

2025

Perth and Kinross LDP3 –SEA Scoping Report



Cover Note

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Part 1 | | |
| 1.1 | An SEA Screening Report is attached for the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3) | |
| 1.2 | The Responsible Authority is Perth and Kinross Council. | |
| Part 2 | | |
| In respect of the requirements under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, it is the view of Perth and Kinross Council that: | | |
| 2.1 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5[3] of the Act and <u>requires an SEA</u> under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 OR |
| 2.2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | The PPS falls under the scope of Section 5[4] of the Act and <u>requires an SEA</u> under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 OR |
| 2.3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | The PPS does <u>not require an SEA</u> under the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act. However, we wish to carry out an SEA on a voluntary basis. We accept that, as the SEA is voluntary, the Consultation Authorities cannot guarantee a response containing their views within the statutory five-week timescale. |
| Part 3 | | |
| 3.1 | Contact Name | Ciara Gray |
| 3.2 | Job Title | Strategic Planning Officer – Development Plans Team |
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| Signature | | |
| Date | | 27/02/2025 |

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1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

An Introduction to the Development Plan

- 1.1 The Scottish Government requires every planning authority to prepare development plans for their area. The Development Plan is at the heart of the ‘plan-led’ Scottish planning system, and the Statutory Development Plan is made up of the National Planning Framework and the Local Development Plan.
- 1.2 Development Plans set out how places will change in the future and define where development should and should not happen. They also guide decision on applications for planning permission, and decisions should be made in accordance with the development plan, unless there are material considerations which indicate otherwise.

Figure 1: The Statutory Development Plan and Related Plans

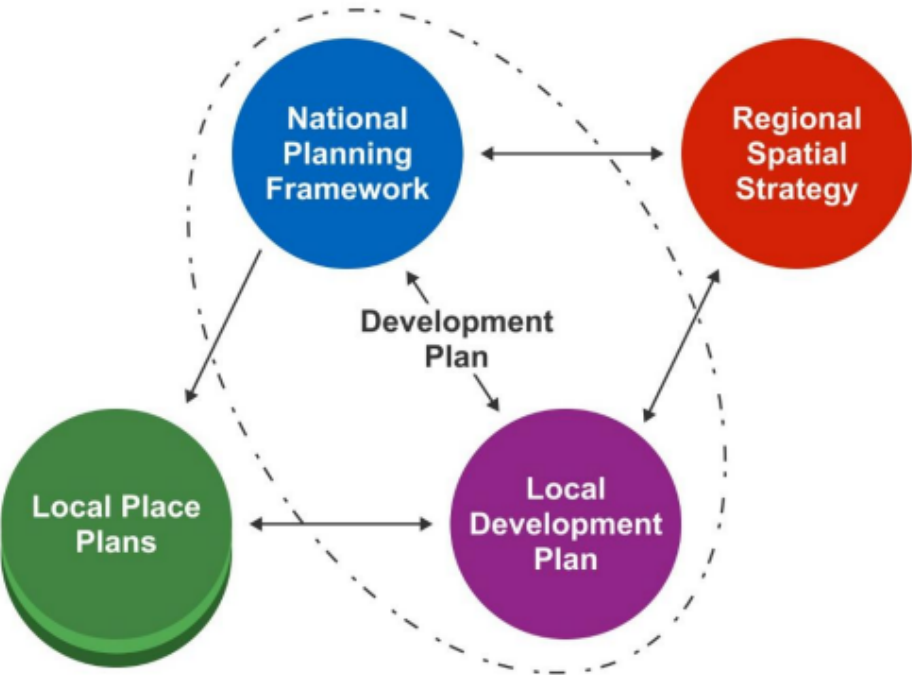


Diagram extract taken from the Scottish Government’s [Local development planning guidance, May 2023](#)

- 1.3 The Local Development Plan (“the Plan”) contains a vision and sets out a framework (including a spatial strategy, relevant local policies, and proposals) for the future sustainable development of places, addressing needs and opportunities in relation to housing, economy, infrastructure, community facilities, and the safeguarding of natural and cultural assets. In light of the dual global biodiversity and climate crises, the Plan is also expected to recognise the importance of giving significant weight to tackling these issues, in both its content and in day-to-day decision making on planning applications.
- 1.4 LDP3, once adopted, will replace Perth and Kinross Local Development 2, which was adopted in February 2019. Since then, the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 introduced a number of changes to the

key steps for preparing Local Development Plans, including in terms of their focus and expectations. Plans are expected to be Place-based, People-centred, and Delivery-focused, and will follow the 3 main stages of: Evidence Gathering, Plan Preparation, and Delivery. Strategic Environmental Assessment in particular, forms a key part of the Evidence Gathering (data collection) Stage.

Figure 2: An Overview of the LDP Process

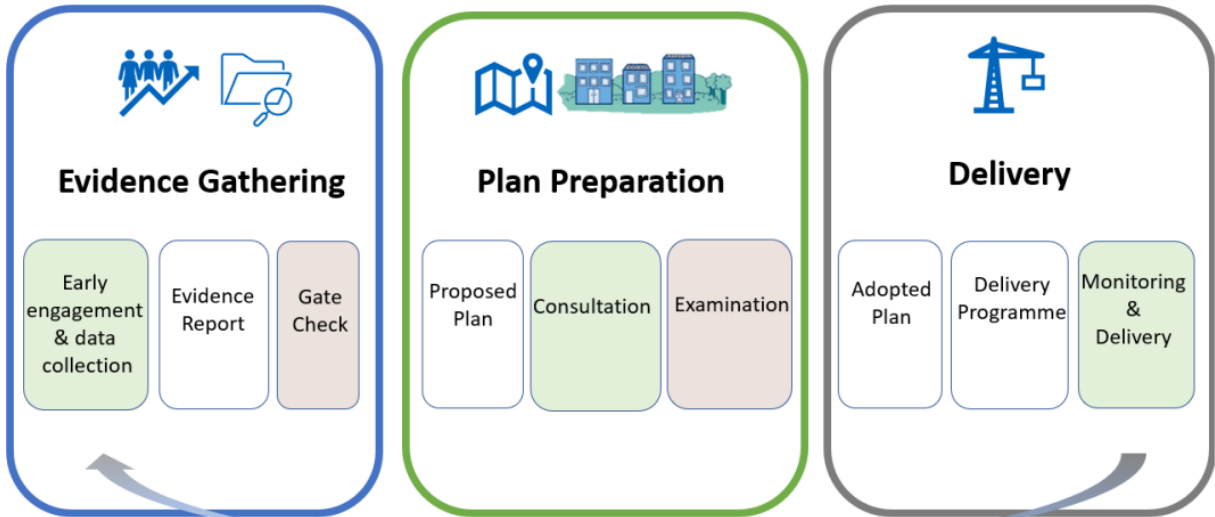


Diagram extract taken from the Scottish Government’s [Local development planning guidance, May 2023](#)

- 1.5 Early engagement is also an important first stage in the Plan’s preparation. Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3) has already undergone an extensive early engagement via the ‘Big Place Conversation’ process, with over 100 events being held across Perth and Kinross during 2023. Opportunities to engage ranged from drop-in information sessions, meetings, and online surveys, to in person and online workshops using the [Place Standard Tool](#) approach to capture the views of local communities.
- 1.6 There were also targeted sessions held with schools, service user groups, and minority and hard to reach groups amongst others. The process followed for our engagement, and its results, can be viewed in detail on the Council’s [Big Place Conversation pages](#), and will also be set out clearly as part of the [Perth and Kinross LDP3 Evidence Report](#). Further engagement with key stakeholders, interested parties, and the public will be held at the various main stages throughout the LDP3 preparation processes.

2 INTRODUCTION

Requirement for SEA: Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 3

- 2.1** The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires qualifying plans, programmes, and strategies (PPS), developed by public bodies, to be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). As the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3) deals with the subject of town and country planning or land use and is likely to result in significant environmental effects (both positive and negative), it is classified as a qualifying plan under Section 5(3)(a) of the 2005 Act, and therefore SEA requires to be undertaken. As such, Perth and Kinross Council has chosen not to carry out SEA Screening for LDP3, but rather to proceed straight to Scoping stage. This Scoping Report is the record of that process.

Benefits of SEA

- 2.2** The purpose of carrying out SEA is to help gauge the potential impact of a public plan on the environment and to identify ways to minimise any likely negative effects if those effects are anticipated to be significant. The SEA process has the potential to make a real and valuable contribution to the plan preparation process through ensuring that any likely environmental impacts of the Plan's strategy, policies and proposals are fully understood, and any significant environmental effects are addressed. Carrying out SEA for LDP3 will also help ensure that the environment is given the same level of consideration in the Plan as social and economic factors.

Purpose of this Scoping Report

- 2.3** The role of this SEA Scoping Report is to set out sufficient information on Perth and Kinross Council's LDP3, to allow the Consultation Authorities (Historic Environment Scotland, Nature Scot, and Scottish Environment Protection Agency) to form a view on the adequacy and appropriateness of the scope and level of detail proposed for the environmental assessment, and the consultation period for the SEA Environmental Report.
- 2.4** The contents and methodology may be amended following consultation with the Consultation Authorities. A record of consultation responses and subsequent changes made will be kept using the template in Section 9 of this report.

Linkages with LDP3 Proposed Evidence Report

- 2.5** Section 16B of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 introduced a requirement for planning authorities, prior to preparing a local development plan, to prepare an Evidence Report. The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2023, and the Scottish Government Local Development Planning Guidance (May 2023), provide the requirements and expectations regarding the contents of LDP Evidence Reports and procedures to be followed in preparing one. Paragraph 87 of the Scottish Government's May 2023 LDP Guidance highlights that the preparation of the Evidence Report "...should be aligned with work undertaken to prepare the scoping report of the

SEA, to meet the scoping requirements of the latter." Early preparation work on the Perth and Kinross Council LDP3 Proposed Evidence Report and the SEA Scoping Report have been carried out in tandem to ensure the alignment of the two processes and save duplication of effort in the collation of data and information.

- 2.6** The Council produced and consulted on a series of topic papers, to help inform the development of our Proposed Evidence Report and SEA. These papers set out the evidence collated and reviewed on each of the NPF4 national policies topics, and the Council's summary of implications of those sources of evidence for the development of the Proposed Plan. The suite of LDP3 Topic Papers can be viewed on the Council's [Consultation Hub](#). Topic Paper 001 set out much of the data and information which forms the basis of the SEA environmental baseline included within this Scoping Report. However, where appropriate, data contained within several of the other topic papers have also been drawn upon for our SEA. Where feedback was received as part of the engagement process for the Topic Papers which led to the review or updating of the relevant SEA environmental baseline evidence, those changes have been included within this Report.

SEA Scoping Questions

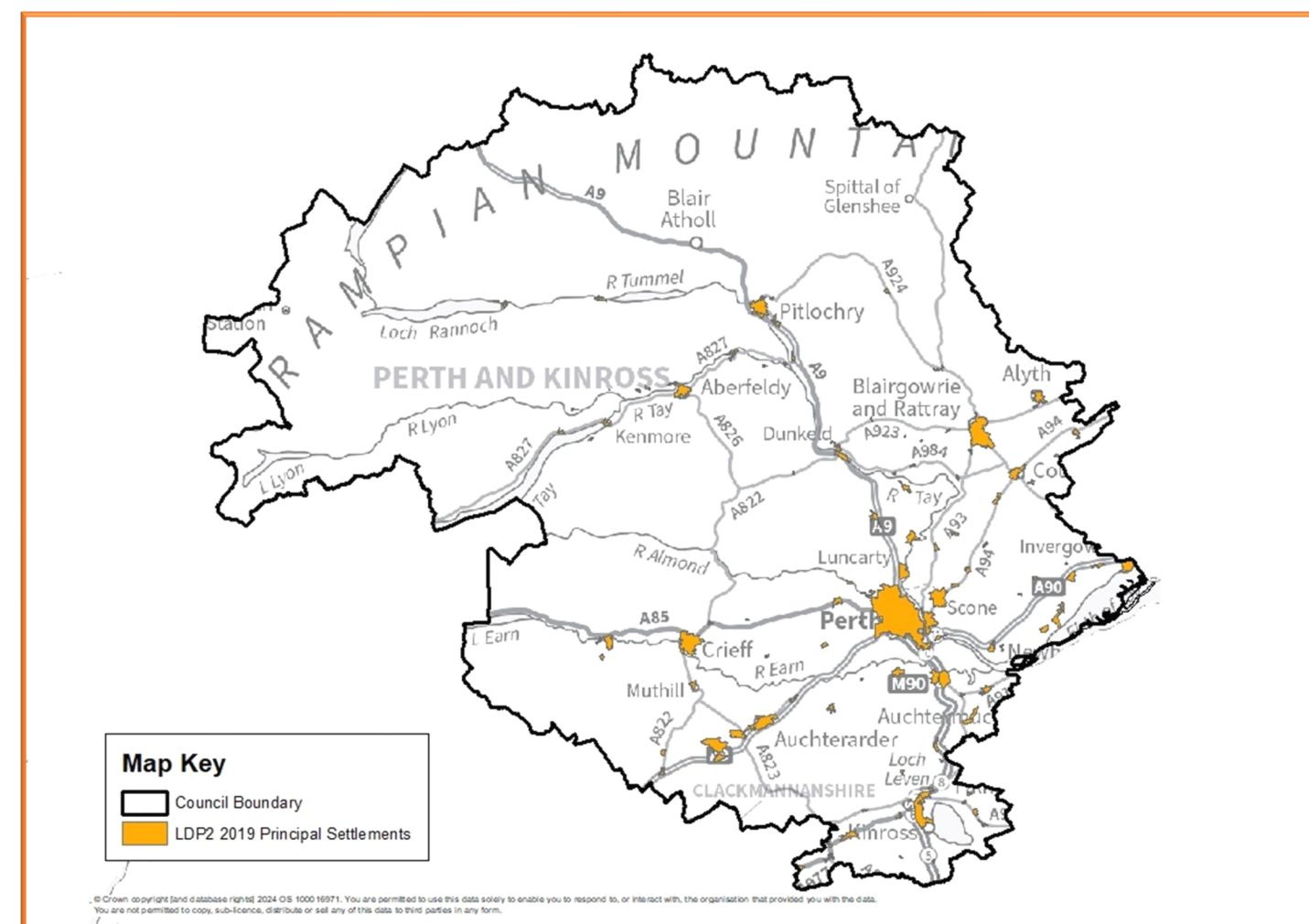
- 2.7** Views and comments from the Consultation Authorities and other stakeholders would be particularly welcome on the list of questions provided on the following page. However, additional feedback on any relevant matters not covered through questions 1-12 would also be appreciated. Please note, for ease of reference, these questions have also been repeated throughout this Report, under the corresponding sections.

1. Are there any plans, programmes, strategies, legislation, or policy guidance of relevance to LDP3 that you consider should be added to the list in Appendix A?
2. Do you agree with the baseline data collected is appropriate to LDP3?
3. Are you aware of any additional baseline evidence that would help inform the assessment process?
4. Does your organisation agree that all the significant environmental issues relevant to LDP3 have been included? If not, can you suggest further issues you believe should be included?
5. Do you agree with the proposed scope for the SEA of our LDP3?
6. Do you agree the proposed SEA Objectives (Table 7.1, pages 37-42) cover the breadth of environmental issues appropriate for the Plan area?
7. Do you agree that the proposed indicators (Table 7.1, pages 37-42) provide a relevant measure for the associated objective? If not, can you suggest additional indicators?
8. Do you think the proposed approach to dealing with 'alternatives' to the Plan is appropriate?
9. Is the spatial and temporal scope appropriate?
10. Is the proposed approach to dealing with cumulative effects appropriate?
11. Is the suggested approach to dealing with mitigation, enhancement, and monitoring of the Plan appropriate?
12. Is the proposed consultation period and means of undertaking that consultation adequate?
13. Are there any other comments you wish to provide which are not covered through Questions 1 to 12 above?

3 KEY FACTS – THE PERTH AND KINROSS LDP3

| | |
|---|--|
| Name of Responsible Authority: | Perth and Kinross Council |
| Title of Plan, Programme or Strategy (PPS) | The Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 3 (LDP3) |
| What prompted the PPS? | Legislative requirement |
| Subject | Land Use Planning |
| Period covered by the PPS | 10 years from the adoption of the LDP |
| Frequency of Updates | 10 years or sooner if required |
| Area Covered by the PPS | See Figure 3.1 to follow |
| Purpose of the PPS | <p>LDP3 is a land use planning document that will set out the Council's vision, strategy (including spatial strategy), local policies and proposals for the use and development of land across Perth and Kinross over at least the next 10 years. The Plan is mainly concerned with the use of land and will guide future development to the most appropriate sustainable locations.</p> <p>LDP3 will provide clear guidance on what development will and will not be acceptable and where, and it will provide a local context for the policy intention of a range of national policy issues, including biodiversity, climate change adaptation and mitigation, housing, shopping, business and industry, transport and active travel, open space and recreation, blue green infrastructure, and built and natural heritage and assets.</p> |

Figure 3.1: Area Covered by the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 3



4 CONTEXT FOR THE PERTH AND KINROSS LDP3

Purpose and Structure of the Report

4.1 This Scoping Report sets out the background information that will be used in undertaking the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Perth and Kinross LDP3. As previously identified in Section 2, data and evidence gathered for our series of LDP3 Topic Papers, where relevant, will also be used to inform both the SEA of LDP3 and the development of the Proposed Evidence Report for the Plan. This report has been prepared in accordance with Section 15 of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005. It sets out the background information that will be used in the preparation of the Environmental Report, which includes:

- Those topics which are being scoped in for the environmental assessment
- The level of detail (spatial, temporal, and technical) of that assessment
- Proposed SEA Objectives and Indicators
- Proposed alternatives
- An outline of the proposed assessment approach/ methodology
- A proposed timetable for completion of the Environmental Report and Proposed LDP3

4.2 The range of environmental topics covered in the SEA is referred to as the technical scope. Schedule 3 of the 2005 Act requires that the likely significant effects of LDP3 are assessed in relation to the following:

- Biodiversity, Flora, and Fauna
- Population
- Human Health
- Soil
- Water
- Air
- Climatic Factors
- Material Assets
- Cultural Heritage
- Landscape

4.3 The Act also requires that:

- The inter-relationships between the above factors are assessed, and
- The secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium, and long-term, permanent, and temporary, positive, and negative effects of the above topics are considered where appropriate.

