

























### **Community Council Discussion Forum**

**Planning Consultation** 

March 2017





### What makes PAS unique:

- Volunteering ethos
- · Universal & inclusive
- Impartial & independent

In the last 12 months, volunteers have given 3 years' worth of time, skills and experience.



### helpline 0300 323 7602

calls cost no more than a national rate call

- · Free planning advice
- · Information sheets on our website
- Training
- Advice on engagement
- · Community-led plans
- Charrettes







INCLUSIVE PLACEMAKING: Community-led Plans

### www.pas.org.uk

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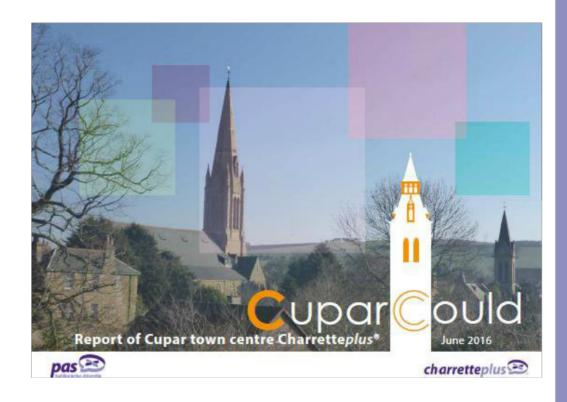
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## Charretteplus



Help shape the future of your town centre





#### 17TH - 20TH MARCH 2016

What do you want to see for your kids in Cupar?

How can the heart of the town centre be improved?

What is Cupar to you? A home? A place of work?

Does anywhere hold special meaning for you in Cupar?

Where is there to go out in Cupar?

How strong is your community?

What's it like in Cupar in the evening?



# Community-led Plans Shaping Laurencekirk



LAND NORTH EAST OF

### **INCLUSIVE PLACEMAKING: Community-led Plans**







Community-led projects 2013-16
Levenmouth – Fife
Isle of Rum – Highland
Dunblane - Stirling
Motherwell – North Lanarkshire
Alyth – Perth and Kinross
CuparCould - Fife
Shaping Laurencekirk - Aberdeenshire
Fauldhouse Focus - West Lothian
GoGarnock! - North Ayrshire

Projects 2017
Buckhaven Links
Glenrothes West





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INCLUSIVE PLACEMAKING: Community-led Plans



1947 - Planning Act - "public interest" – "a plan-led system"

1970s - Public consultation agenda

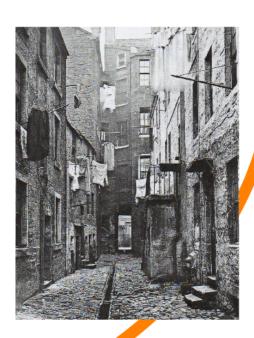
1990s - Climate change agenda

2006 - 2006 Planning Act

2016 - Independent review

2017 - Consultation/white paper





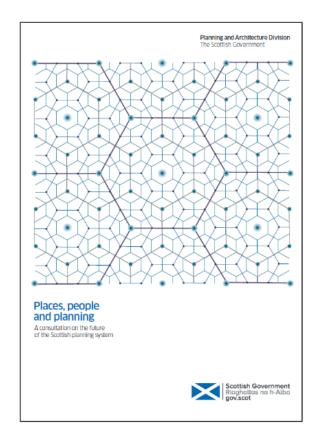
## **Planning context**

Everywhere in Scotland is covered by a Development Plan. This can include more than one plan.



- + Development Management
- + Enforcement

## Consultation on the future of the Scottish Planning System



https://consult.scotland.gov.uk

**Closes 4 April** 

# Places, People & Planning '4 Key Areas of Change'

- Making plans for the future. We want Scotland's planning system to lead and inspire change by making clear plans for the future. To achieve this, we can simplify and strengthen development planning.
- People make the system work. We want Scotland's planning system to empower people to have more influence on the future of their places. To achieve this, we can improve the way we involve people in the planning process.
- Building more homes and delivering infrastructure. We want Scotland's planning system to help deliver more high quality homes and create better places where people can live healthy lives and developers are inspired to invest. To achieve this, planning can actively enable and co-ordinate development.
- Stronger leadership and smarter resourcing.
   We want to reduce bureaucracy and improve resources so Scotland's planning system can focus on creating great places. To achieve this, we can remove processes that do not add value, and strengthen leadership, resources and skills.

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### Making Plans for the Future

We want Scotland's planning system to lead and inspire change by making clear plans for the future. We propose:

- 1\_\_\_Aligning community planning and spatial planning. This can be achieved by introducing a requirement for development plans to take account of wider community planning and can be supported through future guidance.
- 2\_\_\_Regional partnership working. We believe that strategic development plans should be removed from the system so that strategic planners can support more proactive regional partnership working.
- 3\_\_Improving national spatial planning and policy. The National Planning Framework (NPF) can be developed further to better reflect regional priorities. In addition, national planning policies can be used to make local development planning simpler and more consistent.

