

Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority

**To: Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Strategic Development Planning Authority
Joint Committee**

On: 14th December 2020

**Report by
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National Planning Framework 4 and Indicative Spatial Strategy Update

1. Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the Joint Committee on the Scottish Government's development of the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) including the publication of the NPF4 Position Statement and the contribution of the indicative Regional Spatial Strategies (iRSS).

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Joint Committee note the report and the latest position with regard to the Scottish Government's development of the National Planning Framework 4 and the contribution of the indicative Regional Spatial Strategies.

3. Context

- 3.1 The Scottish Government are in the process of developing NPF4 under the terms of the new Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 which will see it replace Strategic Developments Plans as part of the Development Plan system in Scotland.

4. iRSS for the Glasgow City Region

- 4.1 As part of the development of NPF4 the Scottish Government requested groupings of Local Authorities submit an iRSS for their area by June 2020. This deadline was extended to September to allow some authorities to submit.
- 4.2 The iRSS for the Glasgow City Region was approved by the Clydeplan Joint Committee, agreed by the Glasgow City Region Chief Executive's Group and the City Region Cabinet and was endorsed by the City Region's Regional Partnership. The iRSS was submitted to meet the original June deadline.

- 4.3 As part of the process developing NPF4 the Scottish Government held a ‘*Show and Tell*’ event on 2nd October to take stock of where the various local authority groups were with their iRSS. Links to the edited video of the full event along with separate videos of each individual iRSS presentations can be found in the Appendix.
- 4.4 The iRSS submissions have provided a basis for the Scottish Government to start to think about how they inform a national spatial strategy for NPF4. In order to achieve a level of consistency the Scottish Government has produced a series of summary diagrams that reflect the iRSS submissions and will form the basis of future NPF4 discussions. The summary document can be viewed at www.transformingplanning.scot/national-planning-framework/resources/.

5. Development of NPF4 - Position Statement

- 5.1 The Scottish Government published the NPF4 Position Statement on 26th November 2020. The Position Statement seeks to bring together the thoughts and ideas that the Scottish Government have received to date along with wider Scottish Government commitments
- 5.2 The Position Statement states NPF4 will be a plan for four themes namely *net zero emissions; resilient communities; a wellbeing economy; and the creation of better, greener places.*
- 5.3 The Position Statement acknowledges the work done already by the regional grouping on their Indicative Regional Spatial Strategies which will continue to inform NPF4 priorities and states that the Scottish Government will continue to support planning authorities as they develop their thinking on regional spatial strategies and will broaden the engagement on this emerging thinking in the coming months.
- 5.4 The Position Statement sets out current thinking now that the Scottish Government has considered the submissions to its’ Call for Ideas’ earlier this year and aims to inform further discussions as work continues towards a consultation draft NPF4 in Autumn 2021. It is important to emphasise that no decisions have been made and there will be extensive consultation on the detail in Autumn 2021.
- 5.5 The Position Statement is not approved policy - NPF3 and SPP remain in force until NPF4 is adopted by Scottish Ministers (expected summer 2022).
- 5.6 Some of the most significant changes expected to be explored in the development of NPF4 are:
- a) stronger support for sustainable, low and zero carbon developments;
 - b) a renewed emphasis on design, quality and place;
 - c) support for development that reduces the need to travel, in line with the concept of 20 minute neighbourhoods;
 - d) a shift in the way we plan our homes so that we focus on meeting our diverse needs, and improve the quality of our place and with a focus on regeneration through the use of building and vacant and derelict land;

- e) new policies to promote an infrastructure-first approach to development at all scales;
- f) a new approach to ensure our places work for everyone, and are greener and healthier;
- g) enabling development and investment, including inward investment, that improves our collective wellbeing and supports fair work;
- h) new policies to address key economic sectors including food and drink; culture and the creative sectors and tourism;
- i) reimagining our city and town centres as a place to live, work and enjoy;
- j) prioritising development on vacant and derelict land
- k) support for development that improves the resilience and sustainability of our rural economy and communities;
- l) facilitating improvements to our biodiversity and the significant expansion of green infrastructure.

5.7 The Scottish Government are inviting comments on the current thinking and the general direction of travel set out in the Position Statement by 19th February 2021.

6. Timeline

6.1 The Scottish Government have set out the following timeline for the further development of NPF4 and iRSS:

a) End of January 2021 - 'feedback and reflection'

- Scottish Government to provide feedback on iRSS submissions;
- Scottish Government to reflect on lessons learned for statutory guidance.

b) End of April 2021 - 'engaging and finalising'

- Local authority groupings further develop / adjust iRSS based on feedback;
- Local authority groupings share iRSS and engage with stakeholders / public;
- Local authority groupings submit finalised iRSS;
- Scottish Government develops first draft of statutory guidance;
- consider interim event to provide further support (possibly February)
- final sharing event / discuss the statutory guidance.

c) Summer 2021 - 'drafting'

- Scottish Government develop draft NPF4, informed by iRSS.

d) Autumn 2021 - 'consulting'

- draft NPF4 published / laid in Parliament;
- open for public consultation;
- statutory guidance consulted on.

e) Spring / Summer 2022 - 'enacting'

- RSS statutory guidance put in place / duty enacted.

6.2 Clydeplan will continue to actively support and engage with the Scottish Government in terms of the development of NPF4 and Scottish Planning Policy, the iRSS and future RSS guidance.

Appendix

Scottish Government - 'Show and Tell Event - 2nd October 2020

Main Recording

iRSS 'Show and Tell' - 2nd October (2.5 hours) - https://youtu.be/pctx_B_rxSQ

Local Authority Groupings Videos

1. Argyll & Bute - <https://youtu.be/bLCVn-H5zbq>
2. Ayrshire & Arran - <https://youtu.be/8L1dC8SjCJE>
3. Cairngorms NPA - https://youtu.be/GdkvjxIO_h4
4. Clydeplan (Glasgow City Region) - <https://youtu.be/uJXrGLw-dFc>
5. Edinburgh & SE Scotland - <https://youtu.be/Uavd0Q1A5O0>
6. Forth Valley - <https://youtu.be/MRPGmzJNTzc>
7. Highland - https://youtu.be/yHI6zCv_em4
8. Loch Lomond & the Trossachs NPA - <https://youtu.be/i9P8YQvP8Ok>
9. Moray - <https://youtu.be/ySDKW6z-N0g>
10. North East / Aberdeen City & Shire Region - https://youtu.be/voJJgv_dT6E
11. Orkney - <https://youtu.be/sn4EZbs0f3s>
12. Outer Hebrides - <https://youtu.be/IOcsQC7zRHY>
13. South of Scotland - <https://youtu.be/oLL3G3vTVHc>
14. Tayside - <https://youtu.be/PchWQ2CEfiE>