

Report

Report to:	Planning Committee
Date of Meeting:	8 August 2023
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject	South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 3 South Lanarkshire Development Plan Scheme 2023 Open Space Strategy
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to:-

- ◆ Seek Committee approval to begin preparation of a third Local Development Plan (SLLDP3) for the Council's area
- ◆ Update Committee on the work that has been carried out to date on an Open Space Strategy for the Council's area
- ◆ Seek approval for the South Lanarkshire Development Plan Scheme 2023 attached as appendix 1 of the report

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The Committee is asked to approve the following recommendation(s):-

- (1) That the Committee approve that Officers commence the relevant statutory processes and engagement in relation to the preparation of a third Local Development Plan (SLLDP3) for South Lanarkshire and that regular updates on progress are provided to the Committee as appropriate;
- (2) Note that work has started on the preparation of an Open Space Strategy for the Council's area in the context of the process for preparing a Local Development Plan; and
- (3) That the Committee approve the South Lanarkshire Development Plan Scheme 2023, attached as appendix 1 of the report.

3. Background

3.1. The planning system in Scotland is plan-led which means decisions on planning applications are to be made in accordance with the development plan for the area unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 introduced a number of changes to the development planning system including giving the Scottish Government's National Planning Framework an enhanced status as part of the development plan alongside the Council's Local Development Plan. The 2019 Act also removed the need to prepare Strategic Development Plans; and a revised framework for Local Development Plan preparation as well as introducing a new statutory duty for Councils to prepare an Open Space Strategy.

3.2 A report was presented to the Planning Committee on 21 March 2023 advising that the Scottish Government had adopted and published National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) on 13 February 2023. In the context of preparing Local Development Plans, NPF4 sets out six overarching principles in relation to where development should be

located namely just transition; conserving and recycling assets; local living; compact urban growth; rebalanced development; and rural revitalisation. Part 2 of NPF4 is the National Planning Policy comprising 33 policies on distinct land use matters for the development and use of land which are to be applied in the preparation of LDPs.

- 3.3 The Council's current Local Development Plan 2 was adopted in April 2021. The process for preparing LDP3 is set out in the 2019 Act with further detail provided in the subsequent Regulations and guidance published in May 2023. The way in which LDP3 will now be prepared and its format is described below. One key matter to note is that the new style LDP will have a 10 year lifetime instead of 5 years previously.

4. Local Development Plan 3

- 4.1 The Council has a statutory duty to prepare a Local Development Plan for all parts of its area. LDP3 will show the spatial implications of national planning policy for different places. It will have fewer thematic policies and written text than previously and is to avoid replicating policy in NPF4, although it can include local policies to reflect local issues. It will be place-based presented as a series of maps, site briefs and masterplans for individual sites and localities. The plans should also be people-centred so that they meet the needs and aspirations of people and communities and as a result seek to tackle inequalities. Extensive engagement is to be carried out with stakeholders, key agencies and partners and local communities so that the plan is prepared collaboratively taking into account a diverse range of views.
- 4.2 The new style plan should be seen as a corporate document and a vehicle for the delivery of outcomes by drawing together all of the Council's strategies, plans and the objectives of the Council Plan as well of those of its partners and other stakeholders. The Act requires the LDP to take account of the Council's Community Plan. The plan is to take an infrastructure first approach so that an understanding of existing capacity and the requirement for new or improved infrastructure is an integral part of the plan process; this is to inform the site selection process. The LDP will include a Delivery Programme which will set out how the Council will implement the plan, including a list of actions required to deliver the policies and proposals and the timescales involved.
- 4.3 The Act sets out the key agencies that are to be engaged in the preparation of the plan including NatureScot, SEPA, Scottish Water, Scottish Enterprise, NHS Lanarkshire and the Regional Transport Partnership. It also requires engagement with a range of groups including children and young people, disabled persons, Gypsies and Travellers and community councils.
- 4.4 The LDP process now comprises the following key stages:-

Development Plan Scheme

The Council has a statutory duty to prepare an annual Development Plan Scheme (DPS) which is to set out the proposed timetabling for each stage of the plan preparation. It also includes a Participation Statement which describes how and when interested parties can get involved and methods to reach under-represented groups.

A new requirement is consultation on the Participation Statement and this was carried out on a draft version during June and July. Over 50 responses to an online survey and other publicity were received and they highlighted a range of views on the preferred way to engage and consult different groups of people, and across the diverse localities in South Lanarkshire, as well as suggestions on who we should contact. The format of the DPS has also been reviewed to take account of the responses.

