Guidance for Householders

February 2019

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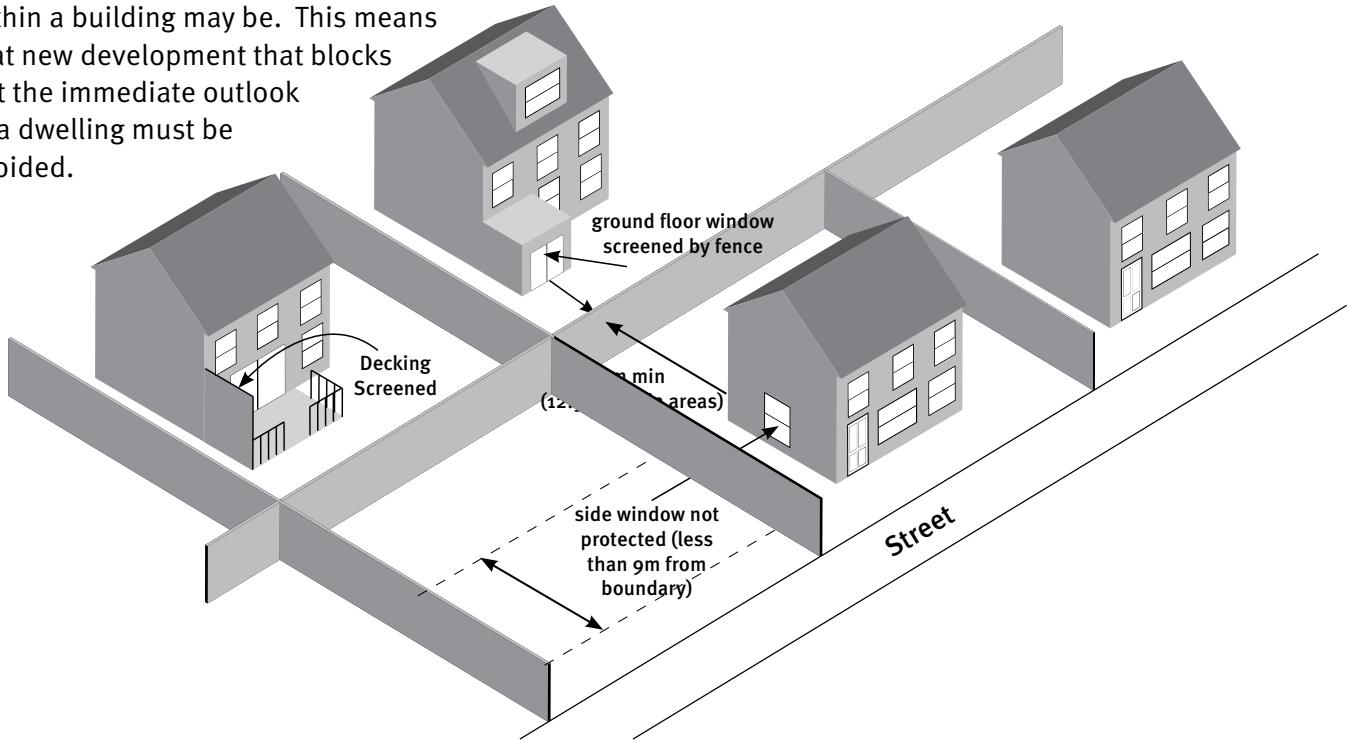
Privacy and outlook

People value privacy within their homes but they also value outlook - the ability to look outside, whether to gardens, streets or beyond. To achieve both, windows either have to be spaced sufficiently far apart so that it is difficult to see into a neighbouring property or windows have to be angled away from one another.

18m is the minimum recommended distance between windows, usually equally spread so that each property's windows are 9 metres from the common boundary.

A frequent objection to a development is loss of a particular view from the neighbour's house. Though private views will not be protected, immediate outlook of the foreground of what can be seen from within a building may be. This means that new development that blocks out the immediate outlook of a dwelling must be avoided.



Side Windows

Windows will only be protected for privacy and light if they themselves accord with policies in terms of distance to the boundary. Windows on side walls or gables - as often found on bungalows, for instance - will not normally be protected as they are not set back sufficiently from the boundary to be "good neighbours" themselves, taking only their fair share of light.

Ground floor windows can sometimes be closer than 9 metres to a boundary if they can be screened in some way, e.g. by a fence or hedge.

Decking, Roof Terraces, Balconies and Rooflights

Balconies, roof terraces and decking which are close to boundaries and overlook neighbouring properties can be a major source of noise and privacy intrusion.

Generally, decking should be at, or close to, ground level (taking account of any level changes in the garden ground), of simple design (including barriers and steps), and should not detract from the appearance of the house.

Opportunities for decking may be limited on listed buildings, as it is rarely part of the original character.

Permission for roof terraces and balconies will not be granted where there is significant overlooking into neighbouring property due to positioning and height or if the terracing results in loss of privacy to neighbouring properties.

Rooflights in new extensions that are within 9 metres of the boundary may be acceptable so long as they do not have an adverse impact on the existing privacy of neighbouring properties. Any adverse impacts on privacy may be mitigated if the rooflight(s) is set at a high level above floor level (usually above 1.8 metres).