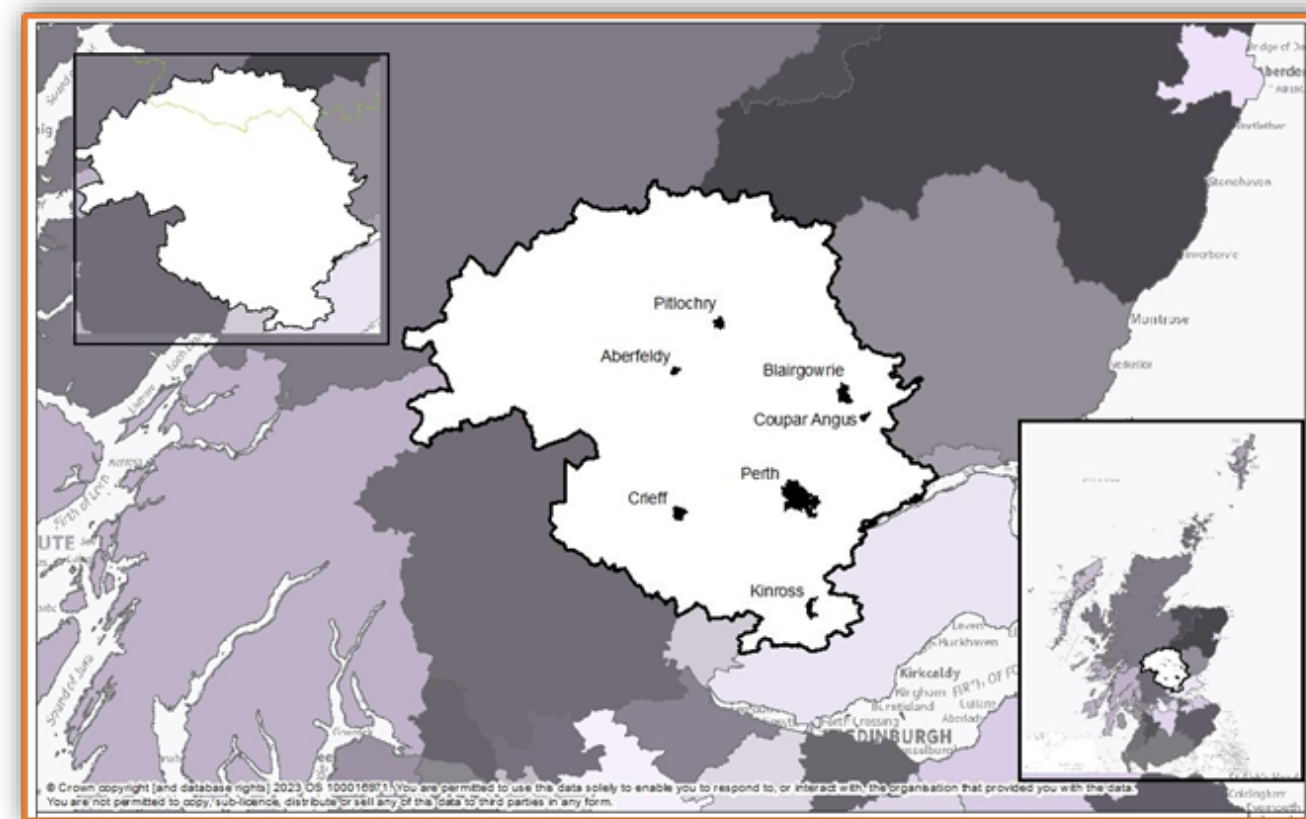
The Local Development Plan 3 Area

4.4 The Perth and Kinross Council Area is situated in the heart of Scotland, just north of the Central Belt bordering Aberdeenshire, Angus, City of Dundee, Fife, Clackmannanshire, Stirling, Argyll and Bute, and

Highland Council areas. The Cairngorms National Park is located to the north, and the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park to the west.

4.5 The Area covers 5,286km² (4,707km² excluding the part of Perth and Kinross within the Cairngorms National Park) and is the 5th largest unitary authority in terms of area in Scotland, and the 12th largest in respect of population size. It is an area of outstanding natural beauty, containing both highland and lowland landscapes. Figure 4.1 below shows the overall Perth and Council Area, within the context of Scotland, and the part of PKC within the National Park Area (see green boundary line in top left inset map).

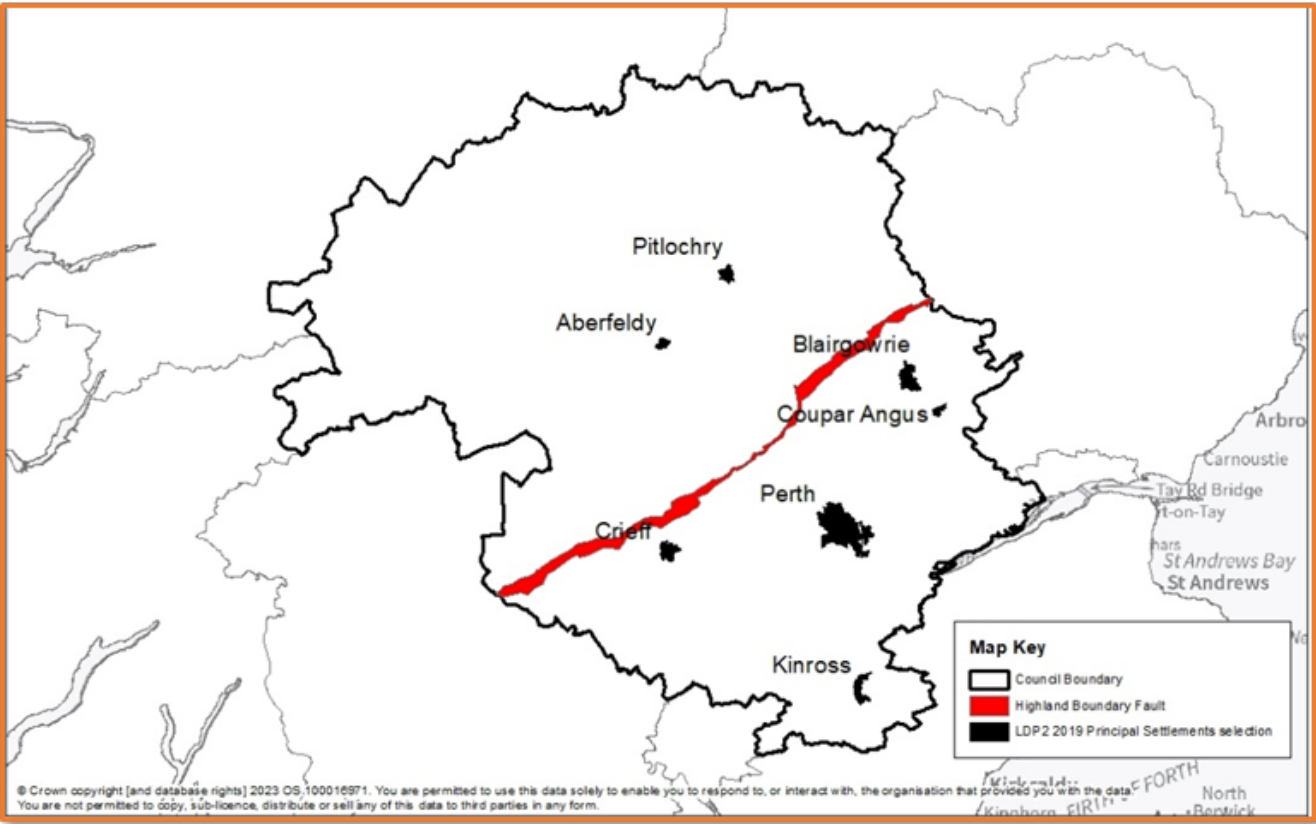
Figure 4.1: The Perth and Kinross Council Area



4.6 The area is characterised by a diverse mix of urban and rural communities, from the main population centre of Perth, and towns such as Blairgowrie, Crieff, Kinross, Auchterarder and Pitlochry, to extremely remote communities such as Kinloch Rannoch in the Highland area. The area which the Perth and Kinross LDP3 will cover is shown in Map 3.1 on the previous page.

4.7 The Highland Boundary Fault (Figure 4.2) runs across the area from the northeast to the southwest, roughly dividing the landscape of Perth and Kinross between the distinct geological areas of Highland Perthshire, and Lowland Perthshire and Kinross. The division is very much reflected in the topography, vegetation, and land use of those areas. Both are characterised by a diverse mix of rural and urban land use, which varies considerably from rich lowland arable farming to extensive upland forestry, and from the main population centre of Perth to small, remote communities, such as Kinloch Rannoch.

Figure 4.2: The Highland Boundary Fault Line within the Perth and Kinross Area



Summary of Relationship with other Relevant PPS

4.8 There are a range of other plans, programmes, strategies and guidance (PPS) documents which are of relevance to, and will also influence, the development of our Local Development Plan 3. The main PPS connected to our LDP3 have been summarised in the paragraphs to follow. A more comprehensive analysis of all relevant PPS for this SEA has then been included in Appendix A to this Scoping Report. It is worth noting that the LDP3 Evidence Report goes into further detail looking at specific policy topic areas for NPF4’s suite of National Planning Policies. It includes all relevant and available data and evidence in relation to these policies for the Plan Area and considers the implications of that data and evidence to the development of the Proposed Plan. However, a proportionate approach has been taken in the analysis of PPS for this Scoping Report concentrating on those of direct relevance to LDP3 and its environmental assessment.

The Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, as amended by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019

4.9 The 2019 Act was passed by the Scottish Parliament in June 2019. The content of the Act determines the structure of the land use planning system in Scotland. It includes details relating to the required form and content of the national planning framework and new local development plans to be prepared under the Act, along with participation and engagement requirements.

- 4.10 The Act gives the National Planning Framework an enhanced status as part of the Statutory Development Plan and introduces community-led Local Place Plans, which are to be taken into account in the preparation of relevant local development plans, where they have been validated and registered by the planning authority.
- 4.11 Details as to how the Act’s provisions will work in practice are contained in secondary legislation and guidance.

United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals

4.12 The 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals are a call for action by all countries to promote prosperity whilst protecting the planet. The Goals recognise that ending poverty must happen alongside strategies that foster economic growth and tackle a range of social needs, including education, health, and employment opportunities, whilst simultaneously addressing climate change and environmental protection.

Figure 4.3: United Nations Sustainable Development Goals



Scotland’s National Performance Framework and National Outcomes

4.13 The National Performance Framework is for all of Scotland. The aim is to create a more successful country; give opportunities to all people living in Scotland and increase their wellbeing; create sustainable and inclusive growth, reduce inequalities, and give equal importance to economic, environmental, and social progress.

4.14 To help achieve its purpose, the framework sets out 11 ‘National Outcomes.’ These outcomes reflect the values and aspirations of the people of Scotland; are aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and help to track progress in reducing inequality. A suite of National Indicators is also used to measure Scotland’s progress against the 11 National Outcomes. These indicators provide a measure of national wellbeing and include a range of economic, social, and environmental indicators.

Figure 4.4: Extract from Scotland’s National Performance Framework



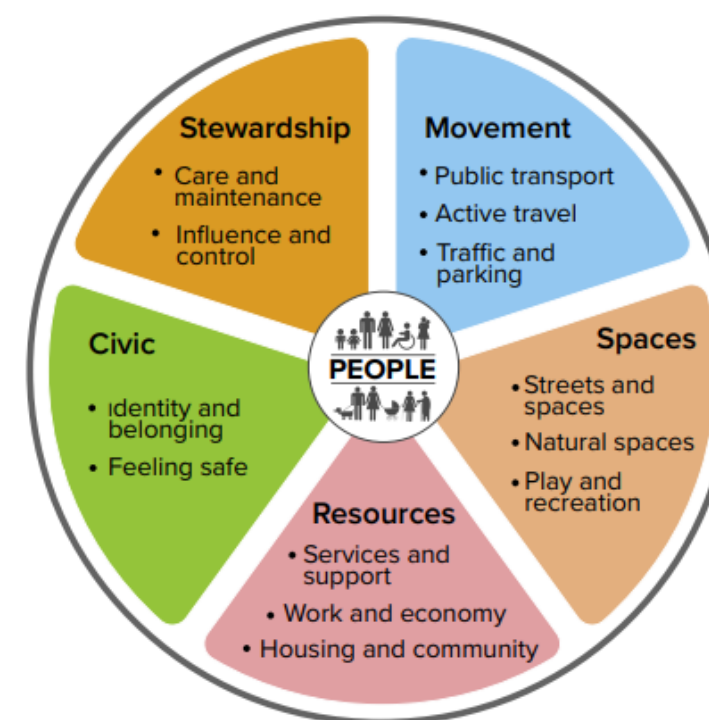
Place and Wellbeing Outcomes

4.15 The Place and Wellbeing Outcomes were developed by the Spatial Planning, Health and Wellbeing Collaborative and provide a ‘consistent and comprehensive set of outcomes for every place to enable wellbeing’, i.e. outcomes that every place needs to enable those who live, work, and relax there to stay healthy and thrive. They are intended to help stakeholders to ‘take collaborative action on delivering in every place’ to encourage health and wellbeing. The Outcomes were based on the same evidence base as was used to develop and design the Place Standard Tool, and are underpinned by 3 principles:

1. **Equitable outcomes for all** – each Outcome takes account of the needs of different populations and geographies and is applied in a way that ensures they achieve equitable outcomes for all.
2. **Achieving net zero, sustainability and biodiversity** – each Outcome takes account of climate impacts in Scotland and globally. They also consider the need to achieve net zero GHG emissions as well as enhancing broader environmental sustainability and biodiversity. They are applied in an equitable way that contributes to both greater climate resilience and reduced GHG emissions.
3. **Supporting the system** – each Outcome becomes embedded in the right policies and plans both nationally and locally.

4.16 The Outcomes are set out in Figure 4.5 to follow. They are key features in the delivery of Scotland’s ambitions for local living and 20 minute neighbourhoods. By incorporating them as part of a place-based approach makes it possible to analyse whether there is consistency across Scotland, and that the right collective actions are being taken to bring about the change that people need from our places.

Figure 4.5: Extract from [Improvement Service, Place and Wellbeing Outcomes Briefing \(October 2024\)](#)



The principles of equality, net-zero emissions and sustainability underpin all of these themes, and all themes should be embedded in policy and action

4.17 A place-based approach is concerned with considering the physical, economic, and social characteristics that make up a place in collaboration, and thinking about how an intervention to improve one of these elements can result in unintended positive or negative effects on another. It considers these varying interconnections and relationships through a joint working collaborative manner and focuses all the action, effort, and investment in a place in order to maximise opportunities for positive outcomes and minimise negative ones. People, Place and Decision-making are the key elements to take a place-based approach, and the approach combines these 3 key elements to prevent unintended impacts:

1. Knowing what people in an area are experiencing.
2. Understanding the evidenced features every place needs.
3. Considering the impact of the decisions we are making on both of these.

4.18 NPF4 has the Place and Wellbeing Outcomes embedded throughout the document, and the Outcomes also align with other approaches, strategies and policies, including – the Place Principle, UN Sustainable Development Goals, National Performance Framework, 20 Minute Neighbourhoods, A New Future for

Scotland's Town Centres, Covid Recovery Strategy, Public Health Priorities, and Net Zero Emissions targets.

- 4.19** It is important that the development of our LDP3 takes a place-based approach and embeds the Place and Wellbeing Outcomes in order to maximise opportunities for positive outcomes from the implementation of the Plan for our places and people, and to minimise potential unintended negative effects.

National Planning Framework 4

- 4.20** The most recent National Planning Framework, more commonly known as NPF4, was adopted in February 2023. NPF4 is required under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 and sets out the Scottish Ministers' policies and proposals for the development and use of land. The Framework plays a key role in supporting the delivery of Scotland's 11 National Outcomes, and the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals.
- 4.21** NPF4 is divided into 3 parts. Part 1 provides a long-term Spatial Strategy for Scotland to 2045. It includes 6 overarching spatial principles, which all future places are to be planned in line with; an introduction to each of the Framework's 3 key themes: Sustainable Places, Liveable Places, and Productive Places, and an overview as to how the delivery of these themes will be supported by the National Spatial Strategy and individual National Developments. Part 1 also includes a section on Regional Spatial Priorities for the 5 identified regions. The Perth and Kinross area falls within the North and Central regions. Part 2 is the National Planning Policy section, containing 33 individual topic or issue-based policies, divided up by relevance, under the Framework's 3 key themes. Finally, Part 3 contains Annexes A to G. These provide, amongst other things: a guide on how to use the Framework; Statements of Need for each of the 18 National Developments identified in NPF4; detailed information on Spatial Planning Priorities for the 5 regions, which is to help guide the preparation of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Plans; and the Minimum All-Tenure Housing Land Requirements (MATHLR) for each Local and National Park Authority area in Scotland.
- 4.22** Unlike previous iterations of the National Planning Framework, NPF4 forms part of the Statutory Development Plan, alongside Local Development Plans (LDPs). It supersedes both NPF3 and Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) (2014), and all strategic development plans (SDPs), including TAYplan, and any supplementary guidance issued in connection with SDPs.
- 4.23** The content and format of the Framework reinforces the importance of the interconnected nature of the policies, and the Scottish Government's expectations for the planning system to take a place-based approach to facilitate the delivery of place-based outcomes. It also makes it clear that the dual crises of climate and ecology must both be given significant weight in land use planning decision making for all development proposals.
- 4.24** Under the 2019 Planning Act the duty on planning authorities for the four largest city regions to prepare Strategic Development Plans was repealed and replaced by a requirement for all planning authorities

(working together as they see fit) to prepare and adopt a Regional Spatial Strategy. Unlike Strategic Development Plans, Regional Spatial Strategies do not form part of the Statutory Development Plan. Secondary legislation regarding the content of and requirements for Regional Spatial Strategies has not been published yet.

UK Withdrawal from the European Union (Continuity) (Scotland) Act 2021

- 4.25** The 2021 Act was introduced to maintain an alignment in Scotland with EU law following the UK's withdrawal from the European Union. Part 2, Section 14 of the Act places new duties on the Scottish Ministers to have due regard to the five guiding principles on the environment when making decisions. Section 15 imposes the same duty on other public authorities who are subject to the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, when they are doing anything for which an environmental assessment under Section 1 of the 2005 Act is required. Section 16 sets out that the Scottish Ministers and other public authorities are to comply with the duties with a view to protecting and improving the environment and contributing to sustainable development.
- 4.26** Those 5 principles are:
- a) The principle that protecting the environment should be integrated into the making of policies;
 - b) The precautionary principle as it relates to the environment;
 - c) The principle that preventative action should be taken to avert environmental damage;
 - d) The principle that environmental damage should as a priority be rectified at source, and
 - e) The principle that the polluter should pay.
- 4.27** These duties will ensure that consideration of the protection and improvement of our environment is embedded in decision-making across different policy sectors, to contribute to sustainable development, and keep Scotland aligned with the environmental principles which guide policy development in the EU. The SEA process will allow consideration of the guiding principles in line with the duties under the 2021 Act.
- 4.28** It is worthwhile noting that Section 16(2) defines the environment as "all, or any, of the air, water and land (including the earth's crust), and "air" includes air within buildings and the air within other natural or man-made structures above or below ground and includes wild animal and plant life and the habitats of wild animal and plant life (including any living organisms).
- Scotland's Guiding Principles on the Environment: Statutory Guidance. Annex A – Strategic Environmental Assessment and Duties to have Due Regard to the Guiding Principles on the Environment
- 4.29** This guidance document provides information on how the environmental principles should be applied when developing policy. It provides guidance on the interpretation of the principles, how they relate to one another, and how the duties under Sections 14 and 15 (Scottish Ministers and other public authorities duty to have regard to the guiding principles on the environment), as read with Section 16 of the Continuity Act, relate to other duties with respect to the environment, including duties under the

Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, and how compliance can be achieved and demonstrated.

- 4.30** Annex A provides further detailed information regarding these new duties and how they relate to existing duties under the 2005 Act. The SEA process, particularly the preparation of an environmental report, is regarded as a means by which plan and policy makers can fulfil their duties under the 2021 Act and record compliance.

Tay Cities Region Deal

- 4.31** The brings together public, private, and voluntary organisations in the council areas of Angus, Dundee, Fife, and Perth and Kinross to deliver a smarter and fairer region. The full deal was signed in December 2020.
- 4.32** The aim of the Deal is to catalyse inclusive economic growth across the region. The partnership is future focused, with a clear understanding of the action needed to deliver sustainable economic growth. It is about partnership and effective collaboration, as well as new resources.
- 4.33** The region faces a number of challenges - its performance is below the Scottish average in several areas including productivity, employment growth and wage levels, and it has pockets of entrenched unemployment. With an economy growing at a slower rate than the Scottish average, the Deal recognises that more needs to be done to reverse these trends.
- 4.34** For the economy to thrive, the Deal identifies that the following action is needed:
- Grow our base of knowledge-led business
 - Support more businesses to trade internationally
 - Attract investment
 - Attract and retain talented people
 - Improve connectivity to, from and around the Region
 - Increase economic participation
 - Reduce inequalities
- 4.35** The Deal will support business growth, develop innovative technologies, enhance productivity, develop skills, and create jobs. It will be delivered in the context of the refreshed Tay Cities Region Economic Strategy 2019-2039. The Strategy has a vision to grow the region's strong and up-and coming business sectors by building on existing regional skills, innovation, and experience. The Deal investment will, in conjunction with other joint activity by the partnership, help to address the region's challenges and deliver this vision.

