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1 Introduction

1.1 This is the development plan scheme for South Lanarkshire Council. It is prepared in accordance with paragraph 20B of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and sets out the Council's programme for the preparation of local development plans to cover the South Lanarkshire area.

1.2 This scheme covers:-

- The current coverage of development plans (strategic and local development plans) in South Lanarkshire.
- Proposals for the local development plan (LDP) for the area and the context for these as set by Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan.
- The timescale for preparation of this LDP.
- Details, as appropriate, of the key components of each stage of preparation.
- A participation statement, giving an account of when consultation will take place, with whom and in what form, during the preparation of the LDPs.
- Details of additional policy and planning guidance associated with the local development plan.
- Information on how to access information and how get in touch with the Council.

1.3 As required by legislation, this development plan scheme will be reviewed and republished every year.

The development plan system in Scotland

1.4 The Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 sets out the requirements to prepare development plans. Development plans are the basis for decision making on planning applications, containing policies and proposals for the future development and use of land. Prior to the 2006 Act the development plan comprised of Structure Plans and Local Plans. The Act however introduced three tiers of land use plan:-

1. The National Planning Framework
2. Strategic development plans
3. Local development plans

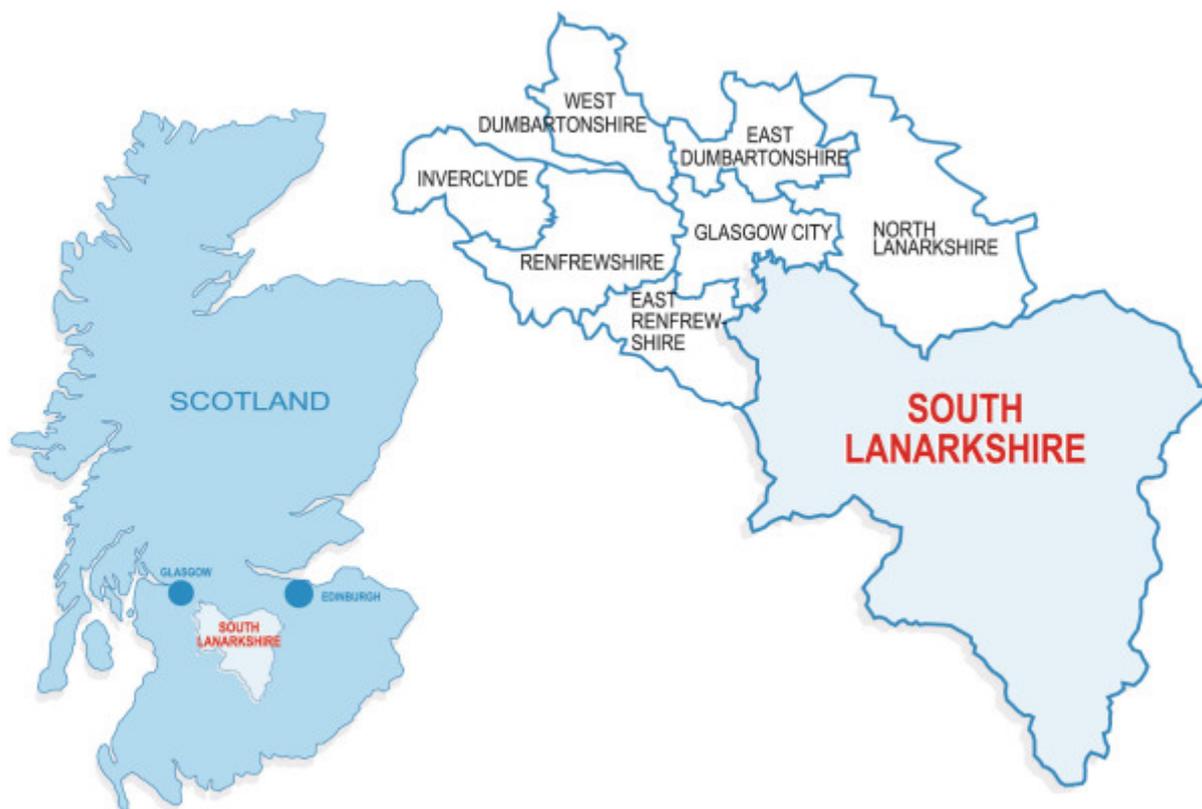
1.5 Further information on the planning system is available from the Scottish Government's website www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment.

