

**Renfrewshire Council**  
**Local Development Plan (LDP3)**  
**Development Plan Scheme and Participation**  
**Statement**  
**November 2024**



## Contents

Introduction .....	3
Current development plan in Renfrewshire.....	3
Preparing the next local development plan for Renfrewshire .....	3
Timeline for preparing the next local development plan for Renfrewshire.....	5
Associated assessments .....	6
Local place plans .....	6
Participation Statement .....	7
Managing engagement .....	7
Early engagement and evidence report preparation .....	8
Preparation of proposed local development plan .....	11
Publication and consultation on proposed local development plan .....	13
Examination and adoption .....	14
Engagement with children and young people – activity up to October 2024. ....	15
Mediation.....	15
Contact us and follow us .....	16

## Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the development plan for Renfrewshire.

The development plan sets out policy and strategy for the use of land and buildings, setting out how places will change into the future, including where development should and should not happen. The planning system in Scotland is ‘plan-led’, and the development plan is the document the Council uses to make decisions on planning applications and is intended to provide certainty to communities and the development industry about where different types of development will be acceptable.

This development plan scheme sets out information on current development plan coverage in Renfrewshire, and on the process and timetable for preparing a new local development plan (LDP3) for Renfrewshire, including how we will include communities and organisations in the preparation of the plan.

## Current development plan in Renfrewshire

The development plan for Renfrewshire consists of:

The Fourth National Planning Framework (NPF4) – prepared by the Scottish Government and adopted on 13 February 2023, NPF4 is the national spatial strategy for Scotland. It sets out spatial principles, regional priorities, national developments and national planning policies. For more information, please visit <https://www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4/>.

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (LDP2) – prepared by Renfrewshire Council and adopted on 15 December 2021, LDP2 sets out the spatial strategy for Renfrewshire, identifying areas for development, improvement and protection. LDP2 is complemented by New Development Supplementary Guidance (2022), which also forms part of the development plan. LDP2 is also supported by a Delivery Programme setting out how the policies and proposals of the plan will be delivered. For more information, and to view these documents, please visit <https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/3070/Renfrewshire-Development-Plan>.

## Preparing the next local development plan for Renfrewshire

The Council is preparing a new local development plan for the Renfrewshire area (LDP3). Following changes introduced by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, this plan will be prepared differently and have a different look from LDP2. The new plan will be place-based, people-centred and delivery-focused. It will be a visual/graphic document, prepared with the intention that the spatial strategy is set out in a collection of maps, development briefs and masterplans, instead of lengthy written text and policy. Local development plans are to be prepared collaboratively, giving communities an opportunity to help shape their local neighbourhoods.

The key stages in preparing the new plan are:

**Development plan scheme including participation statement** – the development plan scheme is an important communication tool for letting stakeholders know when and how they can get involved in the preparation of the plan. It is updated annually.

**Evidence report** – the purpose of the evidence report is to support the quality and effectiveness of the local development plan. Its purpose is to front-load the collection of evidence that will be used to inform the plan before the plan looks at where development should take place. It should be informed by the views of those who will be affected by the plan.

**Gate Check** – this provides an independent assessment of the evidence report, assessing whether the planning authority has sufficient information to prepare its local development plan. It is carried out by a person appointed by the Scottish Ministers, usually a reporter from the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals.

**Proposed Plan** – the proposed plan identifies where new development should take place and where it should not, articulating the ambitions and priorities for the future development of the area. The preparation of the proposed plan is to be informed by community and stakeholder engagement. The proposed plan is published for consultation for a minimum 12-week period. The proposed plan can be modified following this period of consultation.

**Delivery Programme** – the delivery programme sets out how the Council proposes to implement its local development plan. A proposed delivery programme is published alongside the proposed local development plan. The delivery programme is to set out a list of actions required to deliver the policies and proposals of the local development plan, including an explanation of how those actions are to be undertaken and the timescale for conclusion of each action. Additionally, it is to include information on the expected sequencing and timescales for delivery of allocated housing sites.

**Examination** – the examination is an opportunity for independent consideration of any issues raised during the formal consultation on the proposed plan that have not been resolved through modification. The Scottish Ministers will appoint a person to examine the proposed plan, usually a reporter from the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals. Once the examination is completed the appointed person will prepare a report setting out modifications to be made to the plan. There are limited circumstances for when a planning authority can decline the appointed person's recommended modifications.

**Adoption** – adoption occurs following the examination of the plan and the recommended modifications of the examination report are received and considered.

## Timeline for preparing the next local development plan for Renfrewshire

The estimated timeline for the preparation of the new local development plan and the dates for key stages are set out below (this includes reference to financial year quarters as required by legislation). A timeline diagram is included in Appendix 1.