- 4\_\_\_Stronger local development plans. We believe the plan period should be extended to 10 years, and that 'main issues reports' and supplementary guidance should be removed to make plans more accessible for people. A new 'gatecheck' would help to improve plan examinations by dealing with significant issues at an earlier stage.
- 5\_\_\_Making plans that deliver. We can strengthen the commitment that comes from allocating development land in the plan, and improve the use of delivery programmes to help ensure that planned development happens on the ground.

### People Make the System Work

We want Scotland's planning system to empower people to decide the future of their places. We propose:

- 6\_\_\_Giving people an opportunity to plan their own place. Communities should be given a new right to come together and prepare local place plans. We believe these plans should form part of the statutory local development plan.
- 7\_\_\_Getting more people involved in planning. A wider range of people should be encouraged and inspired to get involved in planning. In particular, we would like to introduce measures that enable children and young people to have a stronger voice in decisions about the future of their places.
- 8\_\_Improving public trust. Pre-application consultation can be improved, and there should be greater community involvement where proposals are not supported in the development plan. We also propose to discourage repeat applications and improving planning enforcement.
- 9\_\_Keeping decisions local rights of appeal.
  We believe that more review decisions should be made by local authorities rather than centrally. We also want to ensure that the system is sufficiently flexible to reflect the distinctive challenges and opportunities in different parts of Scotland.

### Isle of Rum - Community Land Use Plan

In 2015 the Isle of Rum Community Trust were assisted by PAS to produce a community land use plan. The community worked in partnership with organisations including The Highland Council and Scottish Natural Heritage to explore how its aims of increasing Rum's population to a more sustainable level, offer a better range of housing and improve tourism could be achieved. The plan needed to carefully balance these aims with protection of the unique natural and built heritage of the island. The collaboration produced a plan which was effectively 'owned' by the community. The plan was subsequently adopted by The Highland Council as supplementary guidance, which in turn forms part of the statutory local development plan.

### **Building More Homes and Delivering Infrastructure**

We want Scotland's planning system to help deliver more high quality homes and create better places where people can live healthy lives and developers are inspired to invest. We propose:

- 10\_\_\_Being clear about how much housing land is required. Planning should take a more strategic view of the land required for housing development. Clearer national and regional aspirations for new homes are proposed to support this.
- 11\_\_\_Closing the gap between planning consent and delivery of homes. We want planning authorities to take more steps to actively help deliver development. Land reform could help to achieve this.
- 12\_\_\_Releasing more 'development ready' land. Plans should take a more strategic and flexible approach to identifying land for housing. Consents could be put in place for zoned housing land through greater use of Simplified Planning Zones.

- first approach. There is a need for better co-ordination of infrastructure planning at a national and regional level. This will require a stronger commitment to delivering development from all infrastructure providers.
- 14\_\_\_A more transparent approach to funding infrastructure. We believe that introducing powers for a new local levy to raise additional finance for infrastructure would be fairer and more effective. Improvements can also be made to Section 75 obligations.
- 15\_\_\_Innovative infrastructure planning.
  Infrastructure planning needs to look ahead so that it can deliver low carbon solutions, new digital technologies and the facilities that communities need.

### Stronger Leadership and Smarter Resourcing

We want to reduce bureaucracy and improve resources so Scotland's planning system can focus on creating great places. We propose:

- 16\_\_\_Developing skills to deliver outcomes. We will work with the profession to improve and broaden skills.
- 17\_\_\_Investing in a better service. There is a need to increase planning fees to ensure the planning service is better resourced.
- 18\_\_\_A new approach to improving performance. We will continue work to strengthen the way in which performance is monitored, reported and improved.
- 19\_\_\_Making better use of resources efficient decision making. We will remove the need for planning consent from a wider range of developments. Targeted changes to development management will help to ensure decisions are made more quickly and more transparently.
- 20\_\_Innovation, designing for the future and the digital transformation of the planning service. There are many opportunities to make planning work better through the use of information technology. The planning service should continue to pioneer the digital transformation of public services.

## What happens next

Consultation: Until 4 April

Stage 1 of Bill: December '17 - March '18

Stage 2 of Bill: April '18 - May '18

Stage 3 of Bill: June '18

Not all proposals in the consultation will require legislation (e.g. can be delivered through guidance)

Opportunity to share your views on the future of planning - consultation open until 4 April

https://consult.scotland.gov.uk

## PAS is here to help

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Scottish Government guide for Community Councils on the Planning Consultation

https://beta.gov.scot/policies/planning-architecture/reforming-planning-system



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