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Strategic Development Plan (SDP)

2.1 South Lanarkshire Council is one of the eight local authorities that form the Clydeplan Strategic Development Planning Authority (SDPA).

Figure 2.1 South Lanarkshire and the Clydeplan Strategic Development Planning Authority



2.2 The second SDP (Clydeplan) was approved in July 2017. However this is subject to a legal challenge the outcome of which will be known in 2018.

2.3 The legislation states that constituent local authorities should have their local development plans adopted within two years of the strategic development plan. South Lanarkshire adopted its current Local Development Plan in June 2015 and aims to have the second South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan adopted by 2020. Section 3 'South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan' provides further details of timescales.

Local Development Plan (LDP)

2.4 The Council area is covered by two local development plans:-

- South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan (2015)
- South Lanarkshire Minerals Local Development Plan (2012)

2.5 The Minerals LDP was adopted in June 2012. The purpose of this plan is to provide a comprehensive policy basis for mineral development within one document. This plan was due for a refresh however the Council has decided that a separate Minerals Development Plan is not now required.

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The emerging proposed SLLDP2 will include policies relevant to mineral development across South Lanarkshire. In the meantime non-statutory guidance on Minerals has been approved by the Council to bridge any gap between the end of the MLDP (June 2017) and the adoption of SLLDP 2.

2.6 The main stages of LDP preparation are set down in the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 and associated regulations and circular, and are summarised as follows.

Stages of Local Development Plan preparation

- **Monitoring Statement (MS):** The MS reports on changes to the principal physical, social and environmental characteristics of the area and the impact of policies and proposals of existing plans.
- **Main Issues Report (MIR):** The MIR sets out the principal policy and development proposals that will be included in the plan and possible alternatives for consideration.
- **Proposed Plan:** The Proposed Plan consists of a written statement and associated maps and diagrams. Following consultation and taking consideration of any representations received the Council will take one of the following actions:
 - Submit the plan to the Scottish Ministers with no modifications;
 - Make minor modifications which do not affect the emphasis of the Plan and re-consult;
 - Makes significant modifications that affect the emphasis of the Plan and issue a new plan for consultation.
- **Examination of Proposed Plan:** Where there are outstanding objections a Proposed Plan will be subject to a public examination. This is carried out by a Reporter appointed by Scottish Ministers. The Reporter examines the report on LDP consultation, the extent to which the plan conforms to national policy and the Strategic Development Plan. The Reporter also considers the outstanding objections and the sections of the LDP to which these relate. Once the examination is complete the Reporter will publish findings and submit them to the planning authority. The planning authority must modify the plan in light of the Reporter's recommendations. The planning authority has three months to complete this modification process and submit the modified Proposed Plan to Scottish Ministers.
- **Adopted Plan:** Following submission the planning authority can announce its intention to adopt the plan as the fully constituted LDP. However, the planning authority must wait for a period of 28 days from the date of its announcement prior to adopting the plan. The Scottish Ministers have the power to extend this 28 day period and can direct the planning authority to modify the plan prior to its adoption.

Supplementary Guidance

2.7 As part of the South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan the Council has previously produced a number of statutory Supplementary Guidance (SG) documents. These contain detailed policies and guidance relating to issues covered in the Local Development Plan. Ten SGs have been approved. Given the newly emerging Planning Act there are likely to be changes in the development plan system. This will include a new approach to producing plans and much less reliance on Supplementary Guidance. In light of this the Council proposes to change its approach to producing guidance and it is now likely that the emerging SLLDP 2 will not contain separate Supplementary Guidance, but that policies will be further developed within a Volume 2, which will be submitted alongside the proposed plan. The latter

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will be Volume 1. This approach worked successfully in the past. The Council will also produce non-statutory guidance on topics as required to give further guidance to developers on specific subject areas. This non-statutory guidance does not need approval of the Scottish Government. It can be prepared during the lifecycle of the plan.

2.8 If the Council decides to continue with statutory Supplementary Guidance the documents will be produced as follows:

Table 2.1

SG title	Consultation timescale	Comments
Minerals	June/August 2018	This is a new SG that will be submitted for public consultation alongside the proposed plan.
Green Belt and Rural Area	June/August 2018	This SG will be refreshed and submitted for public consultation alongside the proposed plan
Renewable Energy	June/August 2018	The Renewable Energy SG is being rewritten to reflect changes to policy that occurred after adoption of the SLLDP.
Sustainable Development and Climate Change	Sept/Nov 2018	Will be refreshed during consultation period of the LDP2
Development Management, Placemaking and Design	Sept/Nov 2018	Will be refreshed during consultation period of the LDP2
Green Network and Greenspace	Sept/Nov 2018	Will be refreshed during consultation period of the LDP2
Community Infrastructure Assessment	Nov/Jan 2019	Will be refreshed during October 2018
Natural and Historic Environment	Nov/Jan 2019	Will be refreshed during October 2018
Affordable Housing and Housing Choice	Nov/Jan 2019	Will be refreshed during October 2018
Industrial and Commercial Development	Nov/Jan 2019	The Industrial and Town Centres SG's may be merged into a single SG
Town Centres and Retailing	Nov/Jan 2019	See above.