Tay Cities Region Economic Strategy 2019-2039

- 4.36** This Strategy seeks to deliver on the agreements set out in the Tay Cities Region Deal. This includes supporting the growth and development of local businesses, innovation, productivity, skills, and employment. Facilitating this growth requires adequate access to employment land premises and creating such facilities that encourage investment into the area.

- 4.37** Together with the Tay Cities Deal, the strategy has the vision of making the region an exciting place to live, work, visit and invest in, with the key ambition of increasing the number of businesses and jobs in the region. The strategy proposes doing so by investing in the area's key business sectors, in skills and employability, and in businesses premises and employment land in the region. The Tay City Region business base tends to mirror that of Scotland as a whole, with a high proportion (87%) of micro businesses.

- 4.38** Whilst the key business sectors noted in the Strategy are those bulleted below, the Perth and Kinross Area has long-term strengths in the tourism, and food and drink sectors. However, the area is now also becoming a focus for agri-tech and eco-tourism. There is also a focus on innovation in the insurance and finance sectors and energy transition.

- Tourism
- Food and Drink
- Manufacturing and Engineering
- Construction
- Energy and Renewables
- Digital and Creative Industries
- Life Sciences

Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan

- 4.39** The Perth and Kinross Council Corporate Plan 2022-2027, sets out the Council's vision for a Perth and Kinross 'where everyone can live life well, free from poverty and inequality.' It proposes a number of key priorities for the 5-year period 2022-2027. It also reflects the principles of the Perth and Kinross Offer, which sets out the Council's commitment to better engage with people and communities, and ensure they have their say and are involved at an earlier stage in strategic planning discussions.
- 4.40** To achieve the Corporate Plan Vision, the Council will work with and within its communities to ensure that:
- Children and young people grow up safe, respected, well-educated, and confident in their ability to realise their full potential
 - People and businesses are increasingly able to prosper in a local economy which supports low carbon ambitions and offers opportunities for all
 - People can achieve their best physical and mental health and have access to quality care and support when they need it
 - Communities are resilient and physically, digitally, and socially connected.
 - Perth and Kinross is a safe and vibrant place, mitigating the impacts of climate and environmental change for this and future generations
- 4.41** Through the Corporate Plan, the Council has identified seven priority areas which it believes it can directly influence and have the most impact on, and those which are most important to delivering the vision of Perth and Kinross as a place where everyone can 'live life well, free from poverty and inequality.'

Figure 4.5: Perth and Kinross Council's Corporate Plan Priorities



1. Working in partnership with communities
2. Tackling poverty
3. Tackling climate change and supporting sustainable places
4. Developing a resilient, stronger, and greener local economy
5. Enabling our children and young people to achieve their full potential
6. Protecting and caring for our most vulnerable people
7. Supporting and promoting physical and mental wellbeing

4.42 As Council resources are limited, these priorities will act as a guide for difficult decision-making about where to invest the Council's funding and staff time, and how to make the best use of other assets.

4.43 Delivery of the seven priorities will be underpinned by a set of key principles:

- Focusing on need informed by evidence and data, rather than demand
- Working with our communities and partners, and putting people first
- Being a visible and valued part of our communities, engaging with and being accessible and responsive to our residents
- Prevention and early intervention to help achieve the best long-term results for people
- Supporting our workforce to be the best, ensuring they are well-trained and empowered to make decisions
- Making best use of available assets including transferring or otherwise disposing of those which can best serve the community in a different way
- Remaining true to our organisational values of integrity, compassion, and ambition

4.44 Key actions have also been identified for each of the seven Corporate Plan Priorities (See Table 4.1 below), along with a suite of Performance Indicators to allow regular monitoring of the Council's performance against these priorities. This will ensure that the Corporate Plan Priorities remain relevant and effectively contribute to the Council's Vision.

Table 4.1: Perth and Kinross Council's Corporate Plan Priorities and Key Actions

| Corporate Plan Priority | Relevant Key Actions |
|--|---|
| 1. Working in partnership with communities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Establish locality multidisciplinary teams working with our community planning partners and residents to identify and address local solutions to local needs – Increase the supply and availability of rural housing – Develop and expand our approach to working with communities to identify local actions and priorities and deliver on these together – Deliver our internal cultural change programme ensuring all staff contribute to our commitment to engage with and be accessible and responsive to our residents and communities |
| 2. Tackling poverty | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prevent and mitigate the impacts of poverty for children living in Perth and Kinross – Mitigate cost of living pressures for households experiencing or at risk of poverty – Maximise income from benefit entitlement and concessions for households – Promote and encourage local employers to follow the principles of the Scottish Government Fair Work Action Plan, including the real Living Wage and Scottish Business Pledge. |
| 3. Tackling climate change and supporting sustainable places | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Support the prioritisation of sustainable, cleaner, and greener transport in line with the National and Regional Transport Strategies – Improve the energy efficiency of our Council housing stock and public buildings, and encourage our partners and private householders to consider where they can make improvements – To conserve and enhance the biodiversity of our natural environment – To adapt to and mitigate the impact of climate change on the way we operate |
| 4. Developing a resilient, stronger, and greener local economy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Support and promote business growth, business and place innovation and investment in both our urban and rural areas – Invest in innovative green power and smart technology solutions to reduce reliance on electricity from the national grid and create opportunities for business growth and regeneration – Promote what our city and towns have to offer to businesses, investors, and tourists by capitalising on built and natural heritage and assets such as the new Perth Museum and the benefits to the whole area of Perth's status as UNESCO City of Craft and Folk Art – Support individuals into work and to progress into better paid work, encouraging businesses to access initiatives to create new opportunities for those furthest from the employment market and those currently in low wage jobs |
| 5. Enabling our children and young people to achieve their full potential | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning – Reduce the poverty-related attainment gap – Ensure that Looked After Children and children and young people with additional support needs achieve health, wellbeing, and education outcomes comparable with their peers |
| 6. Protecting and caring for our most vulnerable people | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Ensure we quickly identify children, young people, and adults at risk of harm and abuse and take the necessary actions to keep them safe – Ensure that people get the right care, accommodation, and support where and when they need it |

| Corporate Plan Priority | Relevant Key Actions |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Prepare for the establishment of the National Care Service and continue to strive for excellent health and social care outcomes for the people of Perth and Kinross – Work with partners to reduce re-offending and support effective interventions for people in the justice system |
| 7. Supporting and promoting physical and mental wellbeing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Work with partners to provide localised health and social care provision in areas of greatest need and in those most geographically distant from services – Improve health and wellbeing in Perth and Kinross by increasing overall participation in sport and physical activity and promoting the wellbeing benefits of time spent in our natural surroundings |

4.45 Appendix 1 to the Corporate Plan also sets out a list of local, regional, and national strategies and plans which provide the context for how the Council will deliver the seven priorities. The Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan is identified as contributing to the following corporate priorities: Climate Change, Economy, and Working with Communities. However, developing our LDP3 in alignment with NPF4 should help support the delivery of the Council's Vision and all Corporate Plan Priorities.

Perth and Kinross Community Plan (LOIP) 2022 – 2032

4.46 The Community Plan sets out the Community Planning Partnership's (CPP) ambition for the area, which is for Perth and Kinross '...to be the best place in Scotland for everyone to live life well, free from poverty and inequality', and what the CPP will do over the following 12 months and beyond to help realise that ambition.

4.47 The Plan's priorities focus on inequalities which are stubborn and need new collaborative approaches. The priorities are:

1. Reducing Poverty
2. Physical and Mental Wellbeing
3. Digital Participation
4. Learning and Development
5. Employability

4.48 In addition to the above 5 Strategic Priorities, the Community Plan identifies 2 cross-cutting issues:

1. Climate Change and a Just Transition to a Net Zero Scotland by 2045 – CPP Climate Change Working Group has been established to address specific inequalities brought by climate change and provide a forum for partners to collaborate on climate change related actions.
2. Cost of Living Crisis – take joint action to mitigate the impact on people and communities in Perth and Kinross.

4.49 The Community Plan, in outlining the national strategic context, highlights that in addition to the Community Empowerment Act, other key policy drivers which influence the delivery of community planning. Those which are specifically linked to land use planning include: NPF4, and the need to ensure

the priorities of local community partnerships are aligned with any local place plans to help support delivery of the Place Principle; and also, the concept of 20 minute neighbourhoods.

4.50 The 2019 Planning Act requires planning authorities to take into account any local outcomes improvement plan (LOIP) in preparing a local development plan. Furthermore, as LOIPs aim to meet the diverse aspirations and challenges of their places, the Scottish Government’s recently published Local Development Planning Guidance (May 2023) highlights that LDPs should explain how the LOIP vision relates to development and land use to ensure a strong alignment between both plans. It continues that there is not a requirement for an LDP to provide a separate vision statement to help avoid duplication or confusion. As such, LDP3 will adopt the Vision for ‘Perth and Kinross to be the best place in Scotland for everyone to live life well, free from poverty and inequality’.

Perth and Kinross Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan

4.51 In December 2021 the Council adopted its first PKC Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (CCSAP). It was produced in response to the UK Parliament and Scottish Government’s environment and climate emergency declaration statements in Spring 2019. The purpose of the CCSAP is to turn the intent of the Council’s support for these emergency declarations into practice. It sets out the next steps and an initial route map to take us to a net zero carbon and climate resilient Perth and Kinross.

4.52 Public engagement work was carried out on the Draft Strategy and Action Plan during 2020 and 2021 to help shape the final documents. The results of this exercise have also been provided on the Council’s dedicated [Climate Action website](#).

4.53 The Strategy sets out the legislative framework, including national targets; outlines key emissions trends; establishes six overarching principles to shape the long-term approach to climate change for the area (See Figure 4.6 to follow), and contains 27 Council Commitments which are needed to achieve the outcomes.

Figure 4.6: PKC’s Six Overarching Climate Change Strategy Principles

1. Achieving Net Zero aligned with the Paris Agreement and the Scottish Government Targets, with the ambition of achieving them sooner.
 2. Building a more resilient Perth and Kinross.
 3. Ensuring climate action is fair and benefits all and we deliver a green recovery from Covid-19.
 4. Enhancing biodiversity to help avoid an ecological emergency.
 5. Engaging and empowering young people to take action on climate change.
 6. Empowering our communities and businesses to take climate action in line with the Perth and Kinross Offer.

4.54 The Action Plan is then divided into 8 thematic areas: Transport; Buildings and Energy; Business and Industry; Waste and Circular Economy; Land Use (incorporating LULUCF); Climate Resilience; Education

and Engagement, and Governance. For each of these thematic areas or sectors, it provides details on - existing action to date within the area; a list of key themes for each sector and related actions; a Road Map to deliver these actions; key challenges and opportunities, and corresponding Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to help measure progress. The relevant details for the Land Use sector are as follows:

Key Themes:

1. Strengthening Planning – more rigorous enforcement to prevent tree and biodiversity loss; review of Forest and Woodland Strategy to support increased tree planting target (right tree in the right place); helping to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through consideration of potential lifecycle GHG emissions of LDP site proposals, and opportunities to offset potential negative impacts of development, preferably on-site.
2. Rural Land Use and Carbon Sequestration – delivering landscape scale change to support biodiversity and address the impacts of climate change in collaboration with public agencies and landowners and managers.
3. Biodiversity – making the shift from protection to the enhancement of biodiversity and restoring and improving connections, creating multi-benefit places and spaces, to help deliver not only on climate change and biodiversity, but health and wellbeing too.
4. Greenspace – adapting our approach through the continuous review of management and maintenance regimes to give due consideration to biodiversity and carbon sequestration; ongoing review of our equipment and procurement to support the move to a low carbon fleet; climate change adaptation and mitigation across the Council’s Estate, and developing and implementing the Good Food Nation/Food Growing Strategy.

Key Challenges and Opportunities:

- National Action and Local Leadership
- Engagement, Culture and Inclusion
- Skills and Capacity
- Data and Knowledge

Measuring Progress:

| Key Themes | Key Sub-Themes | Key Performance Indicators |
|---|-----------------------------------|---|
| Strengthening Planning | Land Use Planning | % of Local and Major planning consents that contain approvals for biodiversity net gain |
| Rural Land Use and Carbon Sequestration | Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions | Total area wide LULUCF emissions (including Cropland, Wetlands, Settlements and Harvested Wood Products, Indirect NO ₂) ktCO ₂ e |
| Rural Land Use and Carbon Sequestration | Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions | Total area wide LULUCF sequestration (including Forest Land and Grassland) ktCO ₂ e |
| Rural Land Use and Carbon Sequestration | Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions | Total area wide agriculture emissions (including Electricity, Gas, Other, Livestock and Soils) ktCO ₂ e |

| Key Themes | Key Sub-Themes | Key Performance Indicators |
|---|---|---|
| Rural Land Use and Carbon Sequestration | Enhance Landscape Scale Sequestration (including Peatland Restoration) | Area of peatland restoration (Ha net) |
| Strengthening Planning Rural Land Use and Carbon Sequestration | Increase Tree and Woodland Cover | % of Perth and Kinross covered by woodland (including subset breakdown) |
| Strengthening Planning Rural Land Use and Carbon Sequestration | Increase Tree and Woodland Cover | % of Perth and Kinross approved for woodland creation (Forestry Grant Scheme Options) that has been claimed |
| Biodiversity | Halting Biodiversity Loss and Protecting and Enhancing Habitats and Species | % of Tayside Local Biodiversity Action Plan Actions delivered or on-target to be completed |
| Biodiversity | Halting Biodiversity Loss and Protecting and Enhancing Habitats and Species | % of Scottish Pollinator Strategy Actions delivered or on-target |
| Biodiversity | Halting Biodiversity Loss and Protecting and Enhancing Habitats and Species | % of 1Km grid squares in Perth and Kinross with recordings of protected species |
| Biodiversity Strengthening Planning Rural Land Use and Carbon Sequestration | Halting Biodiversity Loss and Protecting and Enhancing Habitats and Species | % of Protected Biological and Mixed SSSIs in Favourable Condition |
| Biodiversity Strengthening Planning Rural Land Use and Carbon Sequestration | Halting Biodiversity Loss and Protecting and Enhancing Habitats and Species | % of Protected Nature Site Features in Favourable or Recovering Condition |
| Biodiversity Greenspace | Halting Biodiversity Loss and Protecting and Enhancing Habitats and Species | Area of grassland managed by PKC for biodiversity improvement objectives (Ha) |
| Biodiversity | Halting Biodiversity Loss and Protecting and Enhancing Habitats and Species | Number of community volunteering hours in biodiversity related projects |
| Greenspace | Adapting Our Approach | Volume of herbicide used by PKC (Litres – undiluted quantity, including Friarton) |
| Greenspace | Increase Tree and Woodland Cover | Number of trees planted on PKC land and maintained open space |

4.55 Originally, 146 Actions were identified in the Council’s Climate Action Plan, spread across the 8 themes. That number has since risen to approximately 204, because of new actions being identified through the Council’s 8 internal Climate Change Working Groups, which are made up of officers from different teams across various Council services, who are tasked with the delivery of the actions, often in

partnership with other stakeholders. The groups regularly review their list of actions to ensure they remain appropriate. To date, a number of the actions have already been or are close to being delivered, and progress against all actions is regularly monitored and reported through the Council’s Climate Change Annual Report.

TAYside Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy

- 4.56** Section 5 of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 establishes a duty for a planning authority, or authorities acting jointly, to prepare a Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS). This duty on planning authorities has not yet been enacted but is expected to commence following the publication of statutory guidance by the Scottish Government.
- 4.57** The role of Regional Spatial Strategies is to set out the long-term strategy in respect of strategic development of an area, considering the strategic need for development, the outcomes that strategic development will contribute to, priorities for delivery of strategic development and proposed locations. These proposed locations must be shown in the strategy in the form of a map or diagram. For the purposes of Section 5 of the 2019 Act, strategic development is defined as development that is likely to have a significant impact on future development within the area of more than one planning authority.
- 4.58** An initial interim Tayside Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy (iRSS) was submitted to the Scottish Government in October 2020. Following further work and refinement a revised iRSS was then submitted in April 2021. The development of the Tayside iRSS was very much aligned to the joint work in the Tay Cities Region.
- 4.59** No further progress has been made on producing a final Tayside Regional Spatial Strategy since the iRSS was submitted in April 2021, as we await the publication by the Scottish Government of consultative draft statutory guidance regarding the procedures to follow in the preparation, adoption, review, and content of regional spatial strategies.

The Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2)

- 4.60** LDP2 which was prepared under the provisions of the Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006, was adopted on 29 November 2019 with the purpose of guiding all future development and use of land within the Perth and Kinross Council Area. It sets out how the Council aims to work towards a Vision for Perth and Kinross as a successful, sustainable, low carbon, natural resilient, and connected place. The Plan contains a spatial strategy which shows which land is allocated to meet the area’s development needs to 2029 and beyond and sets out the planning policies that the Council will apply in promoting the sustainable economic growth of the area over this period.
- 4.61** Along with the approved Strategic Development Plan for the area (TAYplan, 2017), which is no longer in force, the LDP provides clear guidance on what development will or will not be allowed and where. It addresses a wide range of policy issues, including biodiversity, climate change adaptation and mitigation, housing, shopping, business and industry, transport and active travel, open space and recreation, blue green infrastructure, and built and natural heritage and assets. However, NPF4’s suite

of National Planning Policies now take primacy in decision making processes over those policies contained within LDP2.

- 4.62 The Council also produced a range of more detailed supplementary guidance documents as part of the Local Development Plan for some of these topic areas. These documents set out the Council's expectations when determining planning applications and remain in force as part of the development plan.

Perth and Kinross Local Housing Strategy 2022-2027 and Action Plan

- 4.63 The Local Housing Strategy (LHS) sets out the vision of the Council and local partners for the supply of housing across all tenures and types of housing provision, along with the Council's priorities and plans for the delivery of housing and related service during the period 2022-2027. The Strategy aligns to national housing priorities, maximising investment opportunities, and building on the ambitious economic growth objectives set out in the Tay Cities Deal. The Action Plan includes a range of actions identified as part of the LHS process to help improve levels of housing provision across the area.
- 4.64 The Strategy was co-produced with community and housing partners, residents and other stakeholders, and impact assessments were also undertaken before its finalisation, to consider the actions from the perspective of equality and fairness; sustainability and climate change, and health and wellbeing.
- 4.65 Four main priorities identified under the LHS, to meet the Council's vision that "Everyone in Perth and Kinross has access to the right home, in the right place, at the right cost." Those priorities are:
1. **Provide more affordable homes to support liveable and sustainable communities** – Setting a strategic vision for housing, based on evidence of local need, for providing the right size and type of housing in sustainable, well-connected places.
 2. **Provide a range of housing options that people can easily access, afford and keep** – Improving choice across all types of housing, contributing to tackling child poverty and further developing the Council's Rapid Rehousing Transition Plan (RRTP), building on our [Home First](#) model.
 3. **Deliver more homes for people with varying needs** – Providing more accessible homes, wheelchair homes and supported accommodation to enable people to live independently and well for as long as possible. This will be done through investment in property adaptations, technology, and care and support services.
 4. **Deliver quality homes with affordable warmth, zero emissions and SMART technology** – Improving the quality and energy efficiency of all types of homes, tackling fuel poverty through investment in properties, and setting a road map for reducing domestic carbon emissions.
- 4.66 Although the LHS Action Plan contains several actions under the four priorities which have specifically been identified for delivery via the Development Plan, the majority of the actions within it will more appropriately be delivered through a collaborative approach across different stakeholders (primarily in the housing and property sectors) not all of which are within the remit of land use planning. However, LDP3 can bring together the range of actions, proposals and priorities which have a spatial element to help facilitate their delivery in a coordinated and holistic place-based manner.