The updated version is attached as appendix 1. The Participation Statement describes at a high level the way in which engagement will be carried out and it is intended to prepare separate detailed programmes for individual groups so that their requirements can be met. Members are asked to approve the South Lanarkshire Development Plan Scheme 2023.

Evidence Report

The Act has introduced a new requirement to prepare an evidence report at the start of the plan-making process. The evidence will be used to inform what to plan for before the Proposed Plan looks at where new development should take place. The evidence to be gathered includes a wide range of quantitative data from a national to a local level. It also involves local, regional and national strategies and policy priorities that will have an impact on the direction of the LDP. Internal and external partners will provide valuable input. An assessment of the capacity of existing infrastructure and services will be carried out to support the Infrastructure First approach.

The evidence report is also to be informed by the views of those affected by the plan and involved in its delivery and therefore extensive early engagement will be carried out with key agencies, stakeholders, interest groups and local communities to ensure evidence gathering is collaborative and transparent. In this way the lived experience of those who live and work in a place will be captured. It is expected that validation and agreement of the evidence by stakeholders will be carried out.

The Council is required to invite community bodies to prepare a Local Place Plan for their area at the start of the evidence report process. While not mandatory it allows local communities to set out their aspirations to make their place better in order to feed into the development plan process.

Once finalised the Evidence Report must be approved at a meeting of South Lanarkshire Council.

Gate Check

Once approved the Evidence Report must be submitted to Scottish Ministers to carry out a Gate Check. This involves an assessment by a Reporter from the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) of whether sufficient information has been gathered to prepare the LDP and appropriate engagement has been carried out. On being notified that there is sufficient information the Council can move to prepare the Proposed Plan. However, the Reporter may also recommend how to improve the Evidence Report for resubmission and further assessment.

Proposed Plan

The Proposed Plan will identify where new development should, and should not, take place. It will reflect the ambitions and priorities for the future development of the Council area and support the co-ordination of development and service provision. It will be place-based with a focus on places and locations and with an emphasis on maps, development briefs and masterplans. As well as the Community Plan, the Proposed Plan should take into account national and regional strategies as well as corporate documents such as the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy, Local Transport Strategy, Local Housing Strategy and Open Space Strategy. It will involve a collaborative approach by working with stakeholders and local communities.

It will include a Local Housing Land Requirement to meet the housing needs of the area (including those in further/higher education, disabled and older people and Gypsy Travellers). A Call for Ideas will be made in the early stages to allow landowners, developers and other parties the chance to put forward proposals in relation to sites but also ideas for any aspect of the plan.

The Proposed Plan must also be approved by South Lanarkshire Council after which there will be a minimum 12 week statutory consultation period. In a new stage the plan may be modified after the consultation has ended to take account of representations or consultation responses.

Examination

Following Council approval of the Proposed Plan it is to be submitted to Scottish Ministers to appoint a Reporter to carry out an examination of any unresolved representations. Once this is complete the Reporter will prepare a report setting out recommendations for making modifications to the plan. The Council must carry out the modifications except in very limited circumstances.

Adoption

Once the plan has been modified the Council can then take steps to adopt it including publication in a local newspaper. A legal challenge can be made to the Court of Session within 6 weeks of the date of adoption.

5. Open Space Strategy

5.1 The Council has a new duty to prepare an Open Space Strategy (OSS) which is to set out the strategic framework of the Council's policies and proposals for the development, maintenance and use of green infrastructure. It is intended to be a corporate document which brings together the policies of services including Planning, Estates, Grounds, Countryside and Greenspace and Roads and Transportation. It sits separate from the legislation on LDPs, however, the recent guidance on preparing LDPs makes reference to the OSS having to be submitted as part of the Evidence Report. Six outcomes are to be achieved including:-

- improving access to green infrastructure, open space and green networks,
- creating successful and sustainable places,
- improving health and wellbeing,
- advancing equality and eliminating discrimination,
- securing positive effects for biodiversity, and
- mitigation of and adaptation to climate change.

5.2 An audit of open space within the Council's area was completed earlier this year. Officers are now starting work on identifying localities at an appropriate scale within which statements describing the existing quality, quantity and accessibility of open space in each will be prepared. This in turn will inform the assessment of current and future requirements in terms of meeting the six outcomes and the needs of each locality. Engagement with local communities, children and young people, and older and disabled people and key agencies will be carried out. This works aligns with the requirement to prepare a separate Play Sufficiency Assessment as part of the Local Development Plan process.