INTERIM GUIDANCE ON THE DESIGNATION OF CONSERVATION AREAS AND CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT

APRIL 2019

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND
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This guidance was published by Historic Environment Scotland as part of the Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement (2016). This edition is an interim document published by Historic Environment Scotland in 2019 to provide detailed guidance on the application of Historic Environment Policy for Scotland (HEPS, 2019). It sets out the principles HES recommends are followed in implementing the requirements of Scottish Planning Policy paragraphs 141 and 142 and is a material consideration in the planning process. It should be read alongside HEPS and the Managing Change Guidance Notes series. We will be reviewing and updating our Managing Change Guidance series and any new guidance will be subject to public consultation.

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND GUIDANCE ON THE DESIGNATION OF CONSERVATION AREAS AND CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT

1. Conservation areas are designated under the Planning Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas (Scotland) Act 1997.

2. Conservation areas are areas which have special architectural or historic interest that are considered worthy of protection. Conservation areas are varied in character, encompassing the urban and the rural; they range from the historic core of our cities to isolated rural settlements or landscapes.

3. It is the character of an area, either architectural or historic, created by buildings and open spaces and their relationship with one another which the designation of a conservation area seeks to preserve. Elements such as the street layout, open spaces and the public realm all contribute to an area's special character.

4. To be designated as a conservation area it must me the criteria of **'special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which is desirable to preserve or enhance',** as set out in Section 61 of the 1997 Act.

5. National planning policy sets out that local authorities are expected to ensure that local development plans and supplementary guidance provide a framework for protecting and, where appropriate, enhancing all elements of the historic environment. In this regard, local planning authorities should designate and review existing and potential conservation areas and identify existing and proposed Article 4 Directions. This should be supported by Conservation Area Appraisals and Management. As part of this process, planning authorities are encouraged undertake a thorough appraisal of any area before designation to ensure that its character or appearance is understood.

6. By law, Historic Environment Scotland has the power to determine, after consultation with the planning authority, that an area should be a conservation area and may designate it. This is a power which will be used only exceptionally.

7. As set out in Section 62 of the 1997 Act, once a planning authority has decided to designate a conservation area, notice of the designation must be published in the *Edinburgh Gazette* and at least one local newspaper.

8. Scottish Ministers and Historic Environment Scotland, at the same time as the designation is advertised, must be formally notified of the designation of the conservation area. They must also be provided with a copy of the published notice, together with a copy of the designation map and a list of street names which will usually be submitted in an open GIS format.

9. Planning authorities may also amend or remove a conservation area that is already designated. Notification of this will be in the same way as for new designations. Amended conservation areas should normally be re-designated in their entirety.

10. Every planning authority is required to compile and keep available for public inspection a list containing appropriate information about their conservation areas.

11. Planning authorities have a duty to submit their proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas for consideration to a local public meeting and should, when preparing schemes, seek the advice and views of local residents and amenity groups. Wherever possible, proposals should first be subject to public consultation through the Local Development Plan process, thus providing opportunity for the views of stakeholders to be taken into account. Owners and occupiers of property within a conservation area do not have to be specifically notified

and there is no right of appeal against a designation, variation or cancellation.

12. Once an area has been designated it becomes the duty of the planning authority and any other authority concerned, including Historic Environment Scotland, to pay special attention to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character and appearance of the area when exercising their powers under planning laws.

13. Some types of development which would not otherwise require permission may require permission through the planning process.

Selection guidance for designating a conservation area

14. Areas of 'special architectural or historic interest' will be selected based on a range of factors which may include:

- areas of significant architectural or historic interest in terms of specific listed buildings and/or scheduled monuments;
- areas of significant architectural or historic interest in terms of building groupings, which may or may not include listed buildings and/or scheduled monuments, and open spaces which they abut;
- areas with features of architectural or historic interest such as street pattern, planned towns and villages and historic gardens and designed landscapes; and
- other areas of distinctive architectural or historic character.

15. The characteristics and values that contribute to a conservation area's special architectural or historic interest are:

- its special architectural or historic importance;
- its distinct character;
- its value as a good example of local or regional architectural style;
- its value within the wider context of the village or town; and
- its present condition, and the scope for significant improvement and enhancement.

Guidance on Conservation Area Consent for demolition of unlisted buildings

16. The demolition of even a single building and the construction of a new building or buildings in its place could result in harm to the character or appearance of a conservation area, or part of it.

17. In deciding whether conservation area consent should be granted, planning authorities should therefore take account of the importance of the building to the character or appearance of any part of the conservation area, and of proposals for the future of the cleared site.

18. If the building is considered to be of any value, either in itself or as part of a group, a positive attempt should always be made by the planning authority to achieve its retention, restoration and sympathetic conversion to some other compatible use before proposals to demolish are seriously investigated.

19. In some cases, demolition may be thought appropriate, for example, if the building is of little townscape value, if its structural condition rules out its retention at reasonable cost, or if its form or location makes its re-use extremely difficult. In instances where demolition is to be followed by re-development of the site, consent to demolish should in general be given only where there are acceptable proposals for the new building.