- 4.67 Those actions in the LHS Action Plan of specific relevance to the development of our LDP3 include: maximising the potential to generate more homes through brownfield regeneration; developing clear definitions of lifetime 20 minute neighbourhoods to support partners, stakeholders and investors to pursue placemaking which improves connectivity (physical, social, and digital infrastructure); identifying opportunities for and adopting a masterplanning approach to effective land supply, and ensuring planning policy, placemaking and housing investment programmes contribute to improved and sustainable homes, outdoor space, health, and wellbeing for all households.

- 4.68 The LHS and LHS Action Plan provide the vision and strategy for the future of housing within the Perth and Kinross Council Area up to 2027. Through including the priorities and spatial elements of those documents in the development and implementation of our LDP3, alongside the application of the Place Principle, the Scottish Government's design policy statements, the Six Qualities of Successful Places, the Council's Placemaking Supplementary Guidance, and NPF4's policies and Spatial Principles, our Spatial Strategy will contribute to tackling those issues in the profile of the area's housing stock identified through the Scottish Household Condition Survey: Local Authority Analysis 2017-2019, but within the parameters of the land use planning system.

Perth and Kinross Economic Wellbeing Plan 2020-2028

- 4.69 The Council's Economic Wellbeing Plan was co-produced during Spring 2021 by a Taskforce set up to help economic recovery due to the impact of Covid-19. The Economic Taskforce continues to monitor progress and review the economic impact of the pandemic.
- 4.70 The Plan identifies 73 Actions under 3 broad headings of People, Business and Place. Those actions of direct relevance to our LDP3 are:
- Provide business support and micro-grants to micro businesses to support start-up or expansion costs.
 - Support the Circular Economy/Waste Hub at Binn Eco-Park and across Perth and Kinross around 'Project Beacon' (plastics recycling – Tay Cities Deal funded) and attract £10m private investment.
 - Support Food and Drink/Agriculture/ bio-economy innovation.
 - Support an Engineering Innovation Hub at Perth College/UHI linking to Aviation Academy/ Tayside Engineering Partnership projects (Tay Cities Deal funded projects).
 - Examine options to set up a revolving fund, financing upfront infrastructure to open up new housing and mixed-use sites (including traditional developer contributions, joint ventures, or acquisition of land) in return for investment focused on Perth City and rural sites which are key to the delivery of the LDP Strategy.
 - Deliver Perth Eco Innovation Park linking to Perth Innovation Highway/Mobility Hub (Tay Cities Deal funded projects) 2020-2030.
 - Promote and support property adaptation and vacant site development.

- Perth Transport Futures Phase 2 (Cross Tay Link Road/Destiny Bridge) as new major road infrastructure to support the growth of Perth and the future development of housing and employment areas.

4.71 The Economic Wellbeing Plan is undergoing a refresh to produce an up-to-date Economic Action Plan.

Perth and Kinross Mobility Strategy and Action Plan (2024)

4.72 The Mobility Strategy is a Local Transport Strategy for the Perth and Kinross Area and sets out the Council's vision for managing and developing the transport network across the area. It considers all modes of transport for the movement of goods and people, across our urban and rural areas, to help achieve the national targets and outcomes established under the National Transport Strategy 2. The Strategy responds to the climate change agenda and changes in how people travel. It also considers emerging technologies, digital services, housing, inclusion, poverty, health, climate adaptation, economic growth, air quality, and placemaking.

4.73 The Strategy is also accompanied by an Action Plan which will be used to ensure its delivery, and it includes several actions which are of direct relevance to our Local Development Plan 3 Spatial Strategy, including those relating to: connected neighbourhoods and centres; green and blue infrastructure; open spaces and opportunities for play, and the identification of sustainable future site allocations. The Council's vision for managing and developing the transport and network access across the area, as set out in the Mobility Strategy should be carried forward into our LDP3 Proposed Plan. Any detailed projects, proposals and actions contained within the Action Plan should also be reflected in the LDP3 Spatial Strategy to support their delivery.

Scoping Question 1:

Are there any plans, programmes, strategies, legislation, or policy guidance of relevance to LDP3 that you consider should be added to the list in Appendix A?

5 ENVIRONMENTAL BASELINE AND KEY ISSUES

Introduction

- 5.1** The identification of the current environmental baseline conditions, and their likely evolution, is an important part of the SEA process. A knowledge and understanding of existing conditions, and the consideration of their significance helps with the issues which LDP3 should be addressing and allows the Plan to be successfully implemented and monitored.
- 5.2** The 2005 Act requires that the likely evolution of the environmental baseline of the area, without the Plan being implemented, to be identified. This is useful in the assessment of the significance of effects, particularly with respect to those conditions which may already be improving, or worsening, and the rate of that change.
- 5.3** The type of data and evidence collected for the environmental assessment will largely be determined by:
- The environmental topic to which it relates
 - The SEA Objectives
 - The aspects of each environmental topic chosen for the basis of the assessment
 - The level of assessment proposed
 - The availability of relevant data

Relationship with LDP3 Evidence Report

- 5.4** Part 2, Section 16B of the 2019 Planning Act, requires planning authorities to compile an evidence report before preparing a local development plan. The evidence report should set out the planning authority's views on the range of matters which are listed under Section 15(5) of the Act. These matters relate to, but are not limited to, the main physical, cultural, economic, social, built heritage and environmental characteristics of the area; the use of land; details about the size, composition, health status and distribution of the area's population; the population's housing and education needs and the availability of land to meet those needs, as well as the likely effects of the use and development of land on those needs; the health needs of the population and how they might be impacted upon as a result of the use and development of land; the infrastructure of the area and how it is used, and any change which the planning authority think might happen in relation to the list of matters under Section 15(5).
- 5.5** Due to many of the data requirements for the LDP3 Evidence Report overlapping with the data gathering requirements for the SEA Environmental Baseline being provided as part of this Scoping

Report, it was considered a more efficient approach to combine the data gathering for both processes to provide a holistic overview of the current state of the environment of Perth and Kinross, and ultimately a better Plan which has been thoroughly considered in respect of the likely significant effects of its implementation.

- 5.6** A separate Proposed Evidence Report has been produced by the Council for LDP3 which will address the full requirements under Section 16B of the Act for inclusion with an evidence report, it is not intended to repeat that information in full in this Scoping Report, but rather highlight those key baseline facts which are of relevance to the SEA for the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 3.

Establishing the Current State of the Perth and Kinross Environment

- 5.7** The purpose of including data gathered at this stage in the SEA process is to help build a picture of the social, economic, and environmental characteristics of the area, and the key environmental issues which it faces. Data has been collected for a range of topics likely to be influenced by LDP3.
- 5.8** The development of the SEA of the Plan relies on a comprehensive and up to date environmental baseline. In 2007, Perth and Kinross Council commissioned the Macaulay Research Consultancy Services (now The James Hutton Institute) to produce a State of the Environment Report (SoE) for the Council Area. This relevant data sources used to compile the original SoE Report are now held in a GIS format and are updated as and when new information becomes available. This data, along with the original Perth and Kinross SoE Report (October 2007) establishes the current environmental state of the area. Appendix B to this Scoping Report details the list of data which has already been collated or is in the process of being collected and analysed to inform the development of the SEA Environmental Baseline.

Key Baseline Facts

- 5.9** The principal physical, cultural, economic, social, built heritage and environmental characteristics of the area have been set out in detail within our LDP3 Proposed Evidence Report under Section 2, where relevant to the SEA, some of these key baseline facts have been replicated in the tables which follow.
- 5.10** The following tables provide some key baseline facts for the Perth and Kinross LDP3 area grouped under the SEA Topic themes. The Council plans on taking an Ecosystem Services approach to the SEA for LDP3, as such, the relevant Ecosystem Services (see paragraphs 6.2 – 6.4 for further information) have also been identified in the second column of each of the Key Baseline Facts tables.

Table 5.1: Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna Key Baseline Facts

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|------------------------|
| Biodiversity, Flora, and Fauna | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 8 Special Protection Areas wholly or partially within Perth and Kinross covering 232,318.36 Ha in total (includes Cairngorms Massif SPA, only part of which is within Perth and Kinross). | Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 22 Special Areas of Conservation wholly or partially within Perth and Kinross covering (75,691.17 Ha in total). | Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 112 Special Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSI) covering 71,008 Ha in total. 92 of these sites are Biological SSSI sites covering a total area of 51193.91 Ha; 13 Geological SSSI sites covering a total area of 616.68 Ha, and 7 Mixed SSSI sites covering a total area of 19197.29 Ha. 10 Biological, 1 Geological, and 3 Mixed SSSI sites are wholly or partially within the Cairngorms National Park Area. | Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 4 RAMSAR sites within Perth and Kinross – Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary, Loch Leven, Rannoch Moor, and South Tayside Goose Roosts. | Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 75.3% of protected biological and mixed SSSI site features within Perth and Kinross are in favourable condition (June 2022) | Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 75.5% of protected nature sites features within Perth and Kinross are in favourable condition (June 2022) | Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 51.4% of all 1 Km grid squares in Perth and Kinross had recordings of protected species (protected by European and UK legislation) (June 2020) | Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 3 National Nature Reserves wholly or partially within Perth and Kinross (Ben Lawers, Loch Leven and Mar Lodge Estate). | Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Perth and Kinross Council Area adjoins 7 Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBA's) covering nearly 44,000 Ha (Atholl/Glen Tilt, Drumochter Hills, Firth of Tay, Forest of Clunie, Loch Leven, South Tayside Goose Roosts, and Tay-Isla Valley). | Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is approximately 293,100 Ha of wetlands within Perth and Kinross. | Regulating, Supporting |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI) Sites cover approximately 57,000 Ha. 18% of the total land area of Perth and Kinross is covered in woodland. Of that, 48.1% is Conifers, 18.1% Broadleaved, and 51.6% is Native Woodland, and 1.2% is Nearly Native Woodland. The Forestry Commission identified approximately 57,142Ha of Ancient and Semi-natural Woodland within Perth and Kinross (2006). In 2023/24, 2512 trees had been planted on Council land and maintained open space, up from 670 in 2022/23. | Regulating, Supporting |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2023/24, 21.72 Ha of grassland was managed for biodiversity improvement objectives. | Regulating, Supporting |

Table 5.2: Population and Human Health Key Baseline Facts

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|---|--|
| Population - Estimates | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 153, 810 residents (Mid-Year Estimates 2021) Population increase of 1.3% between 2020 and 2021, over the same period, the population of Scotland increased by 0.3%. Population projected to rise by 1.0% between 2018 and 2028 2020 Mid-Year Population Estimate for Perth City is 47,350. | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |
| <p>Some key figures from the mid-year estimates tell use that in 2021:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were more females (50.8%) than males (49.2%) living in the area. The largest age group was the 45 to 64 group, with a population of 43,806. The smallest age group was the 16 to 24 group, with a population of 13,838. In 3 out of the 6 age group ranges i.e. 0 to 15, 16 to 24, 25 to 44, 45 to 64, and 75 and over, more females lived in Perth and Kinross than males. Between 2001 and 2021 the 0 to 15 age group saw the largest percentage decrease (-5.2%), and the 75 and over group saw the largest percentage increase (+48.9%). Between 2018 and 2028 the average age of the population of the area is projected to increase as the 'baby boomer' generation ages and more people are expected to live longer. Between 2018 and 2028 the 0 to 15 age group is projected to see the largest percentage decrease (-8.1%), and the 75 and over age group is projected to see the largest percentage increase (+30.8%). The 45 to 64 age group is expected to remain the largest group. | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|---|--|
| Population – Migration | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> During the period 2020-21, the level of in-migration i.e. people moving into the Perth and Kinross area, was 79,303, which was a 49.9% increase from the period 2019-20 (5290). The level of out-migration, which is people moving away from the area, was 5400 – an increase of 18.2% from 4570 in 2019-20. In 2020-21, Perth and Kinross had the 3rd highest level of net migration out of the 32 council areas, with a total net migration of 2530 people. During this period, the net migration in the area was higher for females (1307) than for males (1223), and the age group with the highest level of total net migration was the 30 to 34 group (296). Notably, the age group with the lowest level of net migration was 15 to 19 (-151). | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |
| Population – Births and Deaths | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022, there were 1153 births in Perth and Kinross - 49.1% of which were female, and 50.9% were male. This is a decrease of 3.4% on the 1194 births in 2021. The standardised birth rate for the Council Area decreased from 9.7 per 1000 population in 2021, to 9.2 in 2022. As a comparison, the rate in Scotland overall decreased from 8.7 to 8.6 during that same period. The most common age group of mothers in 2022 was the 30 to 40 group (400 births), which was the same as in 2002. The least common age group was the 0 to 19 group (24 births) – a change from the 40 and over group which was the least common age group in 2002. Between 2002 and 2022, the 0 to 19 age group has seen the greatest percentage decrease in births (-68.8%), and the 40 and over group the greatest percentage increase (+16.2%). The total fertility rate of the area has decreased from 1.44 in 2021 to 1.4 in 2022. Perth and Kinross had the 22nd highest rate in 2022 out of the 32 council areas, and it was higher than the rate for Scotland as a whole (1.28). In 2022, there were 1922 deaths in Perth and Kinross. This represented a 5.5% increase from the 1821 deaths recorded for 2021. Of these 1922 deaths, 945 (49.2%) were female, and 977 (50.8%) were male. The standardised death rate for the area decreased from 12.0 per 1000 of the population in 2021, to 10.0 in 2022. During the same period, the rate in Scotland overall decreased from 11.6 to 11.5. In 2022, the 90 and over age group saw the highest number of total deaths (427), and the 5 to 9 ages group saw the fewest (0). The most common age group for females was the 90 and over (259), and the 80 to 84 group (170) for males. | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |
| Population – Urban Rural Split | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 67.4% - 32.4% Urban to Rural population split across the PKC Area. Based on the Scottish Government 6-Fold Categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.2% of the population live in Large Urban areas. 31.2% of the population live in Other Urban areas. 11% of the population live in Accessible Small Towns. 35% of the population live in Accessible Rural areas. 10.9% of the population live in Remote Rural areas. Several areas within Perth and Kinross have seen a decline in population of more than 6%. This ranges from a 6% fall in the Comrie, Gilmerton and St Fillan’s datazone, to an 11.5% decline in the Rannoch and Aberfeldy datazone. Of the 8 datazones with a population decline of 6% or more, 3 are Remote Rural Areas. The other 5 datazones are Accessible Rural Areas showing that even in the more accessible parts of Perth and Kinross there are still pockets where the population has been in decline. 12 datazones in Perth and Kinross are identified as shrinking. However, this only accounts for 6.5% of all datazones in the area and 5.5% of the overall population, meaning that across Scotland Perth and Kinross ranks 29th both in terms of percentage of the number and population living within shrinking datazones. | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |
| Human Health (and Wellbeing) | |
| <p>ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behaviours - Perth and Kinross was statistically similar to the rest of Scotland as a whole for most indicators and was also statistically significantly better in terms of indicators for ‘Alcohol-related hospital admissions’ and ‘Smoking attributable deaths.’ The only indicator for which the area came out as worse than the Scottish average, was for the percentage of people smoking during pregnancy, which was 14.1% compared to the national figure of 12.92% during the 3 financial year period 2019/20 to 2021/22. | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crime - For all indicators reported under Crime, apart from ‘Prisoner population’, Perth and Kinross came out statistically significantly better than the Scottish figure, and even then, it was slightly higher than the national value. • Economy - For all indicators under the ‘Economy’ category, the Perth and Kinross Council (PKC) Area performed statistically significantly better than the Scottish average. • Education - The data under the ‘Education’ category presents a slightly mixed picture for the Council Area. In terms of the indicators for: Secondary school attendance by looked after children; Working age adults with low or no educational qualifications, and Secondary school attendance in general, the area performs statistically significantly better than the Scottish average values. However, for the indicators relating to School leavers in positive destinations, and School leavers with 1 or more qualifications at SCQF4F Level 6, Perth and Kinross comes out statistically lower than the Scottish average. Finally, in respect of the Annual participation (in education, training, or employment) measure for 16-19 year olds, and School leavers with 1 or more qualifications at SCQF Level 4, Perth and Kinross performs slightly better and about the same, respectively, than the Scottish average figures. • Environment - Under this category, the PKC Area is performing statistically significantly worse compared to the Scotland average in terms of the percentage of the area’s population who are living in the 15% most ‘access deprived’ areas. In relation to the indicators on neighbourhood rating and proximity to a derelict site, the Perth and Kinross Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average figures for the same indicators. • Ill Health and Injury - For all indicators under this category, the PKC Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average. • Mental Health - When considering the results of this category’s indicators, we can see that the PKC Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average in terms of the percentage of the population who have been prescribed medication for anxiety, depression, or psychosis. However, the recorded number of deaths from suicide across the area from 2017 to 2021 per 100,000 of the population is just slightly higher than the Scotland average figure, and the level of psychiatric patient hospitalisations between 2019/20 to 2021/22, per 100,000 of the population is significantly worse than that of the Scotland average for the same period. • Immunisation and Screening - In relation to the indicators for the uptake of immunisations and screening programmes, the PKC Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average on bowel and breast screening uptake; almost the same in terms of immunisations 6 in 1 uptake at 24 months, and statistically significantly worse for uptake of MMR immunisations at 24 months. • Women and Children’s Health - For the majority of indicators in this category, the PKC Area is performing statistically significantly better than the Scotland average, and for the remaining 2 indicators for ‘Healthy birth weight’ and ‘Teenage pregnancies’ it is not statistically significantly different to the Scotland average figures. • Life Expectancy and Mortality - Looking at the results under this category, the PKC Area is performing, for most indicators, statistically significantly better than the Scotland average, or about the same for a few of the indicators. • Social Care and Housing - For 2 out of the 4 indicators for this category (‘Children looked after by the local authority’, and ‘single adult dwellings’), the PKC Area is performing about the same as the national average. In relation to the percentage of adults who are claiming incapacity benefit or severe disability allowance, the Area is performing statistically significantly better. However, the percentage of people aged 65+ in Perth and Kinross with high levels of care needs who are cared for at home is much lower than the Scotland average, and as such the Area is performing statistically significantly worse. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2020, 20.97% (39 out of 186) of all datazones are ranked in the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 40% most deprived; 3.76% (7 out of 186) are within the 15% most deprived, and 1.61% (3 out of 186 datazones) are within the 10% most deprived. 23.66% (44 out of 186 datazones) are within the 20% least deprived areas in Scotland. • The most deprived areas within Perth and Kinross can be found in Perth, and Blairgowrie East. | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fuel Poverty and Extreme Fuel Poverty likelihood levels in the Perth and Kinross Council Area are higher than the national average. The average probability of Fuel Poverty and Extreme Fuel Poverty is higher in off-gas properties than on-gas properties. • In 2022, 63% of households in the Perth and Kinross Council Area were in Fuel Poverty, compared to the national average of 35%, and 40% of households in Extreme Fuel Poverty, compared to the national average of 12% (Scottish Government uplift figures). | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |
| Human Health and Life Expectancy | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leading causes of death in Perth and Kinross for males in 2022 - Ischaemic heart diseases was responsible for 11.1% of all deaths, followed by Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease (7.8%). This mirrors the leading cause of death for males in Scotland overall, with 14.0% being attributed to Ischaemic heart diseases, followed by Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease at 6.8%. • Leading causes of death in 2022 for females was Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease (12.7% of all female deaths), followed by Cerebrovascular disease (7.9%). For comparison, in Scotland overall for the same period, Dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease was the leading cause of death for females (13.1%), followed by Ischaemic heart diseases (8.7%). | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of life expectancy in Perth and Kinross, at birth, the life expectancy for females is higher than for males, at 82.7 years and 78.9 years respectively (2019-2021). However, male life expectancy at birth has increased at a faster rate than that for females between 2001-03 and 2019-21. The life expectancy at birth in Perth and Kinross is higher than at a Scotland level for both females and males. | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|--|
| Human Health and Vacant and Derelict Land, and Empty Buildings | |
| <p>Overall, less 0.01% of the Perth and Kinross Area is derelict land which would suggest that it is not a significant issue for the area. Although the overall land area is small, a key planning consideration is the percentage of the Perth and Kinross population which are living near to derelict land:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24% of the population of Perth and Kinross are living 500m – 1,000 from derelict land. • 11.5% are living less than 500m from derelict land. • 7.6% have been living less than 500m from land which has been derelict long-term (prior to 2008). | Provisioning, Supporting, and Cultural |
| Human Health and Health Needs of the Population | |
| <p>The Perth and Kinross Integration Joint Board Strategic Commissioning Plan 2020-2025 tells us that the key challenges and messages with respect to health needs of the population of Perth and Kinross are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life expectancy is lower in the most deprived areas, primarily Perth City. • An increase in the over 85-year-old age group and with increasingly complex needs is expected. • There is a growing population of older people in North Perthshire. • 31.5% population are access deprived due to the rural nature of Perth and Kinross. • Approximately 30% of people are living with long-term conditions and this is associated with age and income deprivation. • Poor mental health affects more people in deprived areas. • Uptake of support from the Drugs and Alcohol Team is greater in Perth City than in either the North or South Perthshire Localities. • There is a growing ageing population of people with learning disabilities. • Several specific long-term conditions are more prevalent in Perth and Kinross than in Scotland as a whole. These are: Hypertension, Hypothyroidism, Coronary Heart Disease, Cancer, and Dementia. | People influence and benefit from all 4 Ecosystem Services |