6. Next Steps

6.1 The DPS at appendix 1 sets out the proposed timetable for the preparation of LDP3. The first stage involves the gathering of data and other information to inform the Evidence Report over the next 12 months. This will involve establishing a series of internal officer groups to help understand any plans and proposals that individual

services have that includes a spatial element as well as advice on, and participation in, appropriate engagement activity. Close working relationships have already been established with a range of services including the Community Engagement Team, Housing Services, Education Resources, Social Work and the Health and Social Care Partnership. This will be particularly important when it comes to addressing themes such as community wealth building, health and wellbeing, heat and cooling and local living which are relatively new issues for the planning system. In addition, topics such as climate change adaptation and mitigation, the nature crisis and the re-imaging of town centres will also be important matters to address.

- 6.2 Extensive engagement will also be carried out at this stage which will involve a wide range of activity to meet the needs of interest groups, stakeholders and communities. The Planning Service has started engagement with the Community Planning Partnership while discussion has taken place with VasLan in terms of their key role in facilitating engagement with voluntary organisations. In addition, regular discussions take place with officers at NHS Lanarkshire and Public Health Scotland. Cross boundary working with colleagues in North Lanarkshire Council is also being explored where pan Lanarkshire issues arise such as open space/green network and health. Officers also attend a number of groups at a Glasgow City Region level to ensure strategic matters are considered.

7. Employee Implications

- 7.1. The preparation of the next Local Development Plan is likely to be more resource intensive than earlier versions based on the new procedures and guidance and additional topics that are required to be covered. In addition, the corporate focus of the new plan will require collaboration with other Council services.

8. Financial Implications

- 8.1. The costs of the preparation and production of the next Local Development Plan and Open Space Strategy will be expected to be met from existing budgets. This includes the cost of the newly introduced Gate Check of the Council's Evidence Report as well as the Examination of the Proposed Plan.

9. Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 9.1. The themes of tackling the climate and nature crises, climate mitigation and adaptation and support for sustainable developments through the application of principles of local living and 20-minute neighbourhoods will be to the spatial strategy of LDP3. The Open Space Strategy will also contribute to addressing these outcomes. LDP3 and the Open Space Strategy will be subject to full Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment.

10. Other Implications

- 10.1. The preparation of the Local Development Plan and Open Space Strategy are statutory requirements for the Council. Failure to have up to date versions carries a reputational risk and the possibility of not attracting investment into the Council area.

11. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 11.1. LDP3 will be subject to Equalities Impact Assessment, Child Rights and Wellbeing and a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.
- 11.2. Extensive engagement and consultation by the Council will be carried out as set out in the Development Plan Scheme at appendix 1.

David Booth
Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

31 July 2023

Link(s) to Council Values/Priorities/Outcomes

- ◆ Good quality, suitable and sustainable places to live

Previous References

- ◆ Report to Planning Committee 21 March 2023 – National Planning Framework 4 transitional arrangements

List of Background Papers

- ◆ Planning (Scotland) Act 2019
- ◆ National Planning Framework 4 adopted by Scottish Ministers on 13 February 2023
- ◆ Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023
- ◆ Scottish Government Local Development planning guidance published May 2023

Contact for Further Information

If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact:-

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South Lanarkshire Council

Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement 2023

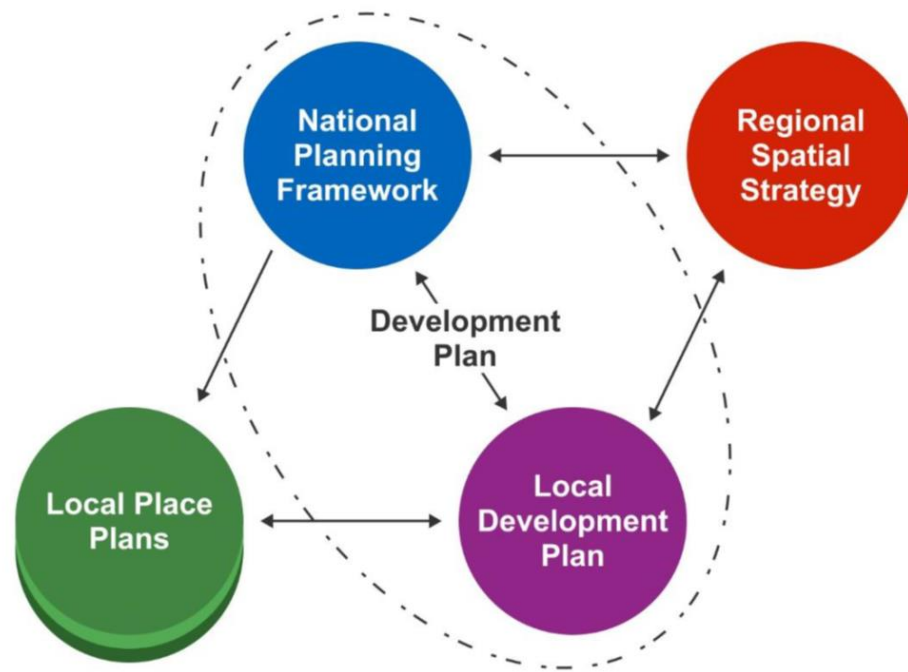
What is the Development Plan Scheme?