20. Decision makers are required to have regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the appearance of the conservation area in exercising their responsibilities under the planning legislation, and this statutory duty should always be borne in mind when considering demolition applications (Scottish Planning Policy, paragraph 143).

Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas

March 2018

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Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas

Who is this guidance for?

Anyone considering work to a property within a conservation area or to a listed building.

This guidance provides information on repairing, altering or extending listed buildings and unlisted buildings in conservation areas.

This document and other non-statutory guidance can be viewed at:
www.edinburgh.gov.uk/planningguidelines

Misc: Student Housing, Radio Telecommunications, Open Space Strategy etc.

This document is divided into two parts:

Part 1. Listed Building Guidance

Part 2. Conservation Area Guidance

Policy Context

This guidance interprets polices in the Edinburgh Local Development Plan which seek to protect the character and setting of listed buildings, and the character and appearance of conservation areas.

This guidance was initially approved in December 2012 and incorporates minor amendments approved in February 2016 and March 2018.

Contents

apply For Planning Permission

apply For Listed Building Consent

apply For Certificate of Lawfulness

Part1: Listed Buildings

Listed buildings represent the very best examples of the built heritage. They are defined as buildings of special architectural or historic interest and are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997. The lists of Buildings of Historic or Architectural Interest are compiled by Historic Scotland on behalf of Scottish Ministers. The term *building* includes structures such as walls and bridges.

There are three categories of listed buildings:

Category A - Buildings of national or international importance, either architectural or historic, or fine little-altered examples of some particular period, style or building type.

Category B - Buildings of regional or more than local importance, or major examples of some particular period, style or building type which may have been altered.

Category C - Buildings of local importance, lesser examples of any period, style, or building type, as originally constructed or moderately altered; and simple traditional buildings which group well with others in categories A and B.

Buildings which relate together in townscape terms or as planned layouts in urban, rural or landed estate contexts, often have their group value stressed by inclusion within 'A' or 'B' groups.

To check whether your property is listed, use our **online map**.

Do I need Listed Building Consent?

Listed buildings are afforded statutory protection. This means that listed building consent is required for the demolition of a listed building, or its alteration or extension in any manner which would affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest.

Listing covers the interior as well as the exterior, and includes any object or structure fixed to the building, or which has been included within its curtilage since 1st July, 1948. Listing, therefore, extends to historic fixtures or fittings (plasterwork, chimneypieces, panelling) and items within the curtilage such as stables, mews, garden walls and stone setts. Any proposals to alter unsympathetically, relocate or remove such features are likely to detract from the quality of the setting and are unlikely to be approved.

Listed building consent must be obtained where proposals will alter the character of the listed building, regardless of its category or whether the work is internal or external.

Proposed change will be managed to protect a building's special interest while enabling it to remain in active use. Each proposal will be judged on its own merits. Listing should not prevent adaptation to modern requirements but ensure that work is implemented in a sensitive and informed manner. The aim is to guard against unsympathetic alterations and prevent unnecessary loss or damage to historic fabric. Any alterations which would seriously detract from or alter the character of a listed building are unlikely to receive consent

Listed building consent is not required for internal redecoration, renewal of bathroom and kitchen fittings, rewiring or new plumbing, provided fittings or internal decorations (such as decorative plaster, murals and paintings) which contribute to the character of the building or structure are not affected.

In considering any application for listed building consent, and also any application for planning permission for development which affects a listed

building or its setting, the Council are required to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it may possess. In this context, preserving, in relation to a building, means retaining it either in its existing state or subject only to such alterations or extensions as can be carried out without detriment to its character.

The tests for demolition are detailed in the Scottish Historic Environment Policy. No listed building should be demolished unless it has been clearly demonstrated that every effort has been made to retain it. The Council will only approve such applications where they are satisfied that:

- the building is not of special interest; or
- the building is incapable of repair; or
- the demolition of the building is essential to delivering significant benefits to economic growth or the wider community; or
- the repair of the building is not economically viable and that it has been marketed at a price reflecting its location and condition to potential restoring purchasers for a reasonable period.

Repairs which match the original materials and methods and do not affect the character of the building do not usually require listed building consent or planning permission.

You can apply for listed building consent at **www.eplanning.scot**.

What if the work has already been carried out?

It is a criminal offence to demolish, alter materially or extend a listed building without listed building consent. Alterations may be subject to enforcement action or prosecution at any time. Retrospective applications for listed building consent will be considered on their merits.

Our guidance on **Selling Your House** sets out the criteria which will be used to determine whether to take enforcement action against unauthorised works to a listed building. This will help if you are selling a listed property and provides general advice on listed building consent.

What Other Consents Might Be Required?

Planning Permission

Development is defined as the carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operations in, on, over or under land, or the making of any material change in the use of any buildings or other land.

Planning permission is required for many alterations, additions and changes of use, although some development can be carried out without planning permission. This is '**permitted development**'.

To determine whether planning permission is required, the **Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Order 1992** or **Government Circular on Permitted Development** should be considered.