<b>Key stage</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Change since 2023 development plan scheme</b>
Publication of evidence report and submission for gate check	May 2025 (Q1, 2025/26)	The estimated submission of the evidence report for gate check has been delayed by two quarters.
Publication of proposed plan and draft delivery programme for consultation	May 2026 (Q1, 2026/27)	The estimated submission of the evidence report for gate check has been delayed by two quarters.
Submission of proposed plan to Scottish Ministers for examination	January 2027 (Q4, 2027/28)	The estimated submission of the proposed plan for examination has been delayed by two quarters.
Expected adoption of local development plan (LDP3)	December 2027 (Q3, 2027/28)	

The submission of the evidence report for gate check has been delayed by two quarters compared to the timetable set out in the 2023 development plan scheme. The evidence report is a new requirement for local development plan preparation and the scale of the task and issues emerging from gate checks of other planning authority evidence reports, and the need to avoid the February 2025 Council meeting has led to a short delay in the anticipated submission for gate check. There is a knock-on effect for the submission of the proposed plan for examination, which is delayed by two quarters, but the overall timescale for plan adoption remains the same.

## Associated assessments

The preparation of the local development plan will be informed by the following assessments.

Equalities Impact Assessment – local authorities have a duty to eliminate discrimination; advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between people who share protected characteristics and those who don't. The equalities impact assessment will help the Council to consider how people of different characteristics are involved in the preparation of the plan, and how they are affected by the proposals of the plan.

Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment – the Fairer Scotland Duty places a legal responsibility on local authorities to actively consider how they can reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic advantage when making strategic decisions.

Strategic Environmental Assessment – this assessment aims to ensure the environment is a primary consideration in the preparation of the plan. It can benefit the preparation of the plan by supporting better understanding of its environmental context and setting out steps to avoid, mitigate or reduce adverse effects, and enhance positive ones.

Habitat Regulations Appraisal – this assessment is required if the plan is capable of having an adverse effect on a Special Protection Area or Special Area of Conservation. These are referred to collectively as 'European Sites' and protect species and habitats. The assessment considers the implications of the plan for such designated sites in order to avoid adverse impacts.

## Local place plans

Local place plans offer communities an additional chance to shape their local area. They provide an opportunity for local communities to set priorities for their area and influence planning decisions.

In preparing the next local development plan, the Council will take into account any registered Local Place Plans.

An invitation to prepare local place plans was sent to local communities across Renfrewshire in May 2023. Communities have been asked to express an interest in preparing a local place plan and identify any support that may be needed from the Council and other stakeholders.

Although they can be prepared at any time, local place plans should be completed and submitted to the Council by September 2025 so they can be taken into account when preparing the next Local Development Plan. For more information on local place plans, please visit <https://www.renfrewshire.gov.uk/article/8667/Local-Place-Plans>.

## Participation Statement

Everyone will have an opportunity to get involved in the preparation of the next Renfrewshire Local Development Plan.

Effective consultation and engagement are vital, as the Local Development Plan can affect where people live, work, visit, shop, play and travel in Renfrewshire. Your involvement and feedback can help us understand priorities for Renfrewshire and deliver a spatial strategy that addresses the issues important to communities.

We want to make it as easy as possible for everyone who has an interest to engage in the process.

The following pages set out how we intend to manage, facilitate and encourage engagement in the local development plan process.

Opportunities to become involved in the preparation of LDP3 will be advertised through social media, updates on the Councils website, emails/letters to everyone who has registered interest in the local development plan process, and notices in the local newspaper (when required).

Those with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010, including disability, race, age, gender, sex and sexual orientation, religion and people from a range of socio-economic backgrounds and their representatives will be supported where required to get involved in the preparation of the new plan.

There are a number of key stages to get involved in the plan preparation. The table below sets out the engagement activities that will be undertaken at each stage, the purpose of it, progress at October 2024, and future activity.

### Managing engagement

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
Participation statement	Updated annually	To inform stakeholders about the local development plan process and provide an opportunity for stakeholders to shape the engagement process	A consultation was undertaken in August 2023 to inform the 2023 development plan scheme and participation statement, and in August/September 2024 to inform the 2024 participation statement update.	A consultation will be held on significant changes in future annual updates of the participation statement.
Participation database and diary	Ongoing	Maintain a record of participants who have registered interest in the local development plan process.	Participation registration form created. As of October 2024, there were 1126 participants registered in the participant database.	Registration form remains open, and all engagement activity will be recorded.

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
		Maintain a record of engagement events	The participation diary had recorded 38 engagement activities since February 2024, being a mix of meetings/events and survey launches/notifications.	
Local development plan webpages	Ongoing	Promote engagement in local development plan and make consultation information available	Webpage created.	Keep webpage updated and develop LDP3 hub pages
Combined equalities assessment	Ongoing	To ensure compliance with the Equality Act 2010 and the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child.	An initial equalities assessment focused on consultation/engagement was prepared in October 2024.	An equalities assessment focused on the content of the proposed plan will be prepared in conjunction with, and published alongside, the proposed plan, which is scheduled for April 2026.