A Development Plan Scheme is prepared and updated by the Council every year. This current version sets out how we will prepare our next Local Development Plan which will show how our places will look in the future, where new houses and places of work will be built, how services and facilities such as schools and travel will be provided and identify the places and buildings to be protected.

It includes details of the proposed timetable, the timing of each stage of the plan making process and what is involved; as well as a Participation Statement which explains how and when we will ask stakeholders including local communities and key agencies to become involved.

What is the Development Plan for SLC?

Development plans are important as they guide decisions on applications for planning permission. The current arrangements that apply across Scotland are shown in the diagram below.



National Planning Framework	<p>Sets out the Scottish Ministers' policies and proposals for the development and use of land.</p> <p>Must have regard to any adopted regional spatial strategy (RSS) when preparing, revising or amending the NPF</p>
Regional Spatial Strategy	<p>A planning authority, or authorities acting jointly, prepare these long-term spatial strategies for the strategic development of an area.</p> <p>RSS are not part of the statutory development plan but have an important role informing future versions of the NPF and LDPs (Local Development Plan).</p>
Local Development Plans	<p>Councils must prepare one or more LDP for their area. It shows how local places will change into the future, including where development should and should not happen.</p> <p>It must take into account the National Planning Framework and any registered local place plan/s (LPPs) for the area the LDP covers. It should also have regard to their adopted RSS and Community Plan for the area it covers.</p>
Local Place Plans	<p>LPPs are community-led plans prepared by community bodies setting out proposals for the development and use of land in their local area. It must have regard to the NPF, any LDP which covers the same area, and also any neighbourhood plan which covers the same area.</p>

	LPPs are not part of the statutory development plan but have an important role to play in informing LDPs.
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[National Planning Framework 4](#) was published and adopted by the Scottish Government on 13 February 2023. It sets out 33 national planning policies which represent the Scottish Government’s long term spatial strategy for Scotland. These policies are used to assess planning applications and also provide the direction for what the Council’s Local Development Plan should include.

The table in Annex 1 shows how these policies link to other national and the Council’s own strategies and policies.

[South Lanarkshire Local Development Plan 2](#) was adopted in April 2021 and represents the Council’s spatial policy for its area. It includes sites that are allocated for development as well as detailed policies on matters such as climate change, the green belt and rural area, housing, town centres and transport. It is accompanied by other documents including Supporting Planning Guidance covering Developer Contributions, Renewable Energy, Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure and Development at a Dwellinghouse.

Regional Spatial Strategies will look at strategic development issues – in the case of South Lanarkshire across the Glasgow City Region. The legislation on this has not been brought into effect yet by the Scottish Government.

Local Place Plans are a new opportunity for local communities to get involved in the planning system by setting out proposals for the development and use of land in their area. Once it has been registered by the planning authority, we have a legal responsibility to take them into account in the preparation of the next Local Development Plan. Once we officially start the process for creating the new plan, we will formally invite communities to prepare Local Place Plans. These are links to our webpage [Local Place Plans](#) and the circular [Planning circular 1/2022: Local Place Plans](#).

The next Local Development Plan for SLC

The Council will be starting preparation of its next Local Development Plan (to be known as LDP3) in summer 2023. The way we will do this is different to previous versions. The Scottish Government published [Local Development Planning guidance](#) in May 2023.

Firstly, it will have to take into account the contents of National Planning Framework 4. Each of the 33 national planning policies include a statement on the expected role of the Local Development Plan for each topic. The Council’s plan should not replicate the national policy however we are able to locally specific policies.