If you believe your building work is 'permitted development', you can apply for a **Certificate of Lawfulness**. This is a legal document from the Council which confirms that the development is lawful.

In addition, listed building consent may be required regardless of whether planning permission has been granted.

Advertisement Consent

Many advertisements will require advertisement consent, in addition to listed building consent and planning permission. You can check this by consulting or by seeking advice from the Planning Helpdesk.

Building Warrant

Converted, new or altered buildings may require a building warrant, even if planning permission or listed building consent is not required. Please contact Building Standards for more information on 0131 529 7826 or **email: buildingwarrant.applications@edinburgh.gov.uk**.

General Principles

The aim of this guideline is to prevent unnecessary loss or damage to historic structures and ensure that proposals will not diminish their interest.

The fact that a building is listed does not mean that changes cannot be made. However, it does mean that any alterations must preserve its character. Any alterations which would seriously detract from or alter the character of a listed building are unlikely to receive consent.

It is strongly advised that specialist advice be sought prior to carrying out any works to a listed building. Without exception, the highest standards of materials and workmanship will be required for all works associated with listed buildings.

Any alterations should protect the character and special interest of listed buildings .

There is a strong presumption against demolition of listed buildings and proposals for demolition will be assessed against the criteria set out in the Scottish Historic Environment Policy.

Repair

Planning permission and listed building consent are not normally required for repairs which match the original materials and methods and do not affect the character of the building. Inappropriate repairs can result in enforcement action or prosecution.

Repairs to listed buildings should always be carried out with care. Matching the original materials and method is important. The use of inappropriate materials and poor repair techniques can accelerate the decay of traditional historic buildings, shorten their lifespan and result in longer-term problems which may reault in much higher repair costs.

Stone Repair

Before any repairs are undertaken, the existing stonework details should be carefully categorised for the:

- **Type**: ashlar, random rubble, coursed rubble etc.
- **Tooling**: broached, stugged, polished
- **Joints**: v-jointed, square-jointed, fine-jointed, etc.

An analysis of the stone will also be required to establish its chemical make-up and ensure compatibility with the existing stone.

These details should be respected and repeated, where appropriate, when stone replacement and pointing is carried out. Inappropriate replacements affect the architectural integrity of historic buildings.

It is also imperative to remedy the cause of any decay by eliminating sources of soluble salts, preventing the passage of moisture and rectifying active structural faults.

Indenting

Indenting is the insertion of a new stone to replace one which is damaged or decayed.

Indenting may not always be necessary when a stone has a defect; if the stone can reasonably be expected to survive for another 30 years, it should be left, regardless of its appearance.

Where indenting is appropriate, the indent should be selected to closely match the original stone. Artificial stone should not be used on listed buildings.

There will inevitably be a marked contrast between old and new work. However, within a few years of repair the effects of natural weathering will have gone a long way to remedy this situation. Cosmetic treatment of indented stone, either cleaning the old stone or distressing the new is not recommended.

Partial indenting should not normally be considered. In certain circumstances, small indents may be appropriate on moulded detail, but leaving the damaged stonework may be more acceptable than carrying out a visually intrusive repair.

Stone indents on external original steps and entrance platts are normally the most appropriate method of repair. Concrete screeds to steps and entrance platts are not acceptable.

Redressing

Redressing is the removal of the surface layer from the decayed stone. This may not be appropriate as it can cause considerable damage to the underlying stone and accelerate decay.

Mortar

Mortar repairs to stone should only be used as an extension of pointing to fill in small areas of decay and extend the life of a stone which would otherwise have to be replaced.

In some cases, it may be appropriate to use mortar on sculpted or moulded stonework. However, as mortar is significantly different from stone, ensuring a permanent bond between the two materials will be difficult. Therefore, a mortar repair will have a considerably shorter life than indenting.

Lime mortars will usually be the most appropriate mix. The presence of cement in the mix used for mortar repairs will accelerate decay in the neighbouring stone.

Weather Proofing

In traditional construction, the free movement of water vapour through the fabric of a building in both directions is essential.

The use of silene and silicone treatments to weather proof stone is not recommended because serious damage can occur if condensation builds up within a stone and the process is not reversible.

Mortar Joints and Pointing Repair

The original mortar joints and pointing should be respected, if traditional and causing no damage. Pointing can take many forms (recessed, flush, slaistered etc.) In some instances, small pieces of stone or slate are used in the mortar mix. In cases where it is unclear what existed previously, mortar analysis should be carried out.

Under no circumstances should joints be widened to facilitate the work. Raking out should be done carefully with hand tools; power tools should never be used. It is important that the correct pointing and tools are chosen and used for specific types of joints.

Mortar should be sufficiently resilient to accommodate minor movements in the masonry, but it should never be stronger or denser than adjoining stones. This will cause the mortar to crack and prevent drying out through the joints, causing moisture to evaporate through the stones, accelerating decay.

Lime mortar should be used in most instances. However, as the technology, science and physical properties of pure lime mortars vary considerably from cement gauged mortars, they must be used carefully. Hard cement mortar should never be used.