Table 5.3: Soil, Water and Air Key Baseline Facts

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|---|
| Soil | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 11.6% (62,000 Ha) of the Perth and Kinross Area (excluding the area of Perth and Kinross within the Cairngorms National Park) is occupied by Prime Quality Agricultural Land (Classes 1 to 3.1). • The majority of Prime Quality Agricultural Land is located in the south and eastern areas of Perth and Kinross. • 58,983.89 Ha of Class 1 Nationally Important Soils in Perth and Kinross (2016) • 29,4373.70 Ha of Class 2 Nationally Important Soils in Perth and Kinross (2016) • 22,685.4 Ha of Class 5 Soils in Perth and Kinross (2016) | Provisioning, Regulating, and Supporting |
| <p>Prime Agricultural Land (PAL)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 62,432.10 Ha (11.81% of PKC Area) covered by Classes 2 and 3.1 • 57, 877.5 Ha (11% of PKC Area) covered by Class 3.2 land, as defined in the National Scale Land Capability for Agriculture in Scotland Map. Class 3.2 is not PAL but is capable of average production, though high yields of barley, oats and grass can be obtained. • Since the adoption of the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 2 (late November 2019) approval has been granted for planning applications covering 4.14 Ha of Class 2 land, and 537.3 Ha of Class 3.1 land. This equates to 1.5% of the overall PAL resource within Perth and Kinross, as identified in the National Scale Land Capability for Agriculture in Scotland Map. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting and Cultural |
| <p>Risks to soils have been identified in Scotland’s Soil Map. These maps only partially cover Scotland, and are available for the area around Perth, and eastern and southern areas of Perth and Kinross.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Subsoil Compaction Risk Map shows that most of these areas are between moderately vulnerable and extremely vulnerable to the risk of subsoil compaction. | Provisioning, Regulating, and Supporting |

| | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Topsoil Compaction Risk Map shows low to moderate risk of topsoil compaction for most of the area covered by the map, but there are some patches of high risk areas around Bridge of Earn, Kinfauns, the Carse of Gowrie, and between Glenalmond, Methven, Fowlis Wester and Madderty. The map also shows areas of organic topsoils where the risk of compaction has not been assessed. • The Soil Erosion Risk Map classifies the areas covered by the map using a series of categories. Much of the area along the Carse of Gowrie is categorised as L2 and L3 (low erosion risk), and the majority of the rest of the area of Perth and Kinross covered by the map is M1 to H2, and some H3 (moderate to high risk) patches. • The Soil Leaching Potential Map is a mixed picture for the area of Perth and Kinross which it covers. Much of the area has been categorised as I1 (intermediate risk), and there is a large area of L (low risk) covering the Carse of Gowrie. However, there are areas of H1 (high) and H2 (high) identified which intersperse the I1 areas. • The Soil Run-Off Risk Map shows some patches of low risk, large parts of the area of Perth and Kinross which is covered by the map as at moderate risk, and there are some areas, particularly to the North, North East, North West, West, and South West of Perth which have been categorised as at high risk for soil run-off. | |
| Water Environment (Including Flood Risk Management) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2023, approximately: 9% of surface waters in Perth and Kinross were classified as having an overall high quality water status; 46% were classified as overall good status; 28% as having overall moderate status; 13% as having overall poor status, and 4% as having an overall bad water quality status. Areas in the North, North West and West contained areas of bad surface water quality status, and areas primarily to the North, East and South contained areas of poor surface water quality status. • The whole of the Perth and Kinross Council Area is a ground water drinking protected area (SEPA 2014). | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, and Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The floodplain in Perth and Kinross remains relatively undeveloped, and the majority of watercourses affect only agricultural or hill land. • In 2018 there were 21 Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) within, overlapping or immediately adjoining the Perth and Kinross Council Area: Aberfeldy, Alyth, Auchtermuchty, Bankfoot, Blackford, Blair Atholl, Blairgowrie and Rattray, Bridge of Earn, Comrie, Coupar Angus, Cowdenbeth, Dalwhinnie, Dundee, Broughty Ferry and Invergowrie, Dunkeld and Birnam, Hillfoot villages, Kinross, Milnathort and Glenrothes, Luncarty and Stanley, Perth and Almondbank, Pitlochry, and Scone. PVAs are geographical areas that are designated for flood management under the Flood Risk Management Act (Scotland) 2009. They show parts of catchments and coastal areas where nationally significant flood risk exists now, or is likely to occur in the future. • In 2021, there were 22 Flood Risk Management Target Areas within Perth and Kinross: Blair Atholl, Spittalfield, Weem, Aberfeldy, Almondbank, Alyth, Bankfoot, Blackford, Blairgowrie and Rattray, Bridge of Earn, Comrie, Coupar Angus, Dunkeld and Birnam, Invergowrie, Kinross, Luncarty, Methven, Perth, Pitlochry, Scone, Dalguise, and Milnathort. Flood Risk Management Target Areas are geographical areas used to identify locations which are the focus of targeted risk management objectives and actions as identified in Scotland’s National Flood Risk Management Plans 2021. Target Areas are located within PVAs but are not formally designated under the Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act. • Areas, within Perth and Kinross, identified as having high potential for floodplain storage (Current SEPA 1:200 year flood outline) are: Kinross and Milnathort, Blackford and Greenloaning, Dunning, Crieff, Madderty and Balgowan, Bridge of Earn, Perth, Huntingtower, Ruthvenfield, Scone, Luncarty, Errol Station, Inchtute, Rait, Grange, Spittalfield, Dalguise, Dowally, Guay and Kindalachan, Ballinluig, Logierait, Blair Atholl, Tummel Bridge, Aberfeldy, Weem Village, Meikleour, Coupar Angus, Kettins, Meigle, Alyth, Blairgowrie and Rattray. • Wetlands are a natural water-storage feature on the landscape. There is approximately 293,100 Ha of wetlands within Perth and Kinross. | Regulating, Supporting |
| Air | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generally good air quality in most areas of Perth and Kinross i.e., it meets all of the Government’s targets except at a few traffic hotspots. • There are currently 1 Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Perth and Kinross in Perth. • In 2022, Atholl Street, Perth was identified as Scotland’s most polluted street for PM₁₀, and the third most polluted street for NO₂ • In 2019, all four Perth and Kinross monitored air quality locations fell below the annual mean targets for Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) and Particulate Matter (PM₁₀). | Regulating, Cultural |

Table 5.4 Climatic Factors Key Baseline Facts

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|--|
| Climate – GHG Emissions | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2022 the Perth and Kinross Area-wide territorial GHG emissions (kt CO₂e) was 1258.2 kt CO₂e • In 2023/2024 the Perth and Kinross Council Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions (t CO₂e) was 27,947 t CO₂e. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, and Cultural |
| Climate - Action | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2023/24, 65% of the Council’s Climate Change Key Performance Indicators showing positive change. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, and Cultural |

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|--|
| Climate – Energy and Buildings | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23 Energy and Buildings Actions were identified in the Council’s Climate Action Plan (2023/24) – in terms of progress, 82.6% were classified as Complete, Green or Amber. | Provisioning, Regulating, and Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2023, the estimated total heat demand of all non-domestic buildings in the Perth and Kinross Council Area is approximately 810 GWh/yr. 13% of all non-domestic buildings’ heat demand is under the control of the Council (103 GWh/yr). 24% of non-domestic buildings are located within a conservation area. In 2022, there was a 13.2% decarbonisation of the Public Sector Estate (across all public bodies) in Perth and Kinross, from 2021 levels. In 2023, the total all non-domestic electricity consumption within Perth and Kinross was 353.7 GWh. In 2023, the total all non-domestic mean consumption within Perth and Kinross was 42,419.1 kWh per metre. | Provisioning, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022, the total area-wide CO₂ emissions from domestic sources was 232.6 ktCO₂e. This represents a 24% reduction from 2020 levels, and a 0.4% reduction from 2022/23 levels. In 2023, 58% of domestic properties have an EPC rating of D-G, which was higher than the national average of 51%. In 2024, progress to make social housing to EPC D by 2026 and EPC B by 2032 was on track. In 2023/24, there was an increase in EPC Band B and above properties from 6.2% in 2022/23 to 7.07% of housing stock. In 2023/24, there was a decrease in EPC Bands E, F and G properties from 6.5% in 2022/23 to 3.9%. In 2023, 63% of domestic properties were serviced by the gas grid, and 36% were off-gas i.e. not serviced by the grid. This off-gas proportion is significantly higher than the national average. The remaining 1% of properties have an unknown off-gas status. In 2023, the total all domestic electricity consumption within Perth and Kinross was 299.4 GWh In 2023, the total all domestic mean electricity consumption within Perth and Kinross was 3,673.1 kWh per metre, and the mean domestic consumption was 4,226.7 kWh per household. | Provisioning, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Perth and Kinross Council Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy (LHEES) identifies potential heat network zones (HNZ) at Perth City Centre, Perth Inveralmond Industrial Estate, Perth College/UHI, Perth Academy, Auchterarder, Kinross, and Blairgowrie. | Provisioning, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022, the Renewable Energy Installed Capacity in the Perth and Kinross Council Area was: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Photovoltaics (Solar) – 33.9 MW Onshore Wind – 319.8 MW Hydro – 277.8 MW Anaerobic Digestion – 2.8 MW Landfill Gas – 3.4 MW Plant Biomass – 1.6 MW In 2023/24, the renewable energy generation across the Perth and Kinross Council Estate, including from Low Carbon Heat Sources was 238.08 MWh, compared to 2226.43 MWh in 2022/23. | Provisioning |
| Climate - Transport | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022, transport CO₂ emissions was 498.3 ktCO₂e. This represents a 9.3% reduction between 2005 and 2022. However, year on year emissions rose, which can be attributed to post-covid travel increases. In 2023, vehicle Km’s rose again year on year, with vehicles Km’s now down by only 6% against 2019 baseline levels. % of journeys to school by active transport – 49.8% (2023) % of journeys to work by sustainable mode of transport – 22% (2022) Total car Km’s (millions) – 1759.4 (2023) Public EV charging devices per 100,000 of the population – 133.9 (2024) % of Perth and Kinross Council fleet vehicles that are zero direct-carbon 4% (2024) Number of public road closures due to flooding or other climate change impacts – 45 (2022/23) | Regulating, Cultural |

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|--|
| Climate – Waste and Circular Economy | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 Waste and Circular Economy Actions were identified in the Council’s Climate Action Plan (2023/24) – 67% of these actions were classified as Green or Amber in terms of progress and 9% (2 Actions) complete (September 2024) In 2022, area-wide territorial greenhouse gas emissions from Waste was 73.7 ktCO₂e In 2023, the total household waste generated within Perth and Kinross was 71,373 tonnes, and household waste generated per person was 473 Kg. In 2023, the total household waste recycled/composted within Perth and Kinross as a % of all household waste was 51.7%. In 2023, the carbon impact of household waste per person was 0.90 tonnes CO₂e. In 2023, the Whole Life Cycle Emission from Perth and Kinross Council collected waste was 135.6 ktCO₂e. In 2024, the quantity of food waste collected in residual waste was 1.67 Kg per household per week. In 2023/24, the dry mixed recycling contamination rate was 16.05%. | Provisioning, Regulating, and Cultural |
| Climate – Business and Industry | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 Business and Industry Actions were identified in the Council’s Climate Action Plan (2023/24) – 70% of these actions were classified as Completed or Green in terms of progress, and 30% as Amber (September 2024). In 2022, total area-wide CO₂ emissions from industrial and commercial sources was 129.5 ktCO₂e. In 2023, the number of registered businesses in energy (including renewables) growth sector was 140. In 2023, the % of businesses with 250+ employees, or with the largest energy demand (+0.5 MW) with a set target for reducing carbon emissions was 17. | Provisioning, Regulating |
| Climate – Land Use | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21 Land Use Actions were identified in the Council’s Climate Action Plan (2023/24) – 76% of these actions were classified as Green or Amber in terms of progress (September 2024). In 2022, Land Use Land Use Change and Forestry (LULUCF) accounted for 53.6% (675 ktCO₂) of the total area-wide greenhouse gas emissions for Perth and Kinross, but it was also responsible for sequestering -834 ktCO₂. Agriculture accounted for 21% of the total area-wide CO₂ emissions (150.2 ktCO₂e). There was a 7.8% reduction in agriculture related emissions between 2021 and 2022. In 2023/24, 33.5% of the land within the Perth and Kinross Council Area is protected for nature. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, and Cultural |
| Climate – Resilience and Adaptation | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 33 Resilience and Adaptation Actions were identified in the Council’s Climate Action Plan (2023/24) – 85% of these actions were classified as Green or Amber in terms of progress, and 1 action (3%) classified as Red. 2 actions have been marked as Completed (September 2024). In 2023/24 Annual Scotland Adapts Capability Framework, Perth and Kinross Council received a 9/16 score, which was up 0.8 from 2022/23. In 2023, 33 community groups were engaged in proactive climate resilience work. In 2022, 85% of the Council’s flood risk management plan actions were classified as on track or completed. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, and Cultural |

Table 5.5 Material Assets Key Baseline Facts

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|---|-------------------|
| Material Assets – Transportation (including Sustainable Transport) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Cycle Network Routes 1, 7, 77, 775 pass through Perth and Kinross, connecting within and outside of the Council Area to the north, north east, south, east and west. | Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 railway stations located within Perth and Kinross (6 are in rural communities) (2018) Cycle storage spaces provided at all 7 stations: Dunkeld and Birnam 12 spaces; Blair Atholl 10 spaces; Gleneagles 10 spaces; Invergowrie 6 spaces; Pitlochry 12 spaces; Perth 31 spaces, and Rannoch 10 spaces. (2018) | Cultural |

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Car parking spaces provided at 6 out of 7 stations: Dunkeld and Birnam 30 spaces; Blair Atholl 6 spaces; Gleneagles 40 spaces; Invergowrie 0 spaces; Pitlochry 12 spaces; Perth 160 spaces, and Rannoch 30 spaces. (2018) Taxi ranks at all 7 stations (2018) Bus services connect to all stations except for Dunkeld and Birnam (2018) Cycle hire facilities available at 3 out of 7 of the stations (Dunkeld and Birnam, Blair Atholl, and Pitlochry) (2018) Step free access at 3 out of 7 of the stations (Blair Atholl, Invergowrie, Pitlochry and Rannoch all have stepped access to the station) (2018) | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 60 local bus services, including 2 Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) schemes (April 2023) 3 Park and Ride sites (Broxden, Kinross and Scone) 1 bus station Leonard Street, Perth 1.88 million miles of subsidised local public transport 23 Community Transport Schemes are in place across Perth and Kinross | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Estimated total network of EV chargers within the Council Area includes 49 rapid units, 117 fast chargers, and 901 home chargers. In 2024, there was an estimated 133.9 public EV charging devices per 100,000 population. | Cultural |
| Material Assets – Open Space, Play, Recreation and Sport | |
| <p>Within the Perth and Kinross Council Area there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over 145 Council maintained play areas. 11 Leisure or Sports Centres – 6 of which are Community Campus sites, and 5 of which have a swimming pool. 168 Outdoor Sports Pitches 9 Athletics Tracks located within educational facilities in Perth, Blairgowrie, Aberfeldy, Kinross, Pitlochry, and Crieff. Tennis Courts 118 outdoor and 7 indoor courts 44 Bowling Greens 12 Major Parks located within Crieff, Perth, Kinross, Coupar Angus, Aberfeldy, Blairgowrie/Rattray, Scone, Auchterarder, Pitlochry, and Alyth. 4 Countryside sites at Birks of Aberfeldy, Kinnoull Hill Woodland Park (Perth), St. Magdelene’s Hill and Buckie Braes (Perth), and Den O’Alyth. 10 Skate Parks. 30+ gold course and practice range facilities. 13 Community Sports Hubs 2,043 Km of Perth and Kinross Core Path Network There is an extensive network of signposted paths covering Perth and Kinross – approximately 2,319 sections of signposted paths measuring approximately 1,542 Km in total. The Cateran Trail is a 103 Km circular long distance walking route maintained by the Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust. It is typically walked in 5 stages starting at Blairgowrie and taking a clockwise direction towards Kirkmichael, Spittal of Glenshee, Kirkton of Glenisla, then Alyth. A variety of locations throughout the area are used for a number of water-based recreational activities, including for wild swimming, kayaking/canoeing, stand up paddleboarding, canyoning, fishing, and boating/sailing. A number of sites used for ‘informal play and recreation’ identified through community engagement which will be reviewed as part of the Open Space Audit. 1,360 Ha of open space in or adjacent to settlements – 704 Ha of which is considered public maintained open space. This amounts of 95m² per dwelling, and over 4.5 Ha per 1000 people. In 2024, there were 14 active allotments across Perth and Kinross, covering 7.5 Ha of land, and providing 349 plots of various sizes (excluding 2 sites with no data available). | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |
| Material Assets – Waste Management | |
| <p>The breakdown of waste management assets within the Perth and Kinross Council Area in 2023 was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 44 Waste Sites with an annual capacity of 1,617,361 tonnes and 465,946 tonnes accepted. 10 registered Transfer Stations with an annual capacity of 356,900 tonnes, and 95,450 tonnes accepted. | Provisioning, Cultural |

