excluding commercial plantations). However, care should be taken to only exclude sites where it is clear that the proposed development would result in the removal or harm to woodland.</p> <p>With regards to areas of peatland and carbon rich soils, NPF4 indicates that LDPs should protect carbon-rich soils but does not define relative thresholds against which value can be judged. There may be scenarios where housing development could result in betterment if degenerated peat is stabilised.</p> <p>Energy efficient heating systems are increasingly frequently used in homes built by HFS members and many developments now utilise photo voltaic panels to generate electricity for use in the home, thereby reducing electricity bills.</p> <p>The heating and cooling of our homes is dependent on and not limited to location, altitude, orientation, principal design, and fabric heat loss. There are multiple ways to achieve an energy efficient home, one of which is limiting the space heating and water demand in the first place. New homes post-2023 building standards will have a lower heat demand than pre-2023 building standards and require a</p>
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		<p>higher unit trigger number for a commercially viable heat network. Individual heating solutions, such as air source heat pumps may be more viable and deliverable.</p> <p>Where there is potential for standalone heat networks provided by an independent distribution network operator to be viable it could involve a centralised energy centre comprising of air source heat pumps or network of ground source heat pumps. However, HFS is concerned that where there are multiple landowners and interests' development is likely to be delayed due to the requirement to form an Energy Services Company (ESCo). Additionally, it is not clear how infrastructure belonging to an ESCo within the potentially adopted road network would be considered by a roads authority.</p> <p>HFS are also of the view that it is unreasonable to require a development to be designed and constructed to connect to a potential future heat network at a later date. The extent of any safeguard within the adopted road network, private garden ground and homes would be unknown whilst the cost associated with retrofitting a solution is likely to be prohibitive. There is also no guarantee that homeowners will be willing to convert from an existing energy provider to an ESCo.</p> <p>Regarding education, it is important to note that the Scottish Government has published guidance on assessing the capacity of primary schools in 2014 (Determining Primary School Capacity). This advocates the use of planning capacity and not working capacity in impact assessments. Any approach to consider an artificial lower assumed capacity figure would be contrary to approach outlined by the Scottish Government. It is also important to note the recent work by the Scottish Futures Trust (SFT) to identify where the capacity of existing schools can be used more efficiently. Here are links to the <a href="#">secondary</a> and <a href="#">primary</a> school examples, where at Lasswade High motion analysis identified underutilised space and freed up 20% capacity. If there is limited capacity at a catchment school, it should not (in isolation) preclude a site from being allocated; it may score favourably against other aspects of the assessment and mitigation may be feasible.</p>
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<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above
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**SEPA** submitted a ‘statement of agreement’ letter and the content of which is included below:

Thank you for your consultation on the revised chapters of the Evidence Report and latest version of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (and related web viewer).

Water environment and flood risk are the two aspects where we can issue a statement of agreement, while we only provide advice for the other aspects.

We are now in a position to issue a **statement of agreement** with regards to the **water environment** and **flood risk**, with the understanding that North Lanarkshire Council (NLC) is committed to address the outstanding issues in relation to flood risk as soon as possible. Please find details and additional comments in the sections below.

#### **Chapter 4 and 5**

We have reviewed the updated Chapters 4 and 5 and are satisfied with the revisions for the areas we had requested/recommended changes (see our previous response, dated 28 May 2026, our ref: PCS-20008741).

- Water Environment.
- Blue and Green Infrastructure (BGI) and Nature Networks.
- Climate Adaptation & Mitigation.

#### **Flood risk**

We have had several meetings and provided advice to NLC in relation to their Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). There is only one issue outstanding, that NLC is willing to address as soon as possible:

- spatial outputs from the Kilsyth Flood Study to be included in the public web viewer.

The Council is waiting for this information from the consultant, as they only have the Flood Study Report in PDF format. Whilst outputs from this study are several years old, and are due to be

reviewed soon, we consider it important that all parties have access to all the information currently available in relation to flood risk. As and when updated outputs become available, we recommend that your SFRA and web viewer are updated accordingly.