Traditional Harls and Renders

Hard cement mixes should not be used for harls and renders. A hard mix will trap a layer of moisture between the harl and the stonework beneath, thus forcing water back into the stone and encouraging accelerated decay. Lime mixes are recommended.

Original harls can be analysed to establish their composition. In order to prepare surfaces for harling and rendering, old cement render should usually be removed. In most cases, it will be more appropriate to use a wet dash rather than a dry dash. It is important that each ‘layer’ of harl is allowed to dry fully before applying another coat. However, each situation is different and specialist advice should be sought on best practice.

Roofs

Listed building consent will be required for alterations to roofs. Planning permission may also be required, depending on the proposal.

Planning permission and listed building consent are not normally required for repairs which match the original materials and methods and do not affect the character of the building.

The roof, which includes parapets, skews, chimney heads and chimney pots, is an important feature of a building. The retention of original structure, shape, pitch, cladding (particularly colour, weight, texture and origin of slate and ridge material) and ornament is important. Any later work of definite quality which makes a positive contribution to the interest of the building should also be kept.

The restoration of lost roof elements to match the original form will be encouraged.

It is important to use the proper repair techniques and materials for ridges, flashings, mortar fillets

and parapet gutters. Ridges should be replaced to match existing. Most ridges and flashings should be replaced in lead, making sure to use the correct code of lead.

Any change to the roofing material, including alternative slate, will require listed building consent and may require planning permission.

Most traditional roofs within Edinburgh are covered with Scots slates, although other materials, such as Welsh and Cumbrian slates, pantiles and thatch, have also been used. In some instances, materials such as copper may have been used on the roof of a decorative turret. Traditional materials should always be respected and repeated, where appropriate.

Scots slates are becoming increasingly rare and in some circumstances second-hand slates are of poor quality and size. It is preferable in some cases that sound old slates are laid together on visible roof slopes, with new slates used on non-visible roof slopes. Alternatives to Scots slate will be considered on their merits.

It is important to ensure consistency in the texture and grading, and that the new slate matches the colour, size, thickness and surface texture of the original materials as closely as possible.

Concrete tiles or artificial slate should never be used in conjunction with, or as a replacement for real slate. The introduction of slate vents may require listed building consent.

Patterned slating, incorporating fish scale or diamond slates, sometimes in different colours, should be retained and repaired with special care. The original gradation of slates should be repeated.

Flat Roofs

Lead is usually the most appropriate covering for the long-term maintenance of flat roofs. Alternatives to lead may be considered acceptable in certain cases. Bituminous felt is not generally appropriate for use on listed buildings.

Chimneys

Removal of all or part of a chimney will require listed building consent and may require planning permission.

Original chimneys should always be retained and repaired as they are an essential feature of traditional buildings and contribute to the historic skyline. Non-original additions to chimneys should be removed.

Chimneys should be repaired using traditional methods to reinstate as original, with particular attention to the detail of the coping stone. Particular care should be taken to retain chimneystacks to their original height.

Detailed records of the original structure should be made where downtaking is necessary to ensure correct replacement. Chimney pots should always be replaced to match the original.

Where the original chimneys have been demolished and replaced in brick and render, the rebuilding in stone will be encouraged.

Rainwater goods (guttering, downpipes etc.)

Replacement rainwater goods should match the original, cast iron or zinc should be used where these were the original materials. Other materials such as aluminium may be acceptable, where appropriate.

They should be painted either black or to tone in with the adjacent stonework and roofing respectively.

Railings, Gates, Balconies and Handrails

The erection of railings, gates, balconies and handrails requires listed building consent and planning permission.

Planning permission and listed building consent are not normally required for repairs.

Balconies, gates, railings and handrails are usually formal components in the design of an elevation. They should be maintained and repaired and, if

they have to be replaced, should be erected on a like for like basis. The recommended paint colour is black gloss.

Usually, railings were made from cast iron, although there may be some examples surviving of wrought iron. If the railings no longer exist, it is important to establish what the original railings were like. Remaining sections of iron work may still exist in the cope or on similar neighbouring properties or old photographs and plans can be used. In most cases, cast iron railings fixed individually into the cope should be used.

Railings are normally fixed to stone copes. These should be repaired according to the principles outlined in the previous section on stone repair. Moulded copes and other special details should always be respected and repeated.

External Alterations

Any external alterations, however minimal, may require listed building consent and possibly planning permission.

This section provides guidance on the most common forms of change. You are encouraged to contact Planning to discuss any proposed work.

Where it is proposed to restore lost features, it will be important to ensure that all restorative work is based on sound physical and documentary evidence of the previous state of the building. This is to ensure that work is carried out in an architecturally and historically correct manner.

Stone Cleaning

Listed building consent is required to stone clean listed buildings. Planning permission is also required for the stonecleaning of any building within a conservation area.

Stone cleaning cannot be undertaken without damaging a building. It can also reveal the scars of age, such as staining, poor previous repairs and surface damage. It may also remove the natural patina, the protective layer on the stone, opening up the surface pore structure and making re-soiling much easier.