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9 Civic Amenity Sites used for recycling and the disposal of bulky waste and general household waste, which accepted 74,684 tonnes in 2023. The Civic Amenity Sites are located at Aberfeldy, Auchterarder, Bankfoot, Blairgowrie, Crieff, Friarton (Perth), Inveralmond (Perth), Kinross, and Pitlochry. There are 137 Recycling Points across the Perth and Kinross Council Area. Food and garden waste is taken to Earnside Energy, Glenfarg for industrial composting. 7 registered Landfill Sites, all of which have ceased landfilling. The most recent landfilling operations were in 2019, and there are no proposals to resume landfill operations. In 2023, the % of waste generated within the Perth and Kinross Council Area which was - recycled was 51.7%; landfilled was 27.2%, and Other (represents waste diverted from landfill, not reused, recycled or landfilled, and includes household waste treated by incineration, mechanical, biological and heat treatment) was 21.2%. | |
| Material Assets – Minerals | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 5 active mineral sites and a number of dormant sites (sand and gravel, and crushed rock). There are significant Barite reserves at Duntanlich. Perth and Kinross forms part of the Tay Area in the 2019 Aggregate Mineral Survey for Scotland. The results of the survey show that the Tay Area has reserves of sand and gravel and crushed rock, with respectively, a 9 year and a 24 year reserve of maximum supply from active sites at 2019 sales levels. | Provisioning, Cultural |
| Material Assets - Geology and Geodiversity | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 47 Geological Conservation Review Sites within the Perth and Kinross Council Area, but 35 in the LDP3 Area. Most of these sites are covered by a SSSI designation, but 20% are not. 51 Proposed Local Geodiversity Sites, plus a further 2 potential sites. 112 SSSIs within or intersecting with the Perth and Kinross Council Area - 13 of which are designated for Geological reasons (covering a total area of 616.68 Ha) and 7 for Mixed Geological and Biological reasons (covering a total area of 19,197.29 Ha). It is worth noting that 1 of the Geological SSSIs (Glen Garry) is located on the Cairngorms National Park – Perth and Kinross Council border. The Caenlochan and Beinn O’Ghlo Mixed SSSI sites also straddle both the National Park and Council borders. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |
| Material Assets – Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings | |
| <p>The 2023 Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Survey key statistics for the Perth and Kinross Council Area are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was 24 Ha of derelict land across 44 sites. There was 26 Ha of urban vacant land across 14 sites. The total derelict land area increased by 12% from 21 Ha in 2017 to 24 Ha in 2023. The total urban vacant land area reduced by 31% from 38 Ha in 2017 to 26 Ha in 2023. The total derelict and urban vacant land area reduced by 15.4. 5% from 59 Ha in 2017 to 50 Ha in 2023. 43% of the derelict land in Perth and Kinross (15 sites) is located within settlements whilst 57% (29 sites) is in the countryside. <p>Overall, less 0.01% of the Perth and Kinross Area is derelict land which would suggest that it is not a significant issue for the area. Although the overall land area is small, a key planning consideration is the percentage of the Perth and Kinross population which are living near to derelict land:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 24% of the population of Perth and Kinross are living 500m – 1,000 from derelict land. 11.5% are living less than 500m from derelict land. 7.6% have been living less than 500m from land which has been derelict long-term (prior to 2008). | Provisioning, Supporting, Cultural |

Table 5.6 Cultural Heritage Key Baseline Facts

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|---|-------------------|
| Cultural Heritage | |
| <p>In August 2024, there were 3,782 designated sites and places in the Perth and Kinross Council Area. These can be broken down as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 683 Designated Scheduled Monuments (2025) 36 Conservation Areas, with guidance available for 22 out of 36. | Cultural |

| | |
|---|----------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3121 Listed Buildings – 168 Category A; 1443 Category B, and 1510 Category C. • 105 of the Listed Buildings are included on the Buildings at Risk Register for Scotland (2025) – 95 are categorised as ‘At Risk’, and 10 as ‘Restoration in Progress’. • 41 designated Gardens and Designed Landscapes (2025) • 4 Inventory of Battlefields sites within Perth and Kinross: Battle of Duplin Moor, Battle of Dunkeld, Battle of Killiecrankie, and Battle of Tippermuir. • There are approximately 15,472 undesignated archaeological sites/remains contained on the Historic Environment Record. | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Perth and Kinross Area possesses a wealth of examples of distinctive local vernacular architecture(s). | Cultural |

Table 5.7 Landscape Key Baseline Facts

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|--|
| Landscape | |
| <p>There are 10 main Landscape Character Types present within the Perth and Kinross Council Area, as identified within the National Landscape Character Assessment. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summits and Plateaux – Tayside (22.5%) • Summits and Plateaux – Cairngorms (10.7%) • Traditional Moorland and Forest (8.9%) • Lowland Hills – Tayside (8.8%) • Lowland Hill Ranges (8.6%) • Mid Upland Glens (7.1%) • Lower Upland Glens (6.3%) • Mid Upland Glens with Lochs (4.7%) • Lowland Basins (3.3%) • Upland Glen – Cairngorms (3.0%) | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The landscape within Perth and Kinross is divided into two main units: Highland Perthshire and Lowland Perthshire and Kinross. This division is inline with the Highland Boundary Fault and reflects the geology, topography, vegetation, and land use of those areas. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 4 National Scenic Areas (NSA) within Perth and Kinross (Loch Rannoch and Glen Lyon, Loch Tummel, River Tay, and River Earn). The Ben Nevis and Glen Coe NSA is also partially within the Perth and Kinross Council Area. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A large proportion of Perth and Kinross (19%) is within the top fifth of overall relative wilderness values. Comparatively just 5% of Scotland falls within this quintile. • There are 5 designated Wildland Areas – Breadalbane/Schiehallion, Lyon/Lochtay, Ben Lawers/Rannoch/Nevis/Mamores/Alder, and Cairngorms. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 11 Local Landscape Areas (LLAs) spread across Perth and Kinross. They consist of a range of highland and lowland areas covering 144,400 Ha or around 27% of the Area. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Historic Environment Scotland’s Historic Land Use Assessment (HLA) Project identified some 55 individual historic land-use types. Most of the Perth and Kinross Area (which is covered by the maps) has been identified as rough grazing and rectilinear fields. The second largest areas consist of coniferous and woodland plantation, and managed woodland (nearly 100,000 Ha). The historic character of the environment is important to quality of life and sense of identity, and it is a vital contributor to the economy through the attraction of visitors. • A breakdown of the main historic land use classification categories covering those areas of Perth and Kinross which were assessed as part of HLA are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Woodland and Forestry 80,660 Ha ○ Agriculture and Settlement 76,090 Ha ○ Moorland and Rough Land Grazing 50,370 Ha ○ Waterbody 8,700 Ha ○ Designated Landscapes 5,940 Ha ○ Built Up Area 4,550 Ha ○ Leisure and Recreation 3,390 Ha ○ Defence 1,910 Ha ○ Energy Extraction and Waste 1,280 Ha | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |

| Key Baseline Facts | Ecosystem Service |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rural Settlement 430 Ha ○ Transport 320 Ha ○ Spiritual and Ritual 40 Ha | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nature Scot’s Habitat Map of Scotland (HabMoS) provides the following information regarding the breakdown of land cover types across the Perth and Kinross Area: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Marine Habitats - 384 Ha ○ Coastal Habitats - 0 Ha ○ Inland Surface Waters - 11,384 Ha ○ Mires, Bogs, and Fens - 37,155 Ha ○ Grasslands and Lands Dominated by Forbs, Mosses, or Lichens - 48,131 Ha ○ Heathland, Scrub and Tundra - 44,357 Ha ○ Woodland, Forest, and Other Woodland Land - 119,059 Ha ○ Inland Unvegetated, or Sparsely Vegetated Habitats – 3,062 Ha ○ Regularly, or Recently Cultivated Agricultural, Horticultural, and Domestic Habitats – 116,233 Ha ○ Constructed, Industrial, and Other Artificial Habitats – 267 Ha ○ Historic Land Use Assessment – 1614 Ha | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |
| <p>The Council’s 2007 State of the Environment Report identified the following list as driving forces or pressures leading to change in the landscape of Perth and Kinross. These forces or pressures are still relevant to the landscapes of the area, currently, although there are development pressures from other types of renewable and low carbon energy generating technologies, not just wind farms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Agricultural Change – forestry as an alternative to upland farming, and the extensification of lowland farms leading to the erection of large agricultural buildings and loss of trees and hedgerows. ● Forestry and Woodlands – pressure for the development of new woodland areas for commercial activity has the potential to enhance or detract from the landscape; the required development/improvement of roads can also detract from an area’s sense of wildness, and semi-natural and ancient woodlands are threatened, or potentially threatened by grazing pressure, grey squirrel encroachment and general lack of management. ● Development Pressures (Urban Expansion) – demand for greenfield sites on the periphery of settlements, adjacent to strategic roads, potential development of new villages and demands for isolated developments in the countryside. ● Development Pressures (Building in the Countryside) – demand for houses, agricultural buildings and tourist accommodation. Restoration of traditional buildings generally has significant environmental benefits, however, in some cases there are associated changes in character e.g. changes in windows, white wash treatments, and the creation of driveways. ● Development Pressures (Wind Farms) – there is growing pressure from wind farm development within Perth and Kinross and there is potential for severe landscape impacts, particularly when built in otherwise undeveloped areas. Impacts include visual intrusion and effect on landscape character, noise and secondary effects from links to national grid or provision of road access. ● Development Pressures (Tourism) – economic benefits or tourism have supported many positive works in the landscape e.g. building restoration and upkeep of designed landscapes. However, negative impacts include the appearance of caravans and chalet parks, major tourism developments at ‘honey pot’ towns, need to control private signs to prevent signage clutter and the implications of growing volumes of visitor traffic-both direct (noise, movement etc.) and indirect (demand for car parks, road improvements etc.). ● Development Pressures (Road Developments) – strategic improvements to the major roads that run through the area (A9, M90, A90) have changed the landscape through the scale of construction works and the volume of traffic generated. Changes to minor roads are less noticeable, but the compounded effect can become significant due to removal of characteristic features such as hedgerows, walls, trees and old signs. Improvements to rural roads may be required in future to facilitate forestry haulage. ● Climate Change – it is not possible to draw firm conclusions about the scale and nature of changes which may occur in relation to the landscape of Perth and Kinross, but possible scenarios include rising sea levels creating pressure along the Tay Estuary, changing temperature and rainfall patterns with implications for upland vegetation, woodland etc., increase incidence of drought with implications for agriculture and soil stability. Changes in land use and land management to increase carbon sequestration may also affect the landscape e.g. forestry and changes to agricultural practice. | Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, Cultural |

Identified Data Gaps, Uncertainties or Problems

- 5.11** The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act and the SEA Directive both require the recording of any difficulties encountered in compiling the information necessary for the assessment. This is particularly important as it is essential to describe those measures that will be used to monitor the implementation of Local Development Plan 3.
- 5.12** The following table highlights the specific areas where data gaps, uncertainties or problems were identified, grouped under the SEA Topics.

Table 5.8: Identified Data Gaps, Uncertainties or Problems

| SEA Topic | Identified Gaps, Uncertainties or Problems | Reason |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % improvement or maintenance in condition of habitats and species, and of geological features on designated sites (where known) • Number and area of identified Nature Networks • % of LDP site proposals with site specific criteria to help deliver multiple benefits for nature and people, and % which have been implemented | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to date condition surveys not available. • Nature Networks to be identified as part of the development of LDP3 Proposed Plan – currently not available. • LDP2 information available, but not for LDP3 site proposals as they have not yet been identified. |
| Air | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proportion of LDP3 sites identified within existing settlements | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will be available at Proposed Plan stage. |
| Material Assets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of designated and proposed HNZ's within the Perth and Kinross Council Area • % of LDP3 site proposals within a designated or proposed HNZ • % of new development connected to or with potential to connect to a HNZ | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HNZ are being identified and designated under a separate statutory process informed by the Council's LHEES. Some of the proposed zones have been highlighted, but there are no designated HNZ's currently. LDP3 and its SEA will incorporate any proposed or designated HNZ's known at the time of undertaking the SEA and preparing the Proposed Plan. The SEA Site Assessment Template includes questions/ criteria to ensure these zones are considered in the assessment of site proposals. |

Scoping Questions 2 and 3:

2. Do you agree with the baseline data collected is appropriate to LDP3?
3. Are you aware of any additional baseline evidence that would help inform the assessment process?

6 SCOPE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Proposed Scope and Level of Detail for the Assessment

6.1 The environmental topics which will be included in the environmental assessment for LDP3, and the reasons for their inclusion are set out in Table 6.1 below. The identification of topics is based on those specified under the 2005 Act, the issues identified in the baseline study carried out for the Scoping exercise, and the range of issues that the Plan is likely to cover.

Table 6.1: Scope of the Environmental Assessment

| SEA Topic | Reason for Scoping In |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna | <p>The Plan has the potential to cause significant environmental effects of both a positive and negative nature with respect to these SEA topics.</p> <p>The application of NPF4 overarching policies in relation to Tackling the Climate and Nature Crises, Climate Adaptation and Mitigation, and Biodiversity should help to establish climate change and nature recovery as primary guiding principles for LDP3’s Spatial Strategy and all decisions. This emphasis on protecting and enhancing biodiversity, and identification of nature-based solutions, is expected to lead to significant long term cumulative positive effects on biodiversity, flora and fauna.</p> <p>However, increased demand for residential and commercial development, and tourism and leisure activities, also has the potential to impact negatively on biodiversity, including habitat networks and wildlife corridors, as well as designated sites and protected species through destruction, loss and/or disturbance.</p> |
| Population | <p>Potential generation of significant positive and negative effects on communities through development proposals.</p> <p>The Perth and Kinross Area has an ageing population, which results in a need to take account of the scope for the provision of housing, services and facilities to meet the needs of the population, applying a local living and 20 minute neighbourhood approach where possible.</p> <p>Projected population growth above projected Scottish levels, with associated needs for housing, infrastructure, facilities and services.</p> <p>Large percentage of the population live in rural locations with associated issues linked to accessing goods, facilities and services.</p> <p>Several areas within Perth and Kinross have seen a decline in population.</p> <p>Supporting a Just Transition which responds to the profile and needs of the people of Perth and Kinross.</p> |
| Human Health | <p>Potential negative effects on the population’s health associated with road traffic, flood risk, lack of housing choice to meet specific needs, and fuel poverty.</p> <p>Potential positive effects overall anticipated through a focus on place, and also as a result of good quality cohesive design leading to: a reduced need to travel; the creation of quality local green and open spaces; improved blue and green infrastructure and active travel routes; improved access to education, the outdoors, facilities and services; the reuse and/or redevelopment of vacant and derelict land and empty buildings; good quality design; nature-based solutions; identification and implementation of climate adaptation and mitigation actions, and the provision of good quality housing in sustainable locations.</p> |
| Soil | <p>Possible significant cumulative negative effects dependent on the Plan’s Spatial Strategy and the implementation of proposals, such as the loss of prime quality agricultural land, or nationally important soils, including peat and carbon rich soils. Also, potential risks associated with construction and agricultural activities, such as compaction, erosion, run off, contamination, and soil sealing. There is also the potential for impacts on soil health and functionality, and the loss of biodiversity.</p> <p>There is also the potential for significant positive effects on the Plan Area’s soils to be realised through removing contamination, improving soil stability and drainage, restoring peatland, protecting carbon stored in soils, improving and enhancing biodiversity and habitats, and reusing and redeveloping vacant and derelict land.</p> |
| Water | <p>Potential for both significant positive and negative effects on water quality and supplies, drainage, flooding and morphology, depending on the Plan’s Spatial Strategy and the implementation of proposals. Potential for eutrophication of lochs and a deterioration in the condition of some lochs. However, with the overall focus in NPF4 policies on climate change and climate change adaptation and the identification of nature-based solutions, this should lead to cumulative positive effects.</p> <p>There are large parts of rural areas within Perth and Kinross without access to public water supply – potential pollution issues from increased use of private drainage solutions. In reviewing the appropriateness of LDP2’s Spatial Strategy, LDP3 will need to weigh up the need to support development in rural areas, in line with the 2019 Planning Act and NPF4, in order to maintain the vitality of these areas against the potential adverse environmental impact of a possible proliferation of private septic tanks.</p> <p>Secondary positive benefits are also expected for Biodiversity, Population and Human Health, Soils, and Climatic Factors topics.</p> |

| SEA Topic | Reason for Scoping In |
|--------------------------|--|
| Air | <p>Potential for significant positive cumulative effects on air quality through a reduction in emissions overall as a result of the policy intentions and expected outcomes of a number of NPF4 policies being realised. However, parts of the Perth and Kinross Area have a high dependency on private cars due to their rural nature.</p> <p>Air pollution also impacts on biodiversity and human health. Poor air quality can result in greater impacts on the more vulnerable within our communities, which in turn can lead to health inequalities and increasing demands on health service provision. There is therefore the potential to realise cumulative secondary benefits for Biodiversity, Population and Human Health SEA topics, particularly in those areas of Perth and Kinross which are Air Quality Management Areas.</p> <p>Construction activities associated with proposals in LDP3 and arising from planning approvals could result in negative impacts in terms of noise and air quality. Such effects would be local and temporary in nature during the construction phases of specific projects.</p> <p>Potential cross boundary effects.</p> |
| Climatic Factors | <p>Potential for collective significant positive impacts in terms of tackling the climate crisis through the delivery of NPF4's policies, LDP3's Spatial Strategy and relevant actions identified the Council's Climate Action Plan. Positive benefits are likely to be realised as a result of overall reduced greenhouse gas emissions, and the identification and delivery of climate adaptation and mitigation measures, and the promotion and creation of sustainable communities.</p> <p>Parts of the Plan Area are vulnerable to the effects of a changing climate, such as increased risk of flooding and subsequent damage and destruction as a result. The Spatial Strategy must take into account those vulnerable areas and avoid an exacerbation of existing issues experienced or increasing vulnerability. It should also seek to protect and enhance existing natural assets to help support climate adaptation and the halting of biodiversity loss.</p> <p>Potential for positive and negative impacts across the Plan Area from increase development of low carbon and renewable technologies.</p> <p>Potential for cross boundary effects.</p> <p>Opportunities to maximise resource use, including reuse and redevelopment of vacant and derelict land and empty buildings; reuse of building materials through redevelopment, and good design to maximise energy efficiency.</p> |
| Material Assets | <p>The Plan will tackle issues surrounding infrastructure, waste, protecting and enhancing existing natural and built environment assets, and vacant and derelict land and empty buildings, and as such the SEA has a role to play in maximising positive effects.</p> <p>Potential for infrastructure delivery constraints under current financial climate.</p> <p>Potential threats to areas of open space and green infrastructure as a result of development.</p> |
| Cultural Heritage | <p>The LDP has the potential to generate both significant negative and potential positive effects on the protection and enhancement of historic environment assets and the enjoyment of these places and assets, depending on the scale, type, design and location of development identified.</p> <p>Potential negative impacts may result from increased pressure for inappropriate development on sites of historical importance, and also on listed buildings, in conservation areas etc.</p> |
| Landscape | <p>Potential for significant changes to the landscape as a result of the implementation of a range of elements of NPF4's policies and LDP3's Spatial Strategy. However, there may also be opportunities for mitigation and enhancement.</p> <p>Opportunities for landscape scale restoration with associated positive impacts not only for landscape, but also relating to the Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna, Population and Human Health, Soils, Air and Climatic Factors SEA topics.</p> <p>Increased pressure for development (including housing in the countryside) resulting in the incremental loss of landscape, both in terms of designated sites and wider landscapes. Resultant effects on health and quality of life.</p> <p>Significant local landscapes and their characteristics which are of importance to the cultural identity of the Plan Area and the people who live within it.</p> <p>A need to balance the desire to address population decline in rural areas and grow the tourism sector, whilst also safeguarding the special characteristics of landscapes which attract visitors to Perth and Kinross.</p> |

Scoping Questions 4 and 5:

- 4. Does your organisation agree that all the significant environmental issues relevant to LDP3 have been included? If not, can you suggest further issues you believe should be included?
- 5. Do you agree with the proposed scope for the SEA of our LDP3?