We note that our previous comments have been taken into account, especially the request to make sure that it is clear that the information about the sewer network is not available in the public viewer due to the licensing restrictions from Scottish Water.

We note the text box that appears when your web viewer is accessed. It is sensible to confirm the licencing arrangements that are in place - Open Government Licence 3.0. However, several of the data sources listed are not published or shown on the viewer. Whilst not including these outputs is correct and in accordance with data sharing arrangements that are in place, including text that covers what is not available as well as our climate change requirements is slightly confusing. Both of these points would better sit within the text of the SFRA Report.

We also note the changes you have made to your web viewer with regards to how your fluvial and surface water hotspot data is shown. Including it at the resolution of what we assume to be individual properties could result in challenges from property owners. We recommend that the methodology is set out in your SFRA Report so there is clarity as to how these areas were determined. You might wish to consider only showing the outputs at the aggregated polygon scale. We would have no objection to outputs only being shown at this scale. Outputs at this resolution have been provided for Surface Water Cluster Points. It is our understanding that the hotspot analysis was undertaken by, or on behalf of NLC by consultants.

### **Chapter 13**

In relation Chapter 13 (site assessment methodology), we note that none of the comments we made previously (in response PCS-20008741, dated 28 May 2026) have yet been progressed. However, the site appraisal stage supersedes the gate check process. As this is not relevant for the current stage, we reiterate the comments we made previously and highlight that in cases where flood risk is thought to be a potential constraint, compliance with Policy 22 of National Planning Framework 4 will dictate if the site should be brought forward.

**SGN**

<b>Section</b>	<b>Prompt</b>	<b>Response</b>
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	SGN
	Contact Details	Colin Thomson, Anthony Duffy
	Date response provided	21/05/2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority’s engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	<p><b>Chapter 5, page 19, Gas Infrastructure</b>            Within North Lanarkshire 90% of the domestic properties have access to the gas network, which is 7% higher than the national average of Scotland which is 83%. The conversion of the gas network to accommodate the delivery of hydrogen will require a long term coordinated commitment of investment by the Scottish Government in order to cover gas transmission and distribution, the production of low carbon hydrogen, and the replacement or adjustment of existing consumer and industrial equipment. As noted above the geographical location of North Lanarkshire between the proposed Glasgow and Grangemouth regional hydrogen hubs may offer additional opportunities for North Lanarkshire in this regard.</p> <p><b>Investment in the gas network is a reserved matter for UK Government.</b></p> <p><b>Chapter 5, Biomethane</b>            A section on the use of biomethane in the gas network, such as that being produced at Dunnswood Road in Cumbernauld, should be included. Biomethane can help reduce emissions, use the existing gas network to transport it and avoid the need for consumers</p>