There are also changes to how we will prepare the plan. A new first stage is the need to prepare an **Evidence Report** which will allow us to identify what to plan for. It will set out the Council's views on the matters listed in Annex 2. The evidence will include information and data and qualitative as well as the 'lived experience' of everyone active in the Council area. By doing this will capture the aims and ambitions of the Council and its partners, stakeholders and communities.

During this stage we will engage with people and organisations to ensure the data collected reflects their views. We have identified partners we know of who can contribute evidence and have taken into account the responses we received to the consultation on the draft Participation Statement in summer 2023. on others who can help.

Please note that detailed policies and site proposals will not be included in the evidence report and appraisal of individual sites will take place later in the process.

Once complete the Evidence Report is submitted to Scottish Ministers for a **Gate Check**. This to allow an assessment by an independent Reporter of whether the evidence we have produced is sufficient to let us start preparing the Local Development Plan. It will also check that that we have carried out appropriate engagement and consultation.

When we receive confirmation that the Gate Check is complete work can start on the **Proposed Plan**. Unlike previous versions it will focus on maps, site briefs, and masterplans. Sites specifically identified for new development will have to be shown to be free from constraints (we will actively engage with the key agencies to inform this) and deliverable by the developer. Undeveloped sites in LDP2 will be looked at again and may be removed if they are no longer deliverable or viable or accord with the policy direction in NPF4.

A **Call for Ideas** will be carried out early on in this stage of plan preparation so that propose ideas for any part of the plan can be submitted, including policy or suggestions for development sites.

Once the proposed plan has been prepared, we will carry out formal **consultation** of a minimum period of 12 weeks. This will include neighbour notification for anyone who owns, or leases sites or neighbouring land affected. During this period anyone can make representations to the Council either in support of the plan or if they wish to object.

After the consultation period we can **modify** the proposed plan to take account of representations made to the Council or consultation responses from key agencies.

When we cannot agree modifications then the representation is considered unresolved. When this happens, the proposed plan is submitted to Scottish Ministers for **examination** carried out by a reporter from the Department for Planning and Environmental Appeals. Once the Examination is complete the Reporter will prepare a report setting out their recommendations and any modifications they require to be made. The report will be submitted to the Council along with anyone who has made unresolved representations. The Council are to make the modifications except in limited circumstances. After this we will carry out the process for the formal **adoption** of the Plan.

The Timetable

Key Stages	Timetable - Quarter	Engagement
Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement (Reviewed and published annually)	Q1 2023/24 Q2 2023/24	We published a draft Participation Statement seeking the views of the public on the how we intend to consult and engage on LDP3, how they think they can support the plan preparation and what effective forms of engagement are appropriate. The responses received have been reflected in the approved version below.
Local Development Plan 3 formal launch	Q2 2023/24	Before issuing the invite, we will contact community bodies to advise on the LPP (Local Place Plan) opportunities and process. This will include the creation of an online toolkit.
Evidence Report	Q1 2023/24 to Q2 2024/25	Stakeholder consultation and engagement will be key to this stage. We will carry out early engagement to ensure the Evidence Report is informed by the views and lived experience of those who live, work and have an interest in South Lanarkshire. We will use the evidence gathered to clearly inform what to plan for before the Proposed Plan looks at where development should take place.
Gate check	Submission Q2 2024/25 Discharged Q3 2024/25	None by the Council. However, the Reporter appointed to carry out the Gate check may ask any person for further information to aid their assessment of the Evidence Report.
Proposed Local Development Plan including Delivery Programme	Q4 2024/25	The call for ideas will be an invitation open to everyone to propose ideas for any aspect of the new local development plan including local policy/guidance and land allocations.

	Q4 2025/26 to Q1 2026/27	Statutory consultation of minimum 12 weeks to allow any representations from stakeholders, including the general public, which seek to make changes to the plan. This stage will include targeted engagement with key stakeholders and communities most affected by the proposals.
Modification of the Proposed Local Development Plan	Q2 2026/27	The Regulations state that there is no requirement to invite comment on the Modification Report.
Examination	Q3 2026/27 Q2 2027/28	None by the Council. However, the Reporter appointed to carry out the Examination may ask any person for further information to aid their consideration of the proposed plan. Notice of the report and its publication will be sent by the reporter to anybody who made unresolved representations on the Proposed Plan
Adoption	Q3 2027/28	
Post-Adoption Monitoring and Delivery Programme	Q3 2030/2031	

Participation Statement

To develop our next local development plan we are asking you to share with us your thoughts and ideas of how to create successful and enjoyable places within South Lanarkshire. Our Participation Statement outlines the range of engagement we will be carrying out and who we will interact with. We aim to engage with as many people as possible to collect the information needed to reflect the strengths and opportunities that we can build upon. If it's done right, the local development plan 3 will embody everything we've learned from you and will provide the means in which to meet your needs.