#### Early engagement and evidence report preparation

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
'Have your say on Renfrewshire's places' survey (based on the Place Standard)	March>December 2024	To enable communities to offer comment on what is good and what can be improved in their local area.	The survey was launched on 28 March 2024 and was made available online and in libraries through Renfrewshire. 253 responses had been received by end of September 2024.	The survey remains open and further engagement and promotion work will be undertaken to increase the number of responses. Other survey opportunities and results will be used to inform the local development plan.



<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
'Call for ideas' survey	March > May 2024	To enable developers, landowners and communities to submit ideas and proposals for specific sites in Renfrewshire	The survey was launched online on 28 March 2024, and actively promoted until 31 May 2024. 92 responses had been received by end of September 2024.	The initial survey remains open and a second stage 'Call for ideas' survey will be held during the proposed plan preparation period.
Children and young people engagement	May > December 2024	To enable children and young people to inform the preparation of the evidence report	Working with Youth Services, 8 of Renfrewshire's secondary schools have been visited to gather views from pupils on what they like and do not like about their communities. Over 100 pupils have attended the workshops. Workshops were held with children at the Council's summer holiday camps. These focused on play opportunities.	Visits have been offered to the remaining secondary schools and will be offered to primary schools to engage with younger children. Engagement with MSYP and Youth Councils will be undertaken.
Local place plans	May 2023 > September 2025	Promote local place plans as an opportunity for communities to engage in local development plan process	Invitation to prepare local place plans was issued to community councils and development trusts in May 2023 and placed on webpage. Information sessions were held in March 2024, and online drop-in sessions were held in August and September 2024.	Communities will be reminded of opportunity to prepare local place plans and start-up meetings and other support will be offered to interested community groups. Online drop-in sessions will continue to be offered while there is interest.

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
Engagement with gypsy/traveller and travelling showpeople communities	October 2024 > February 2025	To identify accommodation needs within Renfrewshire		Direct engagement with gypsy/traveller and travelling show people communities and/or their representatives.
Engagement with disabled people	October 2024 > February 2025	To identify housing needs for disabled people within Renfrewshire		Direct engagement with disabled people communities and/or their representatives.
Engagement with community councils and development trusts	March 2024 > February 2025	To identify the expectations of communities for the new local development plan and to promote the preparation of local place plans	All community councils and development trusts were invited to the March 2024 information sessions on local place plans, 8 attended. Presentations have been given to four community councils/development trusts since February 2024.	Community councils and development trusts will be offered meetings regarding the evidence report consultation.
Engagement with key agencies and government agencies	April 2024 > February 2025	To identify evidence that key agencies will be able to submit to inform evidence report	Meetings held with Transport Scotland, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport, Scottish Water and NHSGGC.	Meet with key agencies as required and share relevant evidence in advance of submission of evidence report.
Engagement with development industry, businesses and landowners	February 2024 > February 2025	To identify the general and site specific ambitions of the development industry and landowners	Initial 'call for ideas' survey produced 92 responses (not all from development industry). Several one-to-one meetings held with developers and landowners.	Continue to meet with developers/ businesses/ landowners on request. Seek meetings with representative groups e.g. Homes for Scotland, Chamber of Commerce.

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
Consult on draft evidence report templates	November 2024 > February 2025	To test sufficiency of evidence, and identify disputes and gaps		Draft evidence report templates will be published and views sought on content. Registered participants will be notified of publication.
Publish evidence report on council website	May 2025	To make evidence report available to stakeholders		Inform stakeholders of publication of evidence report

Preparation of proposed local development plan

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
Support communities with finalisation of local place plans	May 2025 > September 2025	To ensure as many local place plans as possible are finalised in time to inform the proposed local development plan	Information sessions were held in March 2023, and online drop-in sessions were held in August and September 2024.	Engage with those communities preparing local place plans to encourage and facilitate validation and registration of local place plans, and discuss how local place plan proposals can be included in local development plan. Where appropriate, use mediation to address conflicts between local place plans and alternative proposals.

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
'Call for ideas' survey	May 2025 > June 2025	To enable developers, landowners and communities to submit/ update ideas and proposals for specific sites in Renfrewshire.		Publicise 'Call for ideas' survey to all registered participants, and more widely. Make submission form available online.
Consultation on suggested development sites	August > October 2025	To allow stakeholders to comment on the Council's initial assessment of sites that have been suggested for development sites		Publish initial/draft assessments of proposed development sites online and invite stakeholder comments. Where appropriate, use mediation to resolve different views.
Preparation of masterplans and site briefs in collaboration with stakeholders	May 2025- > March 2026	To provide an opportunity for stakeholders to inform the content of the proposed local development plan		Work with communities and developers to inform and develop area masterplans and development briefs for sites for inclusion in proposed local development plan.
Ongoing engagement with statutory stakeholders, community councils, children and young people, older people and gypsy/travellers and travelling showpeople.	May 2025 > March 2026	To ensure statutory engagement requirements are met and that the proposed plan is informed by engagement with these groups.		Continue to engage with all stakeholders through meetings and events.