		<p>to replace their existing gas appliances with alternative low carbon technology. Useful links below:</p> <p><a href="#">Biomethane   Future of Gas   SGN</a>  <a href="#">The Green Gas Taskforce   What is biomethane?</a>  <a href="#">Future policy framework for biomethane production: call for evidence</a>  <a href="#">Draft Bioenergy Policy Statement</a></p> <p><b>Chapter 8, page 25, Heat Networks using gas</b>  In paragraph 3, last sentence add biomethane – ‘However, this position could change in the future with the transition to 100% hydrogen or biomethane.’</p> <p><b>Chapter 8 Strategic Infrastructure</b>  The below changes add clarity to the evidence, removes misinterpretations and makes the text more concise  Please remove/add</p> <p><b>Capacity Check</b>  ¶1.1 <del>“which factored all sites with current building warrants.”</del>  ¶1.2 <del>“As no connections can be made to high pressure gas mains”</del>  ¶1.2 <del>“upstream”</del>  ¶1.4 <del>remove all duplication</del>  ¶1.5 <del>it would likely lead to a requirement for reinforcement as the sites became live, dependant on capacity available in that area, network reinforcement may be required. If reinforcement was required, this would be designed reactively upon receiving the connection request.</del>  <del>reinforcement would be reactive, with options ex In the event of this happening, options would be explored, with any actual reinforcement being carried out carried out reactively to increasing demand conditions.</del></p> <p><b>New Build Heat Standard (NBHS)</b>  .9 <del>industrial/commercial use and as specified development</del></p> <p><b>Heat Networks using gas</b>  .2 <del>there is a requirement to connections which come forward as Connected System Exit Point requests to SGN. SGN have advised they would then be responsible for the infrastructure up to a central boiler for a Heat Network which distributes hot water to properties where either they lay the connection to a site or adopt the infrastructure after it has</del></p>
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		<p>been laid by a third party for the infrastructure to a central boiler, anything beyond this would be the responsibility of the developer, <b>an off-take would be taken from SGNs network, with the infrastructure beyond this the responsibility of the developer.</b></p> <p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p>.1 While the evidence identifies and SGN have advised, <b>that under current network conditions, there is generally available capacity available</b> on their network</p>
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	None
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

## SPEN

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Scottish Power Energy Networks
	Contact Details	<a href="mailto:kkingston@spenergynetworks.co.uk">kkingston@spenergynetworks.co.uk</a> <a href="mailto:r.macquarrie@spenergynetworks.co.uk">r.macquarrie@spenergynetworks.co.uk</a>
	Date response provided	22/05/2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further	

	engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	<p>Chapter 7- Green Belt  “The rural character of the plateau farmland has been eroded in places by these mineral workings, as well as by the spread of infrastructure such as electricity pylons and the proximity of the M8 motorway.” Could ‘spread’ be revised to ‘extent’?</p> <p>Chapter 8-Strategic Infrastructure  SPEN have advised NLC that there is no requirement to undertake analysis of SPEN data available on their Open Data Portal. Could we update this wording to - SPEN recognise that access to data and information will be a key enabler in society’s ability to achieve Net Zero. SPEN are committed to sharing their data with customers and stakeholders, and their Open Data Portal provides access to data via a single, easy-to-access interface.</p> <p>“As shown in the table above, the map indicates that the network serving North Lanarkshire Council has available capacity” This is valid at the time the data was produced. Network capacity is subject to change over time as new connections and demand arise, therefore developers should engage directly with SPEN to confirm current network availability and any reinforcement requirements at the relevant stage of project development.</p> <p>Chapter 13 - Liveable Places.  Can the proposal be connected to existing gas and electricity networks? Yes/No  If Yes: Please provide details showing potential network connections, including any dialogue with energy providers.  If No: Please provide details of how any energy demands will be met and any dialogue with energy providers.</p> <p>Network capacity is subject to change over time as new connections and demand arise, therefore developers should engage directly with SPEN to confirm current network availability and any reinforcement requirements at the relevant stage of project development.</p>
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	
<b>6. Confirmation</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

<b>and Next Steps</b>	Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	
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### Openreach

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Openreach
	Contact Details	<a href="mailto:Robert.thorburn@openreach.co.uk">Robert.thorburn@openreach.co.uk</a>
	Date response provided	25 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please	Updates to the report Page 50 – Coverage and Investment Across North Lanarkshire, full fibre now reaches around 73% of homes and businesses with over a third adopting it.

	specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	<p>Across the Authority area, Openreach have invested nearly £38M to date, with further local funding planned over the next 4 years as Openreach works to deliver full fibre to meet UK ambitions.</p> <p>1,900 premises now have full fibre, with more expansions coming. Recent work undertaken covered Bellside, Hareshaw, Caldercruix, and Harthill. Further funding.</p> <p>Openreach was successful in securing the Type C Project Gigabit contract and that has secured around £175M so far to support tens of thousands more homes and businesses expected to benefit over the next 5 years. See link - <a href="https://www.gov.scot">Gigabit boost for Dumfries &amp; Galloway - gov.scot</a></p>
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	See separate report provided.
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above