We would like to hear from you, and in your own words about the things that matter to you, and for which we recognise you may have many different roles and interests. We believe that everyone has the right and the ready skillset to get involved, and by doing so you will be making a valuable contribution to the improvement and wellbeing of your area. This is your plan, and it needs to embody your views and the diverse needs of communities within South Lanarkshire.

Since we understand that no one size does not fit all, we will prepare individual programmes to reflect differing needs and ways of connecting with people. Targeted strategies to reach underrepresented groups are included in this.

The Participation Statement is a 'living' document that will regularly be updated to reflect good practice and changing circumstances. We will listen to feedback from your experience of engagement with us and we will take steps to make improvements going forward.

We hope our Participation Statement helps you to feel empowered, welcomed, and that your input and lived experience of South Lanarkshire is hugely valuable to us.

What general principles will we follow?

- The approach to engagement on LDP3 will be shaped by the principles highlighted in the [National Standards for Community Engagement](#).
- We will ensure that people with protected characteristics (including race, age, gender, sex, sexual orientation and disability) are not discriminated against, and are actively included in the engagement process.
- The contents of the draft [Effective community engagement in local development planning guidance: consultation](#) published on 24 May 2023 will be used to shape our engagement activities with local communities.
- We will also incorporate the [Planning and Building Standards Consultation Communication and Engagement Strategy 2021](#) into our engagement methods.

Our inclusive approach

- We will encourage participation from as wide a range of stakeholders as possible throughout the LDP process. We want to make it as easy as possible for everyone with an interest to engage in its preparation.
- Information will be provided in accessible formats to meet the needs of our varied stakeholders. We will exchange and gather information using graphics and audio to remove the barrier for those with vision impairment or literacy and numeracy challenges. We understand that using technology won't always be the best method for everyone, and in these cases we will use alternative methods. In addition to English, we will provide the document in additional language formats.
- Engagement with children and young people, older people, disabled people and Gypsy/Travellers is a statutory requirement. We will work with the Council's Education Service as well as organisations such as the Youth Panel, Seniors Together, the Access Panel, Lanarkshire Ethnic Minorities Action Group and Minority Ethnic Carers of People Project to develop appropriate methods to engage.
- We will develop a programme with Voluntary Action South Lanarkshire to facilitate engagement with the many local voluntary groups across the Council's area.

How will we publicise engagement opportunities and provide feedback?

We propose to use:

- The creation of an online information hub
- Email and letter mailings
- Adverts in local newspapers and South Lanarkshire View
- Documents held at local libraries
- South Lanarkshire Council website
- The generation of a regular newsletter
- Social media
- Collaboration with Community Planning colleagues
- Posters and flyers
- For underrepresented groups we will use representative organisations to reach a wider audience

An emphasis on good communication

- We will identify the method of engagement by asking those we want to hear from. For large groups we may focus on the method that is most preferred.
- An interactive online hub will be created to enable updates on the plan making process to be provided as well as to invite comments and suggestions.
- We will use the relationships that already exist within communities, in particular where there has already been extensive SLC engagement to produce Neighbourhood Plans.
- We won't over consult, and we may focus on topics or issues that people are most interested in.
- Where it would be advantageous to the stakeholder, we will facilitate other services to provide questionnaires and the Place Standard Tool on our behalf.
- We will participate in other consultations being carried out by the Council and its partners.
- We will request invites to attend events within communities and work closely with colleagues in Community Planning who have already established strong links to communities.
- We will ensure that the format of communication is led by accessibility and ease of use.
- We want to involve communities who may be excluded from participating due to disadvantage relating to social or economic factors.