2 Development planning in South Lanarkshire

Strategic Environmental Assessment

2.9 The policies and proposals contained in local development plans may be assessed for their potential impacts on the environment utilising a process known as Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

2.10 The purpose of SEA is to provide a high level of protection for the environment by ensuring that environmental issues are considered by decision makers alongside economic and social issues. This is achieved by systematically assessing the potential significant effects of the plan, and recording the results in an 'Environmental Report'. The process involves both regular liaison with Scottish Natural Heritage, Scottish Environment Protection Agency and Historic Environment Scotland (the 'consultation authorities') and its own public consultation process.

2.11 The SEA will be prepared in conjunction with the Local Development Plan(s) and will be aligned with the process of plan preparation. The main stages and their relationship to the stages of LDP preparation are summarised below.

Stages of Strategic Environmental Assessment

- **SEA Screening:** a process for identifying the likelihood of the LDP having a significant environmental effect. Local development plans will, by their very nature, have environmental effects. Therefore a SEA will be required, so it is unlikely that this screening stage will be necessary.
- **SEA Scoping:** determines which details are to be included in the environmental report. It is undertaken early on in the assessment process, in order to focus efforts on the environmental issues to be assessed and the data sets that will be used to measure these and potential alternatives for achieving the aims of the LDP.
- **Environmental Report:** predicts and evaluates environmental impacts. The environmental report is the main reporting mechanism for describing and evaluating the environmental effects of the proposed LDP and evaluating alternatives. A draft Environmental Report will be published with the Main Issues Report with a revised Environmental Report being published alongside the Proposed Plan. A further revision may be required after the public examination of the plan. (For further details see [SEA process](#).)

Habitats Regulations Appraisal

2.12 Following a ruling by the European Court of Justice in October 2005, plans which are likely to have a significant effect on Special Protection Areas (SPAs) or Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) can be approved only after a Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) of the implications of the plan's policies/proposals for the sites has been carried out, under the provisions of the Habitats Directive 1992. The requirements are transposed into UK law by the Conservation (Natural Habitats & c) Regulations 1994. Scottish Ministers have also extended the requirement for assessment to Ramsar sites, listed under the international convention on the conservation of wetlands of international importance, and potential SPAs, before they are fully classified.

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2.13 The Scottish Government outlined the requirements for development planning in Circular 6/2013 - Development Planning paragraphs 100-104. An HRA is required for all proposed LDPs. This requires a draft assessment at the MIR stage and a revised assessment at the proposed Plan stage. A further revision may be required after public examination of the plan. In addition HRA is required to be undertaken for any Supplementary Guidance produced.

Equality Impact Assessment/Health Impact Assessment

2.14 The preparation of LDPs in South Lanarkshire takes place within a context that is wider than direct legislative requirements and high level planning and environmental policy. The Council has further obligations and policies that also apply to the preparation and content of LDPs.

2.15 The Council is committed to undertake assessment of all policies to ensure that they do not prejudice the interests of individuals in terms of age, disability, economic circumstance, ethnicity, gender or religion. An Equality Impact Assessment was undertaken in the preparation of the SLLDP.

2.16 In particular the Council has a significant role to play in Community Planning. The Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 introduced the requirement for Community Planning Partnerships (CPPs) to develop a Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP) and any appropriate Locality Plans (called Neighbourhood Plans in South Lanarkshire) by 01 October 2017. It also gave community planning a statutory purpose to focus on improving outcomes and tackling inequalities of outcome, including in localities whose communities experience the poorest outcomes.

Consultation

2.17 Early and effective consultation with stakeholders is an established principle in South Lanarkshire. The Council strives for continuous improvement in this area and has established a number of ways to engage and consult with communities for example, focus groups and citizens panels. Preparing LDPs is informed by the National Standards for Community Engagement as set out in [PAN 81](#) Community Engagement - Planning with People.