7 PROPOSED SEA OBJECTIVES AND INDICATORS

Identifying Objectives and Indicators

- 7.1** The SEA Directive does not require the identification of specific SEA objectives, but their development is recognised as an effective way in which the environmental effects of the relevant Plan, Programme or Strategy (PPS) can be described, analysed and compared. Identifying SEA objectives is also a useful way of focusing the collation exercise for the baseline data and assists with the establishment of realistic indicators which can be monitored, in order to help identify any effects as a result of implementing the PPS.

- 7.2** Although a comprehensive set of objectives and relevant indicators were developed as part of the SEA for previous iterations of the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan, due to the changes in the policy framework for the Development Plan introduced under the 2019 Planning Act and NPF4, it is considered beneficial to review and refresh for LDP3’s SEA process.

- 7.3** Table 7.1 on the following page contains the Proposed SEA Objectives and Indicators for LDP3. Where availability of data sources is unknown or uncertain they have been highlighted in red in the ‘Relevant Indicators’ column. The objectives and indicators may be repeated under different SEA Topics due to the overlapping nature of issues. They may also subject to change following consultation with the Consulation Authorities on this Scoping Report.

Table 7.1: Proposed SEA Objectives and Indicators for Local Development Plan 3

| Ref. | SEA Headline and Sub-Objectives | SEA Assessment Questions | Relevant Indicators |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna | | | |
| SEA 1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">To conserve and enhance the integrity of ecosystems. | Will Local Development Plan 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Be likely to have a significant effect on international, or nationally important nature conservation sites?Be likely to have an effect on natural processes or natural resource provision (clean water, air, fuel sources, etc.)?Ensure that biodiversity, including that outwith designated sites, is not compromised and is enhanced where possible?Be likely to have a significant effect on geodiversity features of national importance or local importance, including those outwith designated sites? Will it enhance these features where possible? | <ul style="list-style-type: none">% of area of land designated for the protection of habitats and species in favourable condition% of Biological and Mixed SSSI features in favourable condition% of Geological SSSI features in favourable condition% of Perth and Kinross covered by Local Geological Nature Conservation Sites (desginated and proposed)% improvement or maintenance in condiiton of habitats and species, and of geological features on designated sites (where known)% of all 1Km grid squares in Perth and Kinross had recordings of protected species (protected by European and UK legislation)Abundance of terrestrial breeding birds% area of woodland cover in Perth and Kinross and diversity breakdownArea (Ha) of Ancient Woodland Inventory sites lost to development% and Ha change in woodland cover since baseline year (2018)Area (ha) of new planting of native coniferous woodlandArea (ha) of new planting of broadleaved woodland% SSSIs with a woodland interest in favourable condition% of priority Biodiversity Action Plan habitat coverage in Perth and Kinross% of habitats and species under positive management in Local Biodiversity Action Plan% of surface waterbodies classified as having an overall high and good statusNumber and area of identified Nature Networks% of LDP site proposals with site specific criteria to help deliver multiple benefits for nature and people, and % which have been implemented |
| SEA 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">To prevent damage to important biological and geological sites and protected species. | | |
| SEA 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">To enhance, maintain and prevent damage to biodiversity and geodiversity interests. | | |
| SEA 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">To ensure ecosystems are maintained and enhanced through sustainable management of geodiversity and biodiversity and their natural processes. | Will Local Development Plan 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Be likely to affect natural processes, such as water regulation, climate regulation, crop pollination, etc.?Secure sustainable management practices through its implementation? | |
| SEA 5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">To enhance biodiversity and geodiversity in the wider environment. | | |
| SEA 6 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">To ensure healthy ecosystems – biodiversity and geodiversity are seen as an essential part of supporting human health and wellbeing. | Will Local Development Plan 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Be likely to have an effect on people’s access and experience of biodiversity and geodiversity? | |
| SEA 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">To ensure natural resources are used efficiently and sustainably, delivering multiple benefits and working in partnership with nature. | Will Local Development Plan 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Maximise biodiversity and geodiversity benefits while realising socio-economic potential?Focus on socio-economic benefits at the expense of biodiversity and geodiversity? | |
| Population and Human Health | | | |
| SEA 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">To protect and improve human health and wellbeing through improved environmental quality.<ul style="list-style-type: none">To reduce the risks to human health arising from poor quality air. | Will Local Development Plan 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Affect any aspect of the environment which contributes to human health and wellbeing e.g. air, water, or soil quality, greenhouse gas emissions, or the risk of flooding?Affect an individual’s ability to improve their own health and wellbeing e.g. through allocation of land for development? | <p>The majority of indicators relevant to the Population and Human Health topics are covered under other SEA topics, namely Soil, Water, Air, Climatic Factors and Material Assets. Therefore, they have not been repeated here but highlighted in blue under the relevant topics.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">% resident population that travel to work/school by a) private motor vehicle, by public transport, or c) on foot or cycle% of residents surveyed finding it easy to access key local services% of households within 200m of an open space |

| Ref. | SEA Headline and Sub-Objectives | SEA Assessment Questions | Relevant Indicators |
|--------------|---|--|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To reduce the risks to human health arising from poor soil quality. – To reduce the risks to human health arising from poor water quality. – To reduce the risks to human health arising from flooding. – To reduce the risks to human health arising from the effects of climate change. | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of residents surveyed who are satisfied with their neighbourhoods • % of data zones ranked in the most deprived areas • % of journeys to school by active transport • % of journeys to work by sustainable mode of transport • % resident population that travel to work/school by a) private motor vehicle, b) public transport, or c) on foot or cycle • % population are access deprived due to the rural nature of Perth and Kinross. • % of shrinking datazones within the Perth and Kinross Area • % performance of Perth and Kinross Area Council against ScotPHO Health and Wellbeing Indicators • % of datazones within Perth and Kinross ranked most deprived (SIMD) • % of households in the Perth and Kinross Council Area in Fuel Poverty • Life expectancy of the population of Perth and Kinross compared to the national average • Number of community groups who were engaged in proactive climate resilience work. |
| Soil | | | |
| SEA 9 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain or improve soil quality and quantity and prevent any further degradation of soils <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To minimise disturbance to carbon rich soils, in particular peat. – To conserve, or reduce loss of, organic matter. – To reduce soil sealing and soil loss. – To reduce levels of soil contamination. – To reduce soil erosion and landslides. – To reduce soil structural degradation and compaction of soils. | <p>Will Local Development Plan 3 contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserving, or reducing loss of, soil organic matter? • Promote the sustainable use and management of carbon rich soils, especially peat-rich soils, to avoid disturbance of these soils? • Reducing levels of soil contamination? • Increase viability of ecosystems which filter pollutants, contributing to a better quality living environment? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of the population of Perth and Kinross who are living 500m – 1,000 from derelict land. • % of the population of the Perth and Kinross Council Area living less than 500m from derelict land • % of the population of the Perth and Kinross Council Area living less than 500m from land which has been derelict long-term (prior to 2008) • No. of planning applications approved for development of prime agricultural land • % change in the areas of land covered by carbon rich, deep peat and priority peatland habitats • Area of peatland sites restored (Ha) • % of the Perth and Kinross Council Area identified as having ‘At Risk’ soils based on Scotland’s Soil Map (Risk from Compaction, Erosion, Leaching and Run-Off) • % area of “potentially” contaminated land |
| Water | | | |
| SEA 10 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect and enhance the state of the water environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To reduce levels of water pollution. | <p>Will Local Development Plan 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to reducing levels of pollution? • Support initiatives which contribute to improving bathing and drinking water quality? • Increase the number of people or properties at risk of flooding? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of waterbodies classified as having overall high, good, and bad quality status • Number of waterbodies within the Perth and Kinross Council Area classified as “heavily modified” per annum • % of groundwater area failing to meet quality standards |

| Ref. | SEA Headline and Sub-Objectives | SEA Assessment Questions | Relevant Indicators |
|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To ensure sustainable use of water resources. – To improve the physical state of the water environment. – To reduce the risk of flooding. – To reduce the impact of invasive and non-native species on the water environment. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to reducing GHG emissions? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of reported incidents of water pollution within the Perth and Kinross Council Area (per month) • % area of land in Perth and Kinross within the 1:200 year flood area • Number of properties within the Perth and Kinross Council Area at risk from flooding • Number per annum of new developments identified within a floodplain • Number of Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) and Target Areas identified within those PVAs • % of the Perth and Kinross Council Area identified as having high potential for floodplain storage • Number and type of flooding incidents per annum within the Perth and Kinross Council Area • Area (Ha) of Wetlands within the Perth and Kinross Area • Number of public road closures due to flooding or other climate change impacts • % of the Council's Flood Risk Management Plan Actions classified as on track or completed • Area/length Km of water features affected by Invasive and Non-Native Species |
| Air | | | |
| SEA 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To maintain or improve air quality and reduce emissions of key pollutants. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To improve air quality. – To reduce levels of pollution. – To reduce levels of nuisance (e.g. odour, dust). – Direct development to sustainable locations which help to reduce journey lengths and the need to travel. | <p>Will Local Development Plan 3 contribute to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing emisisions of key pollutants to air, including those which contribte to GHG emissions? • Minimising of impacts from regulated industry such as dust, noise, virbration and odours? • Reducing levels of nuisance? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mean annual levels of key air pollutants • No. of days air quality exceed legislative limits in Perth AQMA • Number of complaints made regarding nuisance (by type per week/month/year). • Proportion of LDP3 sites identified within existing settlements |
| Climatic Factors | | | |
| SEA 12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce exisitng and avoid new greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To reduce existing and avoid new GHG emissions from energy generation and supply. – To reduce existing and avoid new GHG emissions from transport. | <p>Does Local Development Plan 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support development of renewable energy technologies? • Seek to locate development to limit transport requirements? • Promote low carbon transport? • Support home working, broadband roll-out etc.? • Contribute to waste minimisation? • Promote the efficient use of resources? | <p>Climate Action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of the Council's Climate Change Key Performance Indicators showing positive change. <p>GHG Emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perth and Kinross Area-wide territorial GHG emissions (kt CO₂e) • Perth and Kinross Council Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions (t CO₂e) • % increase/decrease in overall GHG emissions since baseline (1990) • % increase/decrease in GHG emission by Sector <p>Energy and Buildings:</p> |

| Ref. | SEA Headline and Sub-Objectives | SEA Assessment Questions | Relevant Indicators |
|------|--|---|---|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – To reduce existing and avoid new GHG emissions from resource use and waste management. – To reduce existing and avoid new GHG emissions from land use and land use change, including agriculture and forestry. – To reduce existing and avoid new GHG emissions from buildings and services (residential and non-residential). – To reduce existing and avoid new GHG emissions from carbon rich soils. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support low carbon technologies? • Promote restoration opportunities for peatlands? • Promote restoration opportunities for woodlands? • Support energy efficiency in the wider housing market? • Support energy efficiency in built development? • Promote avoidance of disturbance of carbon rich soils? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress against the 23 Energy and Buildings Actions identified in the Council's Climate Action Plan • Estimated total heat demand of all non-domestic buildings in the Perth and Kinross Council Area GWh/yr. • The total area-wide CO₂ emissions from domestic sources ktCO₂e • % of domestic properties with an EPC rating of D-G, and compared to the national average • Progress to make social housing to EPC D by 2026 and EPC B by 2032 • % increase in EPC Band B and above properties within the Perth and Kinross Area • % decrease in EPC Bands E, F and G properties within the Perth and Kinross Area • % of domestic properties serviced by the gas grid, and % off-gas • Total number of all domestic electricity consumption within Perth and Kinross GWh • Total all domestic mean electricity consumption within Perth and Kinross kWh per metre, and the mean domestic consumption kWh per household • Total energy generated by renewables (MWh) within the Perth and Kinross Area <p>Transport (including Sustainable Travel):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % change in number / length of journeys made by public transport / walking / cycling. • % increase/reduction in Transport related CO₂ emissions • Total car Km's (millions) • Number of public EV charging devices per 100,000 of the population • Number of public road closures due to flooding or other climate change impacts <p>Waste and Circular Economy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress against the Councils Climate Action Plan Waste and Circular Economy Actions • Area wide territorial GHG emissions from waste for the Perth and Kinross Council Area (ktCO₂e) • Total household waste generated within Perth and Kinross (tonnes), and household waste generated per person (Kg). • Total household waste recycled/composted within Perth and Kinross as a % of all household waste • Carbon impact of household waste per person (tCO₂e) • Whole Life Cycle Emission from Perth and Kinross Council collected waste (ktCO₂e) • Quantity of food waste collected in residual waste (Kg per household per week) • % dry mixed recycling contamination rate <p>Soils:</p> |

| Ref. | SEA Headline and Sub-Objectives | SEA Assessment Questions | Relevant Indicators |
|------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. of planning applications approved for development of prime agricultural land % change in the areas of land covered by carbon rich, deep peat and priority peatland habitats Area of peatland sites restored (Ha) % of the Perth and Kinross Council Area identified as having 'At Risk' soils based on Scotland's Soil Map (Risk from Compaction, Erosion, Leaching and Run-Off) <p>Climate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual precipitation rates |
| Material Assets | | | |
| SEA 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote the sustainable use and management of material assets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote sustainable use and management of existing infrastructure e.g. water, heat, energy or flood protection infrastructure. To promote alignment of future infrastructure/resource provision (e.g. water, wastewater management, heat infrastructure) with planning activities (e.g. land allocations for development). To meet the objectives of the Zero Waste Plan. To meet the objectives of Scotland's Energy Strategy and associated Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Programme. To meet heat demand through maximising the efficiency of heat networks and the energy efficiency of developments. | <p>Will Local Development Plan 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote waste minimisation at construction, operation and decommissioning phases? Ensure that heat infrastructure provisions will accommodate the requirements associated with the proposed development? Ensure that wastewater management capacity will be increased to accommodate the requirements associated with proposed development? | <p>Waste Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of waste generated and disposed of annually (by disposal route e.g. % recycled, composted or landfilled). <p>Minerals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minerals (Sand and Gravel, and Crushed Rock) (year(s)) <p>Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> % change in number and area of vacant and derelict sites % increase/decrease of the population of the Perth and Kinross Council Area living within 500-1000m from derelict land <p>Heat Network Zones (HNZ's):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of designated and proposed HNZ's within the Perth and Kinross Council Area % of LDP3 site proposals within a designated or proposed HNZ % of new development connected to or with potential to connect to a HNZ |
| SEA 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space. | <p>Will Local Development Plan 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote improvements to the quality and quantity of publicly accessible open spaces across the Plan Area? | <p>Open Space, Play, Recreation and Sport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of Council maintained play areas Number of leisure and sports centres Number of outdoor sports pitches Total area (Ha) of maintained open space Total area (Ha) of open space adjacent to settlements and % of which is considered public maintained open space |

| Ref. | SEA Headline and Sub-Objectives | SEA Assessment Questions | Relevant Indicators |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|
| | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of open space adjacent to settlements in M² per dwelling and Ha per 1000 people % of households within 500m of a signposted Core Path Total number and area (Ha) of active allotments across the Perth and Kinross Council Area |
| Cultural Heritage | | | |
| SEA 15 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance, where appropriate, the historic environment. | <p>Will Local Development Plan 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the conservation and sympathetic management of nationally important historic sites and places, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes sites, and historic battlefields? Give consideration to historic assets and places in decision making frameworks related to the Plan? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of, and total area covered (Ha) by Conservation Areas Number of Conservation Areas with an up to date Conservation Area Appraisal % change of Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments at risk % change in number and/or area (Ha) of designated historic assets and places |
| Landscape | | | |
| SEA 16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve and enhance landscape character and scenic value of the area. | <p>Will Local Development Plan 3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the conservation and enhancement of nationally and locally important landscapes? Seek to promote and protect the diversity and local distinctiveness of the landscapes of Perth and Kinross? Promote the restoration of landscapes across the area which have been degraded as a result of past industrial actions/activities? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and area (Ha) of designated landscape areas (National and Local) %of land designated for particular quality or amenity value, including publicly accessible land and greenways Number of and extent to which landscape character types/areas would be affected by the Plan's Spatial Strategy, including through proposed changes to settlement boundaries % change in areas of wild land Extent to which areas with wild land qualities would be affected by the Plan's Spatial Strategy % area of degraded landscapes restored |
| SEA 17 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect and enhance the landscape everywhere and particularly in designated areas. | | |
| SEA 18 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness. | | |
| SEA 19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote the restoration of degraded landscapes. | | |

Scoping Questions 6 and 7:

6. Do you agree the proposed SEA Objectives (Table 7.1) cover the breadth of environmental issues appropriate for the Plan area?
7. Do you agree that the proposed indicators (Table 7.1) provide a relevant measure for the associated objective? If not, can you suggest additional indicators?

8 PROPOSED ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Introduction

8.1 This section of the Scoping Report aims to provide information on the tools and techniques proposed for use in the assessment in order to allow the Consultation Authorities and other stakeholders to form a view on their appropriateness. However, it should be noted that these may be subject to change following consultation with the Consultation Authorities, and as the assessment gets under way and other methods are found to be more appropriate.

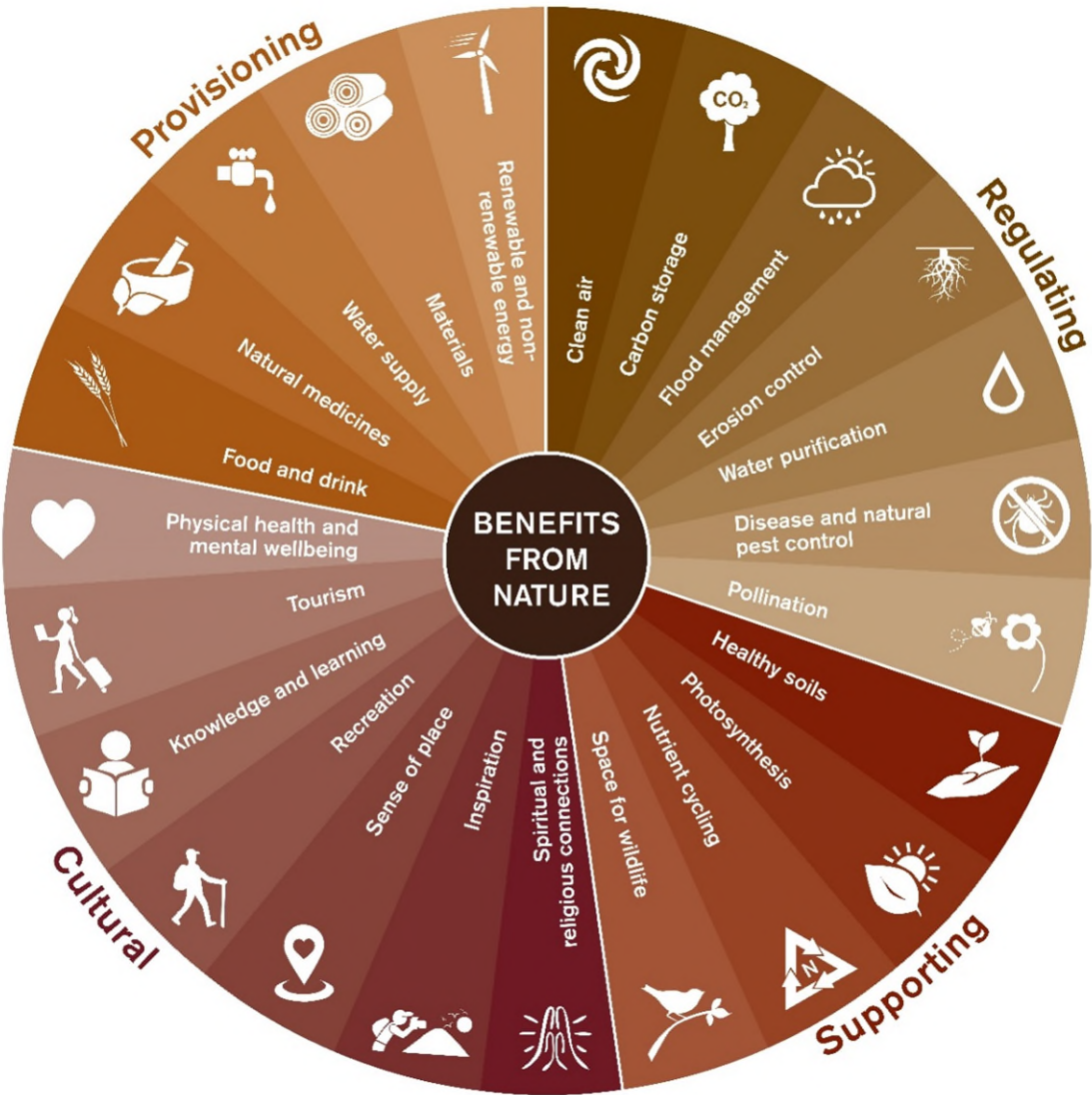
An Ecosystems Services Approach

8.2 Where possible an ecosystem services approach, based on river catchment areas, will be used for the environmental assessment of LDP3. This will help ensure the environment is viewed in terms of its benefits and uses rather than just through the identification of positive or negative environmental effects of the Plan. By using an ecosystems services approach we aim to raise the profile of the environment which should result in a more integrated and valuable SEA process and outcome, by allowing plan makers to see how the environment can support the delivery of LDP3. An ecosystem services approach will also be used in the assessment of cumulative effects.