There will, therefore be a presumption against the stone cleaning of listed buildings and buildings within conservation areas. Stone cleaning will not be considered acceptable on any street where cleaning has not commenced. Where cleaning of a street has commenced, the issue of reinstating architectural unity will be a material considerations in assessing the merits of individual applications.

Specialist professional skills should be sought to undertake analysis and, where acceptable, design a suitable cleaning method and undertake work.

Applications for stone cleaning should be accompanied by a full drawing and photographic survey.

To assess the most appropriate method of stone cleaning, applicants will be required to ascertain geological characteristics through laboratory tests.

Stone cleaning methods should be tested on an inconspicuous trial area of two or three stones.

If stone cleaning is approved, post-cleaning photographic records should be submitted and documented for research purposes.

It is expected that most necessary repairs will be identified at the initial application stage. Therefore, consent would be conditional upon a commitment by applicants to undertake a minimum standard of repair subsequent to stonecleaning.

Stone Cleaning Methods

The following are the most common stone cleaning methods. Their inclusion in this guideline is for information only and does not imply their acceptability.

1. Mechanical - Carborundum Disc

This method comprises a hand-held rotary disc with a carborundum pad.

2. Air and Water Abrasive

These methods comprise grits and other abrasive mediums carried by jets of air and/or water.

3. Chemical Cleaning

This method comprises the application of chemicals and a high pressure water wash or pressure steam.

4. Water (High Pressure, Low Pressure, Manual)

When water pressure is used as part of the cleaning method, water is forced into the stone to a depth where natural evaporation will not take place. The water can then percolate down through the fabric of the wall and cause accelerated weathering at lower levels in the building. High pressure water can also cause damage to the stone.

A water wash remains an alternative stone cleaning technique. A low pressure water wash (100-200psi) is the least aggressive method of stone cleaning. However, it will not remove dirt which has combined with the surface to form an insoluble compound. High pressure and/or excessive water can cause surface erosion, pointing wash-out, staining and force water into the core of the wall. Due to the dangers of thermal expansion, water washing should be avoided in frosty conditions.

Paint Removal from Masonry

Paint removal will require planning permission and listed building consent.

The restoration of the original surface through the removal of paint can improve the character and appearance of a building. Where surfaces have been previously painted, the removal of paint will be supported in principle, provided that the proposed removal method does not adversely affect the original surface.

The removal of paint requires chemical and/or abrasive cleaning to re-expose the stone beneath. Abrasive methods can cause severe damage to the surface and will be unlikely to remove all traces of paint from coarse, porous sandstone. In certain circumstances, a minimally abrasive method may be appropriate to remove the outermost paint layers not in contact with the stone surface. Chemical paint removal varies from paint stripper to a proprietary poultice (a substance placed on the stone to draw out the paint). Each requires extreme caution due to their potentially damaging effects and trial samples should be carried out.

Previous painting could have disguised the poor condition or appearance of the surface so repair work may be required following paint removal. Therefore, consents will be conditional upon a commitment by applicants to undertake a minimum standard of repair subsequent to paint removal.

Where paint removal is not appropriate, the property should be repainted in a matt finish stone coloured paint to tone with the adjoining stonework.

Specialist professional skills should be sought to undertake analysis, design a suitable treatment method and undertake any work.

Graffiti Treatment

Graffiti treatment will require planning permission and listed building consent if the proposed method will affect the character or appearance of the building.
Whilst graffiti can have an adverse impact on the character and appearance of a building and general environment, inappropriate graffiti treatment can cause irreversible and fundamental damage to buildings.

The treatment of graffiti from listed buildings and buildings within conservation areas will generally be supported provided there would be no unacceptable change in the appearance of the historic surface or structural integrity. However, the condition or architectural detailing of the surface or the nature of the graffiti may, in some circumstances, prevent any form of graffiti treatment from being acceptable.

Each site must be assessed on an individual basis and a site specific proposal prepared. Specialist professional skills should be sought to design suitable treatment methods and undertake any work.

At sites where graffiti is a recurring issue or where historic surfaces are vulnerable to the effects of graffiti treatment, alternative strategies may be required to prevent or reduces incidences of graffiti. Lighting, CCTV, physical barriers and the repositioning of fixtures may be required. These may need listed building consent and/or planning permission.

Temporary sacrificial coatings will also be encouraged in areas of persistent graffiti attack, provided there would be no adverse impact on the surface.

The permanent sealing of a surface will result in accelerated decay of the stone leading to expensive repairs and will therefore not be considered acceptable.

Graffiti Removal Methods

Chemical

Includes solvent based paint removers, other organic solvents and alkali-based paint removers or caustic removers.

Physical

Mainly air abrasion but can also include pressure washing and steam cleaning.

Heat

Includes hot pressure washing and steam cleaning, which must be applied at an appropriate pressure for the substrate; and laser treatments which can be labour intensive, slow and expensive.

Painting and Render

Paint which matches the existing in colour and uses traditional materials and methods will not require listed building consent or planning permission.

Painting or rendering of a previously untreated surface will require planning permission and listed building consent, and is unlikely to be acceptable.

Changing the colour of a listed building will need listed building consent. Planning permission will also be required to change the colour of any building located within a conservation area.