### Transport Scotland

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Transport Scotland
	Contact Details	Deborah.Livingstone@transport.gov.scot
	Date response provided	12 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local	<p><u>Overall Sufficiency of Evidence Report</u></p> <p>The Sustainable Transport Evidence Report chapter 10 is considered sufficient in accordance with LDP Guidance Policies 13 and 18, which are key considerations for Transport Scotland in the ER process relating to its assets, projects and strategies. The ER and associated LDP Transport Evidence Technical Note set out extensive baseline data on the strategic transport network, which</p>

	<p>Development Plan?</p>	<p>includes capacity, constraint and condition information for the M73, M8, M80, A8 and A725 trunk roads and the rail network, satisfying the requirements of Policies 13 and 18.</p> <p><u>Sufficient Main Transport Issues and Opportunities</u></p> <p>The ER summarises the main technical data contained within the LDP Transport Evidence Technical Note and references appropriate evidence sources including NTS2, Climate Change Plan update, STPR2, RTS, LTS, DPTAG and relevant transport documents and statistics. A requirement of LDP Guidance Policy 13, the ER sets out a clear commitment to undertaking a transport appraisal using DPTAG to inform the proposed plan, with a proposed methodology set out. Transport Scotland has engaged extensively with the Council on this. The ER also clearly displays a commitment to reduce the need to travel and promote more sustainable forms of travel in line with the NTS2 sustainable travel and investment hierarchies and car kms reduction policy.</p> <p>The ER references appropriate recommendations from STPR2 and provides additional detail on the key projects including Clyde Metro, a cross-boundary transport project, and the local transport projects of the East Airdrie Link Road and Ravenscraig Access Infrastructure Project which will respectively improve connectivity within North Lanarkshire and reduce journey times and congestion north of the M8 to the A73. The Clyde Metro Case for Investment is explained and will provide important outputs for consideration, with the timing of this significant project expected to be beyond this plan period. Additionally, the ER sets out improvement works Transport Scotland will be undertaking to its network assets relating to safety and maintenance.</p> <p>Key transport and travel statistics from census data, Scottish Household Survey and Transport Scotland data and statistics are included, enabling an understanding of transport use and travel patterns in the area. The ER clearly sets out traffic flows and travel statistics in relation to all the trunk roads in the area, concluding traffic levels have increased on the M73, A8 and A725 post covid. Traffic levels have decreased on the A73 and M80 and traffic levels on the M8 are mainly back to 2019 levels. Speed data summarised from the Technical Note highlights there is no major congestion on trunk road routes with traffic free flowing and no bottlenecks.</p>
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		<p>Road safety data is set out with the ER highlighting there is a 34% decrease in those seriously injured from 2012 – 2023, but a 7% increase in those killed. The ER sets out local road improvements which have been undertaken to help alleviate congestion and prioritise road safety. Road condition information is also set out and summarised from the Technical Note.</p> <p>Rail freight is an important priority for the area, with 8 rail freight locations, including Mossend, one of Scotland’s most advanced inland dry ports. The LDP will prioritise rail freight which will help reduce carbon emissions, reduce road congestion and support economic growth.</p> <p>The ER summarises the rail data from the Technical Note which is based on ORR and Scotrail data, including patronage, station facilities, accessibility and parking data. It is clear from the rail patronage data which spans a 10-year period that it is currently below 2013 levels but is increasing at all stations with Croy the busiest station on the network by far. Patronage is detailed to be at 79% of 2018-2019 levels in the period just before covid.</p>
<p><b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b></p>	<p>Are you satisfied with the authority’s engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?</p>	<p><u>Engagement with Transport Scotland</u></p> <p>There has been continued engagement and collaboration between the Council and Transport Scotland (TS). TS sent a link to its LDP Evidence Report baseline information guidance and issued specific information relating to our assets, strategies, and projects applicable to North Lanarkshire. We have also commented on draft documents.</p> <p>The Council has addressed earlier recommendations provided on the draft Sustainable Transport topic paper in October 2024 and on the Transport Evidence Technical Note dated July 2025. Initial comments on the draft Topic Paper focussed on data gaps identified, detailing additional baseline data on roads, rail, parking, public transport, active travel and the implications of this data; including mode share/travel data and statistics and the need for a transport appraisal; needed to be included. Also provided were comments relating to points being picked up by Reporters relating to the previous LDP and its outcomes, as well as future transport investment, cross boundary infrastructure implications, and planning projects. Latter comments on the Technical Note dated July 2025 focussed fully on our remit in the ER process and the need for the ER to provide information to satisfy</p>

