



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

## Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee

Local Authorities and National Park Authorities  
1 July 2025

Dear,

### National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)

I am writing to you to seek details on the development of local place plans and local development plans within your areas to support the work of the Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee on the fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4).

#### Background

The Committee is currently undertaking its second annual review of NPF4 to assess its impact and whether it is meeting its ambitions.

It previously invited key stakeholders to highlight issues arising in their engagement with the framework, receiving [42 responses](#) to its call for views in February 2025.

After considering the responses, the Committee held the following evidence sessions:

- [on 3 June](#)
  - **Esme Clelland**  
Senior Conservation Planner RSPB and Convener Link Planning Group  
Scottish Environment LINK
  - **Hazel Johnson**  
Director  
Built Environment Forum Scotland
  - **Kevin Murphy**  
Head of Planning  
Homes for Scotland
- [on 17 June](#)

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Contact: Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee, The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP. Email [localgov.committee@parliament.scot](mailto:localgov.committee@parliament.scot). We welcome calls through Relay UK and in BSL through Contact Scotland BSL.

- **Neil Sutherland**  
Founding Director  
MAKAR Limited
- **Dr Caroline Brown**  
Director of Scotland and Ireland  
Royal Town Planning Institute
- **Pamela Clifford**  
Chair  
Heads of Planning Scotland (HOPS)
- **Clare Symonds**  
Chair  
Planning Democracy
- [on 24 June](#)
  - **Ivan McKee**  
Minister for Public Finance  
Scottish Government
  - **Cara Davidson**  
Head of Environment and Net Zero  
Scottish Government
  - **Andy Kinnaird**  
Head of Transforming Planning  
Scottish Government
  - **Fiona Simpson**  
Chief Planner, Director of Planning, Architecture and Regeneration  
Scottish Government
  - **Carrie Thomson**  
Head of Development Planning & Housing  
Scottish Government

One of the key points raised by stakeholders in the call for views, and the witnesses at the evidence sessions, was the preparation, registration and the impact of Local Place Plans and their interaction with Local Development Plans.

**Read more background information:** [Local Government, Housing and Planning Committee | Scottish Parliament Website](#)

The Committee is now seeking further information from local authorities and national park authorities on Local Place Plans.

1. How many Local Place Plans are listed in your authority's register?
2. Has your authority decided not to register any Local Place Plans submitted to it?
  - a. If so, how many and why were these rejected?

3. How many Local Place Plans, that your authority is aware of, are currently under development in its area?
4. The names of any community council or community body in your area that has produced, is currently developing, or interested in preparing, a Local Place Plan?
5. Planning law requires any planning authority drafting a Local Development Plan to “take into account” any registered Local Place Plan. How does your authority intend to ensure priorities identified in such plans are fully incorporated in Local Development Plan policies and spatial strategies?
6. Is there any other information you would like to provide the committee on the interaction between NPF4, Local Development Plans and Local Place Plans in your area?

I would be grateful to receive your response no later than 11th August. Please provide your response by completing the submission form provided.

Yours sincerely,

**Ariane Burgess MSP**  
**Convener**