External stonework must not be painted or rendered, unless the surface was originally painted or rendered.

Coping stones and the edge of steps should not be painted.

Information on painting a shop or other commercial premises is included within the **Guidance for Businesses**.

Walls covered with smooth cement render or a harled finish should generally be painted in earth colours or neutrals (grey, cream or beige). Rendered bands to windows should generally be in stone colours.

Extensions and Additions

Listed building consent will be required for extensions or additions to listed buildings. Planning permission may also be required, depending on the proposal.

New extensions on a terraced block may not be acceptable where there are no existing extensions. Where the principle of extending a listed building is acceptable, the extension should be subservient to the main building and will rarely be permitted on principal elevations. Extensions should not normally exceed 50% of the width of any elevation.

It is usually acceptable for an addition to be different and distinguishable from the existing building, in terms of design. The use of high quality materials which complement the main building will be required . In other circumstances it may be appropriate to match the new work to the existing, in which case the new materials should be carefully matched.

The visual separation of extensions is encouraged. In the case of side extensions, they should be set back from the facade and be of a scale that does not affect the overall architectural composition. The effect of any addition on a symmetrical composition will be particularly important.

Encouragement will be given to the removal of inappropriate additions which are of inferior quality and which detract from the listed building. Where there is an existing extension of historic or architectural interest, such as a conservatory or outshot, this should be restored or repaired, rather than replaced.

Shopfront Alterations and Signage

Specific information is included in Guidance for Businesses. This should be considered alongside this document, where relevant.

Windows

The removal, replacement or alteration of windows will normally require listed building consent.

Repairs and painting which match the existing and use traditional materials and methods will not require listed building consent or planning permission.

Double glazing in listed buildings will require listed building consent.

Where a significant proportion of historic glass (such as Crown, cylinder and drawn sheet) remains on an individual window, it should be retained or re-used.

Secondary glazing is likely to require listed building consent where it will impact on architectural detail or affect the external appearance of the building.

Planning permission may also be required where the replacement or alteration will not match the existing in design, material, size, opening mechanism or proportion. Replacement windows which do not result in a material change to the appearance will not normally require planning permission.

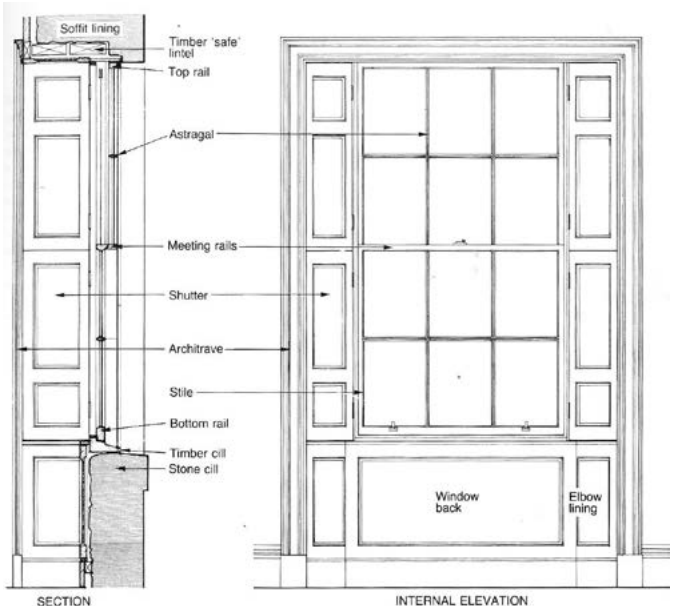
The reinstatement of the original window pattern will normally be encouraged.

Repair and Maintenance

There is a general presumption against the removal of original window frames and glazing; repair and refurbishment is preferred. Decay in timber is usually caused by moisture penetration, which can be prevented by thorough painting, regular maintenance and prompt attention to necessary repairs.

Glazing should be fixed with putty or a glazing compound rather than timber beading.

The thermal performance standard of existing windows can be improved by repair, draught-stripping and working internal shutters.



Openings

Window openings play an important role in establishing the character of an elevation and they should not be altered in their proportions or details.

Proposals to increase the glazing area by removing stone or timber mullions (vertical members between windows which form the divisions between windows) will not normally be granted consent.

Proposals to convert windows into door openings will not be considered acceptable on principal frontages or above garden level on all other elevations. Where acceptable, the width of the existing opening should not be increased. Normally, only one set of French windows will be permitted.

Entirely new window openings are unlikely to be acceptable on principal elevations as this can create an unbalanced composition.

Replacing Original Windows

Original windows are important features of any building and should not be removed or altered. The complete replacement of original windows will only be approved where they have clearly deteriorated beyond practicable repair. Proposals must be accompanied by evidence demonstrating that they are beyond repair; a professional survey may be requested.

In the event that replacement windows can be justified, they should be designed to replicate the original details, including materials, design and opening method. Particular attention must be paid to the mouldings; standard modern sections are not acceptable for reinstatement work. uPVC will not be acceptable.