		remaining small gaps on; the commitment to undertake a transport appraisal, and traffic data. A response on the draft sustainable transport ER chapter in March 2026 identified remaining gaps relating to trunk road data, however, there has been extensive engagement with the council, and it has resolved all the previous comments.
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes. Transport Scotland look forward to future discussions on the transport appraisal to help inform the Proposed Plan strategy.

## Network Rail

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Network Rail
	Contact Details	Catherine Stewart <a href="mailto:Catherine.Stewart@networkrail.co.uk">Catherine.Stewart@networkrail.co.uk</a>
	Date response provided	22 May 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient to proceed
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes – North Lanarkshire Council have engaged closely with Network Rail in the preparation of the Evidence Report, including consultation on Topic Papers, meetings and ongoing correspondence to discuss evidence requirements. This has included collaboration on the transport baseline, provision of data and technical inputs (including on rail freight and station accessibility), and agreement on key actions and evidence gaps to inform the Evidence Report.  The emphasis on rail freight is welcomed, and it is encouraging to see a stronger recognition of the importance of North Lanarkshire's rail infrastructure to the wider network in Scotland.
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	None
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the	Yes

	agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	
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## NHSL

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Graham Johnston, Head of Management Services, NHS Lanarkshire
	Contact Details	graham.johnston@lanarkshire.scot.nhs.uk
	Date response provided	21 May 2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	<del>Yes – sufficient to proceed</del> Yes – sufficient, subject to minor clarification <del>No – not sufficient</del> Please delete as appropriate.
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes <del>No</del> Please delete as appropriate.
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	Some minor matters of accuracy in Chapter 9 – track change version appended.
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	<del>Yes</del> Yes, subject to the minor matters noted above <del>No</del> Please delete as appropriate.

## Scottish Enterprise

Section	Prompt	Response
<b>1. Key Agency / Stakeholder Details</b>	Name of Key Agency / Organisation	Scottish Enterprise
	Contact Details	Peter Noad <a href="mailto:peter.noad@scotent.co.uk">peter.noad@scotent.co.uk</a>
	Date response provided	03/06/2026
<b>2. Overall Sufficiency of the Evidence Report</b>	Do you consider the Evidence Report to be sufficient, up-to-date and proportionate to inform the proposed Local Development Plan?	Yes – sufficient to proceed
<b>3. Engagement and Involvement</b>	Are you satisfied with the authority's engagement with your organisation in the preparation of the Evidence Report?	Yes
	If no, please explain what further engagement would have been beneficial.	
<b>4. Areas of Insufficiency (if applicable)</b>	If you consider any part of the Evidence Report to be insufficient, unclear or missing, please specify the topic/section, why this is material, and what additional information is required	N/A
<b>5. Additional Comments (Optional)</b>	Any further comments relevant to the Evidence Report	
<b>6. Confirmation and Next Steps</b>	Based on your review, are you content for the Evidence Report to be used as the agreed evidence base for the Local Development Plan?	Yes