National standards for community engagement

1. Involvement: Identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of the engagement.
2. Support: Identify and overcome any barriers to involvement.
3. Planning: Gather evidence of need and resources to agree purpose, scope and actions.
4. Methods: Agree and use methods of engagement that are fit for purpose.
5. Working Together: Agree and use clear procedures that enable participants to work together effectively and efficiently.
6. Sharing Information: Ensure necessary information is communicated between the participants.
7. Working with Others: Work effectively with others with an interest.
8. Improvement: Develop the skills, knowledge and confidence of the participants.
9. Feedback: Feed results back to the wider community and agencies affected.
10. Monitoring and Evaluation: Monitor and evaluate whether engagement achieves its purpose and meets the national standards for community engagement.

2 Development planning in South Lanarkshire

2.18 South Lanarkshire Council has a development planning consultation portal on the internet with the web services company Objective (now Keystone) Online Software. When a consultation is underway the portal is active and can be accessed via the South Lanarkshire Council Website. Draft versions of documents are published on this portal and comments can be made online. Consultees can register themselves and set their own preferences on how they wish to be alerted to future consultations. The planning service need to hear from individuals, groups and organisations if there are any changes to contact details.

South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 3

Local Development Plan (LDP)

3.1 The South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan was adopted in June 2015. This needs to be kept under review and Table 3.1 indicates the main stages of activity for preparation of the next LDP.

Participation Statement

3.2 Early and effective consultation is the basis for the preparation of the MIR. The Council has carried out consultation which has allowed communities and individuals to participate. Different types of events have been held across South Lanarkshire. These were supplemented through a Council wide survey using the objective online consultation forums and other online surveys.

3.3 Engagement has already taken place with secondary school pupils, the Disability Partnership and Seniors Together. In addition a variety of social media options were explored as a way of reaching out to the wider community. A Consultation and Engagement Report was prepared alongside the Main Issues Report. This consultation exercise was a key part of the evidence base for the MIR. Dialogue with the key statutory consultees in the LDP and SEA process will continue as the LDP is progressed.

3.4 In addition to statutory advertisement and consultation with stakeholders and community groups the Council will also carry out neighbour notification of any owners or tenants of properties that may be affected by any proposals contained in the LDP2.

Programme

3.5 Table 3.1 identifies the tasks, progress and timescales for preparing the LDP. Consultation activity is shaded.

Table 3.1 Preparing the South Lanarkshire LDP 2

Stage	Key components	Complete/Timescale
Preparatory work	Draft Monitoring Statement/Call for Sites	January/April 2016
	SEA Scoping Report	
Consultation and Engagement	Establish Consultation Forums	March/April 2016
	Consultation Events	March/August 2016
	Consultation and Engagement Report	September/October 2016
Prepare Main Issues Report (MIR), Monitoring Statement, SEA Environmental Report and Habitats Regulations Appraisal	Prepare and publish MIR, Monitoring Statement	February 2017
	Prepare and publish draft SEA Environmental Report and Habitats Regulations Appraisal	

3 South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan

Stage	Key components	Complete/Timescale
Consultation on MIR and SEA Environmental Report	Six week period for comments	March/May 2017
	Consultation portal	
Prepare Proposed Plan, Proposed Action Programme and revisions to SEA Environmental Report	Assessment of consultation responses	June 2017 to June 2018 WE ARE HERE
	Prepare and publish documents	
Consultation on Proposed Plan and SEA Environmental Report	Statutory deposit and six week period for representations	June/August 2018
	Consultation portal	
Prepare for examination of Proposed Plan	Assessment of representations	September/December 2018
	Potential for modifications to be made to Proposed Plan and further statutory deposit	January 2019
	Submit Proposed Plan, Action Programme and Report of Conformity to Scottish Ministers	April 2019
Examination of Proposed Plan	Reporter appointed	May 2019
	Examination of objections made and not withdrawn	June 2019
	Reporters report	February 2020
	Publish plan with Reporters recommendations SEA and HRA assessment of recommendations	May 2020
	Submit to Scottish Ministers	June 2020
Adoption of LDP	Adoption of LDP	August 2020
	Post adoption SEA Statement	November 2020

3.6 A summary time-line is provided on the next page.

4 Accessing information and contacts

South Lanarkshire Council

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South Lanarkshire's development planning
consultation portal:

<http://consult.southlanarkshire.gov.uk>

Clydeplan Strategic Development Plan Authority

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Web page: www.clydeplan.gov.uk