Ways in which we will gather information and comments include:

- A newsletter to share updates on the process and the outcomes from engagement.
- Using the Place Standard Tool, including a simplified version for children and young people
- Holding Exhibitions and workshops
- Use of the Council's Citizens Panel and Peoples Panel
- Online surveys and keypad voting and standpoint terminals
- Work closely with our Community Planning Partnership partners to engage with people living in communities experiencing socio-economic difficulties to gain a better understanding of their place.
- We will promote and facilitate the participation of children and young people under the age of 25 to seek views on their lived experience. Proposed methods of engagement will include the Place Standard Toolkits to support conversations between educators/teachers and children, and capture views about play needs and opportunities in their area, including likes and dislikes about their places. We will engage through South Lanarkshire Youth Council, Youth Parliament Representatives, student representatives in higher education and the Council's Education Services.

- We will seek the views of and engage with Gypsies and Travellers to help gain a perspective on their distinct planning needs. Positive engagement with Gypsies and Travelling People will be facilitated through dialogue with representative organisations and the Council's Gypsy/Traveller Liaison Officer. Attention will also be given to non-written and face-to-face on-site engagement.
- We will work with groups and organisations representing disabled people and older people to establish the most suitable methods of engagement and multimedia formats to share and collect information.

Who can participate?

Participation in the preparation of Local Development Plan 3 is open to everyone and inclusion will be encouraged, including (this is not an exhaustive list):

- South Lanarkshire residents and those with an interest in the area
- Landowners, developers and housing providers
- Business, industry, and tourism groups
- Elected members
- Underrepresented and minority groups
- Religious bodies and organisations
- Voluntary organisations
- Neighbouring authorities
- Rural communities

Other key groups:

- Children and young people
- Disabled people
- Gypsies and Travellers, and Showpeople
- Community Councils
- Older people
- Communities experiencing socio-economic disadvantage
- Community bodies who have expressed an interest in, or have completed, a Local Place Plan.

Key Agencies:

The key agencies are set out in the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023 as follows:

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

National and Regional agencies:

- Transport Scotland
- Scottish Forestry
- Sport Scotland
- Architecture and Design Scotland
- Central Scotland Green Network Partnership

A sample of topic interest groups:

- Natural Environment and Climate
- Historic Environment
- Art, Leisure and Culture
- Active travel and transport
- Town centre and business groups
- Food growing and local living

Mediation

The use of mediation to help build bridges between stakeholders and explore, reduce or resolve issues of dispute in development planning is highlighted in the Scottish Government - Circular 2/2021: Guidance on the promotion and use of mediation in the Scottish Planning System [LINK](#) Mediation has the potential benefits of opening up communication, improving relationships and encouraging a way to move forward from disputes, however this does not guarantee dispute resolution or an agreement between parties.

It is a voluntary process and be facilitated either by an impartial third party or through 'informal mediation' where planners and other relevant stakeholders take a mediation-style / facilitatory approach in their work. We will have regard to any requests for the use of [mediation](#) through the consultation process of the Participation Statement. Where the Council has been requested to enter into mediation during the local development plan process, each case will be considered on its individual merits.

Annex 1

Sustainable places

NPF4 Policies	Key Scottish Government links	Council Plans/Strategies
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tackling the climate and nature crises 2. Climate mitigation and adaptation 3. Biodiversity 4. Natural places 5. Soils 6. Forestry, woodland and trees 7. Historic assets and places 8. Green belts 9. Brownfield land, vacant and derelict land and empty buildings 10. Coastal development 11. Energy 12. Zero waste 13. Sustainable transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Use – getting the best from our land: strategy 2021 – 2026 • Making things last: a circular economy strategy for Scotland • Scotland’s Energy Strategy • Scotland’s Environment Strategy • Scotland’s Forestry Strategy • Scottish Biodiversity Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Plan – Connect • Community Plan • Various neighbourhood plans • Sustainable Development and Climate Change Strategy • Carbon Management Plan • Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (under preparation) • Biodiversity Strategy • Glasgow and Clyde Valley Forestry and Woodland Strategy • Local Transport Strategy (under review) • Park and Ride Strategy • Various active travel studies

Liveable Places

NPF4 Policies	Key Scottish Government links	Council Plans/Strategies
14. Design, quality and place 15. Local living and 20-minute neighbourhoods 16. Quality homes 17. Rural homes 18. Infrastructure first 19. Heat and cooling 20. Blue and green infrastructure 21. Play, recreation and sport 22. Flood risk and water management 23. Health and Safety 24. Digital infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Connected Scotland • A Healthier Future: Scotland's diet and healthy weight delivery plan • Cleaner Air for Scotland 2 • Creating Places • Culture Strategy • Heat in Buildings Strategy • Housing to 2040 • Learning Estate Strategy/Learning Estate Investment Programme • Public Health Priorities for Scotland • Remote, Rural and Islands Housing Action • Scotland's Population Strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Housing Strategy • Food Strategy • Air Quality Strategy (under preparation)