8.3 The benefits of nature are essential to human life on Earth. Nature provides us with water, clean air, food, climate regulation, and raw materials for medicines, industry and buildings. Our agricultural crops rely on pollination by insects and the complex biological processes which make soil. The enjoyment of our natural open spaces, such as parks, greenspaces, landscapes and wildlife present within them, makes a positive contribution to our health and wellbeing. These benefits are referred to as Ecosystem Services, and they rely on a healthy environment to sustain them.

8.4 Figure 8.1 below is Nature Scots Land Ecosystem Services Wheel Infographic. It provides a graphic representation of the variety of benefits which nature provides, grouped under the 4 Ecosystem Services of Provisioning, Regulating, Supporting, and Cultural.

Figure 8.1: Nature Scot Land Ecosystem Services – Wheel Infographic



Proportionate Assessment

8.5 For previous reviews of the Local Development Plan, the SEA process has adopted a proportionate approach to the assessment by first considering the performance of the Plan against the SEA Indicators set through the SEA process. This monitoring exercise looked at those aspects of the Adopted Plan which were unlikely to change in the next LDP, and any minor changes to the Plan which were not expected to result in significant environmental effects on the environment of the Plan Area. Where the Plan under review was not changing, the findings of the previous Environmental Assessment were adopted and reported without the need for them to be reassessed. However, with the introduction of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 and National Planning Framework 4, particularly its National Planning Policy suite and status as part of the Statutory Development Plan, it is unlikely to be appropriate to rely on this approach due to the number of changes introduced under both.

- 8.6

Instead, it is proposed that the approach taken to the SEA for LDP3 will still remain proportionate, but it will use the SEA Environmental Baseline and Key Issues set out in Section 6 of this Scoping Report, alongside monitoring information produced as part of the development of the Plan’s Evidence Report, as well as the identification of key issues relating to NPF4’s National Planning Policy suite for the Perth and Kinross Area (refer to Sections 4-6 of the [LDP3 Evidence Report](#) for full details). This will allow us to better understand the existing issues and opportunities within the Plan Area, and the key interactions between those issues, which will in turn help in the identification of appropriate mitigation measures and opportunities for enhancement through the SEA Environmental Assessment, to be included within LDP3.
- 8.7

The table in Appendix C to this Scoping Report sets out in detail those key issues and implications for the development of LDP3’s Spatial Strategy (as outline in our LDP3 Evidence Report) and the key issues identified for the SEA of LDP3 under Section 6 of this Scoping Report. They have firstly been grouped by SEA Topic, and then under the relevant NPF4 policies. Due to the cross-cutting nature of a number of NPF4’s policies, there may be repetition of issues under the different SEA topics.

- Proposed Overall Approach to the SEA for Local Development Plan 3**
- 8.8

Figure 8.2 to follow outlines the proposed overall approach to undertaking the SEA for the Perth and Kinross Local Development Plan 3.

Figure 8.2: Proposed Overall Approach to SEA for LDP3

| Stage A: Scoping | Stage B: Developing and Refining Options and Assessing Effects | Stage C: Preparation of the Environmental Report | Stage D: Consultation and Engagement | Stage E: Implementation and Monitoring |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| A1: Identify other relevant PPS and objectives. | B1: Assess compatibility of LDP3 Objectives against SEA Objectives. | C1: Prepare Environmental Report. | D1: Consult on the Proposed Plan and SEA Environmental Report. | E1: Finalise aims and methods for monitoring implementation of LDP3. |
| A2: Analyse baseline information to identify key issues. | B2: Assess compatibility of NPF4 and any local policy responses against SEA Objectives. | | D2: Review feedback and update SEA and Proposed Plan accordingly. | E2: Respond to any significant environmental effects arising during plan implementation. |
| A3: Establish proposed SEA Objectives and identify indicators. | B3: Assess the Spatial Strategy Options/Alternatives using an Ecosystem Services Approach. | | D3: If signifincant changes are to be made, reconsult on Proposed Plan as amended, and updated SEA. | |
| A4:Identify proposed assessment methodology. | B4: Undertake Site and Settlement Assessments. | | | |
| A5: Consult on the proposed scope of environmental assessment. | B5: Consider potential cumulative and synergistic effects of policies and preferred LDP3 Spatial Strategy. | | | |
| | B6: Identify mitigation and adaptation measures, and opportunities for enhancement. | | | |
| | B7: Propose measures to monitor the potential significant effects of implementing LDP3. | | | |

Stage A: Setting the Context, and Establishing the Baseline and Assessment Methodology

- 8.9** The first stage in the process involves identifying other relevant plans, programmes and strategies (PPS) to ensure that the relationship between LDP3 and these documents is fully explored, and that their key environmental protection and sustainability objectives are taken into account through the SEA process. This exercise has already been undertaken as part of the development of this Scoping Report. Key documents of relevance to LDP3 have been included under Section 4 of this Report, and a full summary of all relevant PPS documents provided under Appendix A.
- 8.10** Following on from that is the collation and analysis of the environmental baseline for the Plan area to gain a knowledge and understanding of the existing conditions in Perth and Kinross and to help identify key environmental issues which LDP3 should be addressing through its Spatial Strategy and any local policy responses.
- 8.11** Next is the development of the SEA Objectives, the identification of indicators that can be used to monitor the effects of implementing the Plan, and also the establishment of the assessment methodology.
- 8.12** Finally, it is then necessary to consult on the proposed scope of the Environmental Report with the Consultation Authorities and other key stakeholders via the production of this 'Scoping Report'. Following this consultation exercise, it may be necessary to update the environmental baseline and proposed assessment methodology prior to beginning the environmental assessment process, based on feedback received.

Stage B: Developing and Refining Options, and Assessing Environmental Effects

Testing Compatibility – Objectives and Policies

- 8.13** The first stage in the assessment process is to test the compatibility of the Plan's Objectives against the SEA Objectives to identify any conflicts between both sets of objectives and/or opportunities for enhancement of objectives. This exercise will use a traditional matrix approach. Figures 8.3 and 8.4 on the following page show the scoring system and template which we propose to use in undertaking this compatibility assessment.
- 8.14** It is also necessary to test the compatibility of NPF4's National Planning Policy against the SEA Objectives. Although a similar exercise would have been undertaken for the assessment of NPF4, testing at Local Development Plan level will ensure that the environment of Perth and Kinross is given an appropriate level of consideration in terms of any likely significant effects which could arise from the application of NPF4 policies across the area, any potential conflicts arising between policies, as well as the likely cumulative and synergistic effects which may occur. It is proposed to again use a traditional matrix approach to carry out this assessment (see Figure 8.5 on the following page) and to apply the 'Evaluation Scoring System' set out under Figure 8.3.

Assessing Alternatives – Spatial Strategy

- 8.15** Part 2, Section 14(2) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 requires the responsible authority (in this case Perth and Kinross Council) to identify, describe and evaluate within the Environmental Report the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing LDP3, and the reasonable alternatives to the Plan, considering its objectives and geographical scope.
- 8.16** LDP3 is currently in its early evidence gathering stages, and as such alternative spatial strategies have not yet been identified. Following the Evidence Report Gate Check process and building on our future work on Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods, we will look to identify and assess reasonable options for the Plan's Spatial Strategy.

Site Assessment - LDP3 Site Proposals

- 8.17** After the Gate Check process, it is proposed to undertake a 'Call for Sites and Ideas' exercise for Local Development Plan 3. Following on from that, the Council will review the proposals submitted for consideration, along with existing proposals in LDP2, and proposals which are on file having been previously submitted.
- 8.18** For each site, both the preferred sites and the alternatives considered using the Site Assessment Template provided in Appendix D. This template builds on the Consultation Authorities February 'Local Development Plan: Site Assessment and SEA Checklist, but it has been updated slightly to include an additional questions/criteria following the feedback received on our suite of LDP3 Evidence Report Topic papers. The additional question relates to the potential for development to impact upon riparian corridor or future channel adjustments, and has been highlighted in yellow in the template in Appendix D. The template also refers to issues which need to be considered in further assessments including the Habitats Regulation Appraisals and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Following the Evidence Report Gate Check process it may be necessary to add further questions or criteria to the Site Assessment Template to cover other considerations for the Plan's Spatial Strategy which are over and above those of relevance to the SEA. Where this occurs we will highlight it in the SEA Environmental Report.

Predicting the Effects of Plan Implementation

- 8.19** Predicting the effects of implementation is an essential part of the SEA. The purpose of carrying out SEA is to allow the decision maker to make 'good decisions' based on effective predictions and predicting environmental conditions is a good method of testing out assumptions and guiding decisions. However, predicting future events and environmental conditions will always be difficult when faced with a range of uncertainties such as those in relation to delivery and effectiveness of the proposed mitigation and enhancement measures or in the accuracy of the environmental baseline. For this reason, decision makers require information that is sufficiently accurate to allow them to assess the preferred course of action. In order to avoid or reduce error, it is proposed to follow a range of techniques, including:

- Early engagement of key stakeholders and interested parties (including the public) to help to ensure that the right baseline data is collected, and to inform what alternatives and mitigation and enhancement measures are considered.
- Interdisciplinary working to help challenge assumptions and suggest possible solutions.
- Ensure the consideration of all significant impacts.
- Ensure the assessment is carried out by people who have knowledge of the area, the plan, and environmental issues.
- Apply Scotland's 5 Guiding Principles on the Environment.
- Consider cumulative, indirect and long term impacts, and carry out a regular review of data necessary to identify these impacts.

Cumulative Assessment

8.20 Stage B5 in Figure 8.2 refers to the consideration of potential cumulative and synergistic effects. It is intended that this part of the assessment will use professional judgement, informed by the evidence base, and follow a 3-pronged assessment approach of:

- 1. Policy Assessment** - We will use the relevant column under Figure 8.5 to identify any potential cumulative and synergistic effects of implementing NPF4 policies within the Perth and Kinross Area when assessed against the SEA Objectives.
- 2. Settlement Audit** – We will evaluate the potential for cumulative and synergistic effects arising from a range of proposals at individual settlements, arising from the 'Preferred Spatial Strategy' option.
- 3. Ecosystem Services** – We will evaluate the potential for cumulative and synergistic effects arising from the implementation of NPF4 policies and site proposals on river catchment areas.

8.21 Any potential effects identified through these 3 steps will be dealt with under a separate section of the SEA Environmental Report and tested through the consultation process with key stakeholders.

Mitigation and Adaptation Measures, and Opportunities for Enhancement

8.22 The Environmental Report will identify recommendations for mitigation, adaptation and enhancement measures to prevent, reduce and offset potential adverse impacts, and to enhance those positive effects that are predicted to arise as a result of the Plan's implementation.

Monitoring Framework

8.23 The Environmental Report will contain a proposed framework for monitoring the on-going effects arising from the implementation of the FWS. The monitoring framework will be clearly linked to the

SEA Objectives and indicators developed through the SEA process and will help to appraise the effectiveness of the mitigation and enhancement measures.

Stages C – E: Environmental Report Preparation, Consultation, Monitoring and Implementation

8.23 The remaining stages in the process involve:

- Report the outcomes of the Environmental Assessment via an Environmental Report (ER).
- Ensure the Proposed LDP3 is in alignment with the results of the SEA.
- Consult on the Proposed LDP3 and ER in tandem.
- Appraise any significant changes to the LDP3 as a result of comments received during the consultation phase to both the Environmental Report and Proposed Plan, revisit the Environmental Assessment if applicable.
- Finalise the aims and methods for monitoring LDP3, and
- Implement and monitor the Plan and respond to any significant effects arising through its implementation.

Scoping Questions 8 – 11:

8. Do you think the proposed approach to dealing with 'alternatives' to the Plan is appropriate?
9. Is the spatial and temporal scope appropriate?
10. Is the proposed approach to dealing with cumulative effects appropriate?
11. Is the suggested approach to dealing with mitigation, enhancement, and monitoring of the Plan appropriate?

Figure 8.3: Proposed Evaluation Scoring System

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|----------|---------|--------------------|---------|-----------------------|
| ++ | + | 0 | ~ | - | -- |
| Significantly Positive | Positive | Neutral | Uncertain/ Unknown | Adverse | Significantly Adverse |

Figure 8.4: Proposed Framework for Assessing Compatibility of Objectives

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| LDP3 Objectives | LDP 1 | + | ~ | -- | | | | Comments |
| | LDP 2 | + | - | -- | + | - | + | |
| | LDP 3 | ++ | - | ~ | | - | + | |
| | LDP 4 | ++ | + | ~ | | - | + | |
| | LDP 5 | ++ | + | - | ++ | ++ | + | |
| | LDP 6 | 0 | - | + | + | -- | -- | |
| | | SEA 1 | SEA 2 | SEA 3 | SEA 4 | SEA 5 | SEA 6 | |
| SEA Objectives | | | | | | | | |

Figure 8.5: Proposed Framework for Assessing Compatibility of NPF4 Policies against SEA Objectives

| NPF4 Policy | SEA Objective | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | Timeframe (Short/ Medium/ Long Term) | Duration of Effects (Temporary or Permanent) | Summary of Overall Likely Effects | Cumulative or Synergistic Effects | Proposed Mitigation, Adaptation and Enhancement Measures |
|-------------|---------------|----|----|----|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | | | | | |
| Policy 1 | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | - | -- | -- | -- | -- | + | ++ | + | - | + | + | + | + | | | | | |
| Policy 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - | - | - | + | + | + | + | + | - | + | + | + | + | | | | | |
| Policy 3 | + | + | - | - | - | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | ++ | - | -- | -- | -- | | | | | |

9 NEXT STEPS

Proposed Consultation and Engagement

- 9.1 Section 15(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 sets out certain statutory requirements for formal consultation on this Scoping Report. Responsible authorities i.e. in this case Perth and Kinross Council, are required to send a copy of their SEA Scoping Report to each of the 3 Consultation Authorities – Historic Environment Scotland, Nature Scot, and Scottish Environment Protection Agency. The Consultation Authorities will then send their views within a 5 week period from receiving the SEA Scoping Report, particularly with regard to:
- The scope and level of detail of the information to be included within the SEA Environmental Report;
 - The consultation period which the Council proposes to specify for the SEA Environmental Report, and
 - The address to which opinions expressed should be sent, and within which time period.
- 9.2 This will be done through submitting this Scoping Report to the 3 Consultation Authorities via the SEA Gateway Team at the Scottish Government. We will also share it on our dedicated LDP3 webpage: [Emerging Local Development Plan \(LDP3\) - Perth & Kinross Council](#). We will the consider the comments received as part of this formal consultation.
- 9.3 Figure 9.1 sets out the template which we propose to follow in order to keep track of and analyse comments received on the Scoping Report, and record how and where it has been addressed. At the end of the consultation period, the comments received will be used to amend the information contained within this Report prior to it being used to inform the next stages in the SEA process.

Figure 9.1: Framework for Analysing Comments on Scoping Report

| Individual/Organisation | Section of Scoping Report | Comment(s) | How it has been addressed |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| | | | |

Indicative Timetable

- 9.3 The timeline to follow at Table 9.1 shows the timescales for each stage of the LDP3 plan making process and identifies where the various SEA stages align with that overall process. It is worth noting that time suggested timeframes for Gate Check and Examination of the Proposed Plan are based on information from the Scottish Government and will depend on the complexity of issues in the Evidence Report, and the number and complexity of representations received to the Proposed Plan. The star on the timeline indicates where we currently are in the overall process.

Table 9.1: LDP3 and SEA Timeline

| Stage | When | Approx. Time Period |
|---|------------------------------|---------------------|
| EVIDENCE REPORT | | |
| Gather evidence | 2022 – December 2024 | / |
| Engage with public and groups on that evidence | January 2023 – December 2024 | |
| Begin SEA Scoping process aligned with Proposed Evidence Report | November 2024 | / |
| Submit SEA Scoping to SEA Gateway | End February 2025 | 5 weeks |
| Present Proposed Evidence Report to Full Council | 5 th March 2025 | / |
| Publish Evidence Report and submit to DPEA Gate Check | End of March 2025 | / |
| GATE CHECK | | |
| Examination of the Evidence Report | April – June 2025 | 3 months |
| PROPOSED PLAN | | |
| Call for Sites and Ideas | April – May 2025 | 2 months |
| Prepare Proposed Plan and undertake SEA Environmental Assessment | April – December 2025 | 8 months |
| Prepare Delivery Programme | April – December 2025 | 8 months |
| Prepare Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA), Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) Assessment, Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment (FSDA) and Habitat Regulations Appraisal (HRA) | April – December 2025 | 8 months |
| Publish and consult on Proposed Plan and SEA Environmental Report | January – March 2026 | 3 months |
| Submit Draft Habitat Regulations Appraisal to Nature Scot | January 2026 | 3 months |
| Publish EIA, PSED Assessment, and FSDA alongside Proposed Plan | January 2026 | / |
| Assess representations received. Consider any changes and whether they generate significant changes which require to be SEA'd – if yes, update and reconsult, if no, progress to Examination stage. | April – December 2026 | 8 months |
| EXAMINATION | | |
| Examination of the Proposed LDP3 | January – June 2027 | 6 months |
| Consider Examination recommendations. Publish any changes. Send modified Proposed LDP3 to the Scottish Ministers. | July – September 2027 | 3 months |
| ADOPTION | | |
| Publish and Publicise Adopted LDP3 | October – December 2027 | / |
| Publish SEA Post Adoption Statement | Post December 2027 | / |

Scoping Questions 12 - 13:

12. Is the proposed consultation period and means of undertaking the consultation adequate?
13. Are there any other comments you wish to provide which are not covered through Questions 1 to 12?

Appendices

Please refer to separate document ‘Perth and Kinross LDP3 – SEA Scoping Report: Appendices A – D for the following appendices list:

- Appendix A: Analysis of other relevant Plans, Programmes or Strategies
- Appendix B: List of Proposed Data Sources to inform the Environmental Assessment
- Appendix C: Key Issues and Opportunities for LDP3 Spatial Strategy and Links to SEA Topics
- Appendix D: Local Development Plan - Site Assessment and SEA Checklist