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
Liaise with organisations who will be responsible for actions included in the Draft Delivery Programme	May 2025 > March 2026	To ensure that organisations are aware and supportive of their role in delivering the local development plan.		Meetings with relevant organisations.

Publication and consultation on proposed local development plan

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
Publish proposed local development plan for consultation, draft strategic environmental assessment environmental report and draft habitat regulations appraisal	May 2026 > August 2026	To provide an opportunity for communities and stakeholders to comment on the proposed local development plan.		<p>Publish proposed local development plan and assessment/appraisal documents for minimum 12-week consultation period.</p> <p>Make copy of proposed plan available online, in Council offices and libraries.</p> <p>Publicise publication of plan through social media, press and posters and carry out statutory notifications.</p> <p>Notify neighbours of sites proposed for development in the proposed plan.</p>

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
				Attend meeting and events to publicise publication of proposed plan
Liaise with stakeholders who are seeking modifications to the proposed local development plan	August > November 2026	To try and resolve representations/objections that are seeking changes to the proposed plan		Meetings with individuals/organisations that have submitted representations/objections. Where appropriate use mediation to resolve different views.

#### Examination and adoption

<b>Engagement Activity</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Progress at October 2024</b>	<b>Future activity</b>
Examination further information requests	January > September 2027	The Reporter undertaking the examination may seek further information to fully understand representations.		Where required, facilitate responses to further information requests.
Publish modification report	October > December 2027	To inform participants of recommended changes to the proposed plan.		Publish modification report and inform participants.
Publish adopted local development plan	December 2027	To inform participants of the adoption of the local development plan.		Publish the plan and make available in Council offices and libraries. Notify participants and place a press advert.

### Engagement with children and young people – activity up to October 2024.

The Place Strategy team is working closely with Youth Services colleagues within the Council to facilitate participation by children and young people in the preparation of the local development plan (LDP3). This has involved several meetings with colleagues from each service, initially to explain the requirement and benefit for children and young people involvement in the process, then to discuss the practicalities of this.

The initial engagement event was with Renfrewshire Youth Voice (<https://www.ryv.org.uk/about-us/>), which includes members of the Scottish Youth Parliament. This discussion focused on how participation with children and young people should be undertaken, and provided advice such that the place standard tool for children and young people would be a good way to engage, but that online surveys would not be likely to generate many responses.

Based on this information, contact with local secondary schools was made and engagement sessions arranged. A session plan based around the young person's version of the place standard tool was designed in collaboration with Youth Services colleagues, and delivered jointly to eight secondary schools (Renfrew HS, Johnstone HS, Gryffe HS, St Benedict's HS, Gleniffer HS, St Andrew's HS, Linwood HS & Park Mains HS) over this period. Sessions were attended by over 100 secondary school pupils. Information was collected via maps, where participants highlighted places they liked and disliked, via flipchart where place standard questions were answered, and via the place standard wheel. Work is ongoing to digitise the information collected so that it can be better recorded and more fully analysed.

Engagement has also taken place at the Council 'Summer of Fun' camps. This focused on play with questions around closest and favourite play parks, and where else children like to play. Children were engaged with at these sessions which were held in 6 locations in Paisley, Linwood and Johnstone.

### Mediation

The Council will work with all stakeholders to discuss any issues which could lead to potential challenges/concerns throughout the plan preparation process. One method that can be used to support this is mediation, which can help aid discussions.

The preparation of the Evidence Report will provide the opportunity for any concerns/disputes in the evidence base to be discussed and negotiated. Mediation may also be used in the latter stages of the plan preparation when the proposed plan is published and subject to further representations.

The Council will be open to considering any requests from stakeholders to use mediation, taking into account the potential benefits in terms of saving time and cost, and fostering better relationships going forward. This could be on an informal basis or through an independent third party.

## Contact us and follow us

Mailing list – to be added to the local development plan mailing list, email us at [localplanconsultation@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:localplanconsultation@renfrewshire.gov.uk), call us on 0300 300 0144, or write to us at Place Strategy, Renfrewshire Council, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Renfrewshire House, Paisley, PA1 1BR

Social media – we will share updates on the Council's [X](#) and [Facebook](#) pages

Website – latest updates and documents will be published on the [LDP3 webpage](#)

Meetings – if you would like a presentation or meeting on the local development plan, please get in touch via [localplanconsultation@renfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:localplanconsultation@renfrewshire.gov.uk) or 0300 300 0144.