Productive Places

NPF4 Policies	Key Scottish Government links	Council Plans/Strategies
25. Community wealth building 26. Business and industry 27. City, town, local and commercial centres 28. Retail 29. Rural development 30. Tourism 31. Culture and creativity 32. Aquaculture 33. Minerals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Strategy for Economic Transformation • Retail Strategy for Scotland • Report of the City Centre Recovery Taskforce • Scottish land rights and responsibilities statement • Town Centre Action Plan 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Strategy • Community Wealth Building Strategy • Social Enterprise Strategy • Tourism Strategy • Various town centre strategies

Annex 2

Matters to be addressed in the LDP3 Evidence Report

- The principal physical, cultural, economic, social, built heritage and environmental characteristics of the district;
- The principal purposes for which the land is used;
- The size, composition, health and distribution of the population of the district;
- The housing needs of the population of the area, including, in particular, the needs of persons undertaking further and higher education, older people, disabled people;
- The availability of land in the district for housing, including for older people and disabled people;
- The desirability of allocating land for the purposes of resettlement;
- The health needs of the population of the district and the likely effects of development and use of land on those health needs;
- The education needs of the population of the district and the likely effects of development and use of land on those education needs;
- The extent to which there are rural areas within the district in relation to which there has been a substantial decline in population;
- The capacity of education services in the district;
- The desirability of maintaining an appropriate number and range of cultural venues and facilities (including in particular, but not limited to, live music venues) in the district;
- The infrastructure of the district (including communications, transport and drainage systems, systems for the supply of water and energy, and health care and education facilities); [the reference to energy includes land available for the development and use of facilities for renewable sources of energy.
- How that infrastructure is used; and
- Any change which the planning authority thinks may occur in relation to any of the matters mentioned above

The Evidence Report must also set out the following:

- A summary of the action taken by the planning authority to support and promote the construction and adaptation of housing to meet the housing needs of older people and disabled people in the authority's area, and analysis of the extent to which the action has helped to meet those needs.
- A summary of the action taken by the planning authority to meet the accommodation needs of Gypsy/Travellers in the authority's area, and an analysis of the extent to which that action has helped to meet those needs.
- How the authority has invited local communities to prepare LPPs, and what assistance they have provided.

Annex 3

Additional Assessments

Other impact assessments are required to be carried out alongside the plan preparation process. The assessments include;

Strategic Environmental Assessment	This is a statutory requirement to ensure the environment is a primary consideration when preparing the plan and that the environmental and sustainability implications of the emerging plan and its proposals are assessed. It allows a better understanding of the environmental context and sets out the steps to avoid, mitigate or reduce significant adverse impacts, or indeed enhance any positive ones. SEA will be based on the Council's State of the Environment report. A link to 2021 version is here, South Lanarkshire State of the Environment Report 2021 , however it is expected that the updated 2023 version will be available during the Evidence Report stage. Scoping of the Evidence Report will be done in tandem with the scoping report for the SEA.
Habitats Regulations Assessment	This is a statutory requirement to consider the potential impacts of the proposed plan on internationally important wildlife sites. The HRA will be done as we consider the ideas presented to us during the preparation of the proposed plan as well as any sites carried forward from LDP2. Any policy content in LDP3 will also be subject to HRA assessment.
Equalities Impact Assessment	This ensures that a wide range of people are involved in shaping their places during the plan making process. The Participation Statement is a key document in this regard. In addition, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child means young people are actively encouraged to play a part. We will ensure children and young people are fully and appropriately engaged as described in the Participation Statement.
Public Sector Equality Duty	This is intended to ensure the Council seeks to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between persons who share a protected characteristic.
Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment	This places a legal responsibility on the Council to consider how they can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage when making strategic decisions so that we make better policy decisions and deliver fairer outcomes. Key issues include low income, low wealth and area deprivation. It will be important to engage with relevant communities to understand the issues faced.
Health Impact Assessment	Health impact assessment (HIA) considers the potential, and sometimes unintended, effects a policy, strategy or service plan may have on the health of a population. It is particularly useful for considering effects on vulnerable or disadvantaged groups. HIA considers the socioeconomic determinants of health and how they influence health outcomes. Evidence from research, data and the experience of stakeholders is used to inform the assessment.