Care should be taken the ensure that replacement windows are fitted in the same plane as the originals, are made of timber sections (the profile and dimensions of which match the originals) and have the meeting rails in the same position as the originals; this is especially important where the windows of only one property in a tenement or terrace block are being replaced.

Whenever an original window has been lost, any modern windows which are badly proportioned, of the wrong type, or incorrectly glazed, should be reinstated to the original proportion and detail. This is especially important in the case of unified terraces.

Double Glazing

Slim profile double glazing with a cavity (the space between the two sheets of glass) of a maximum of 6mm can be fitted into existing windows, provided early glass is not present.

Double glazing with a cavity of more than 6mm is not acceptable.

Secondary Glazing

Secondary glazing involves an independent internal window in addition to the existing. It should, wherever possible, be fitted immediately inside existing sashes or at a suitable position within the depth of the window reveal, being fixed either to the case or the surrounding framework of the ingoes. Secondary glazing should not disrupt architectural features, such as shutters.

The meeting rails and frames of secondary windows should be as small in section as possible to allow them to be disguised behind existing rails. Painting their external faces black helps to minimise visibility from the outside. Where necessary, detailing of internal secondary windows must allow for the use of the easy-clean hinges on the lower sash of the original outer window.

Additional glazing units fitted to the outside of existing windows are not acceptable.

Fanlights

Decorative fanlights should be retained, and where necessary, replaced.

Astragals

Where there is clear photographic or physical evidence that astragals (the glazing bars dividing panes of glass) have been removed, their replacement to the original profile and dimensions will be encouraged. The glazing pattern which forms part of a significant later re-modelling scheme should not be changed. Astragals applied to the surface of the glass or sandwiched between the glass of doubled glazed units are not considered acceptable.

Horns

Horns are Victorian projections of the side frames of the sashes, devised to strengthen them, following the introduction of heavy plate glass. Georgian and early Victorian windows with astragals never have horns and will therefore be strongly resisted. Edwardian windows sometimes had horns, and their use may, therefore, be appropriate.

Ventilators and Extractor Fans

Ventilators cut through the glass or visible on the window frames will not be considered acceptable; they should be located unobtrusively in the meeting rail or through the box frame.

Mechanical extractor fans should be located on rear or side elevations and will not normally be acceptable within windows or fanlights, or on front elevations.

Paint

Originally, most windows were painted dark brown or bottle green. However, window joinery, including fanlights, should normally be painted white or off-white to maintain uniformity (brilliant white should be avoided).

Freestanding buildings may have more scope to investigate and 'restore' the original colours.

All areas of dormer windows, other than the window frames, should be painted to tone in with the roof.

Special Cases

Institutional/Industrial buildings

Industrial and institutional buildings have a variety of window types, depending on their age and function. The original window type should be retained wherever practicable, although flexibility on window design may be acceptable to allow conversion to new uses. The glazing pattern should be reproduced and the manner of opening should be as close to the original as possible. Standard double glazing may be acceptable, provided discrepancies in the form, profile, section, materials and opening method are kept to a minimum.

Early Modern Metal Windows

Early modern metal framed windows should normally be repaired or replaced with matching windows of the same materials and design. New units manufactured from different materials will rarely be capable of accurately matching and will only be acceptable where exact replication of the original window is of less importance. In such cases, any discrepancy in form, profile, section and opening method should be kept to a minimum.

Casement Windows

Original inward opening casement windows are relatively rare and must be retained or identically replaced.

Special Types of Glass

There is a presumption in favour of retaining stained, decorative leaded , etched glass and historic glass. If the glass has to be removed and is of artistic merit, arrangements should be made for its recording and its careful removal. Proposals to use wired glass, obscured glass, and louvered glass or extract fans in windows on main elevations will not be considered acceptable.

Dormer Windows and Rooflights

New dormer windows will not normally be acceptable unless they are part of the original or early design of an area. Rooflights will almost always be a preferable solution, but these will not generally be permitted on roof slopes which are largely unaltered. Where acceptable, rooflights should be of

a conservation type and should be of an appropriate scale and proportion. The proposed number of rooflights will also be a determining factor.

Doors

The removal, replacement or alteration of doors will normally require listed building consent.

Original doors are important features of any building and should not be removed or altered. The complete replacement of original doors will only be approved where they have clearly deteriorated beyond practicable repair. Proposals must be accompanied by evidence demonstrating that they are beyond repair; a professional survey may be requested.

Replacement doors which incorporate integral fanlights or inappropriate glazing or panelling patterns will not be granted consent.

Entirely new door openings are unlikely to be acceptable on principal elevations as this can create an unbalanced composition.

Doors in street frontages, even though no longer used, should be retained.

Door furniture and later fittings of quality should be retained. Where these have not survived, the replacement of modern fittings with items appropriate to the period of the building will be encouraged.

Door entry systems should be discreetly designed and should be located on door ingoes, not the main façade.

Paint

Doors should be painted in an appropriate dark and muted colour.

Basements

Listed building consent may be required for external alterations to basements. Planning permission may also be required, depending on the proposal.

There is a presumption against the removal of original stone slabs from basement areas. They should never be covered in concrete or any other material such as gravel or chips. Where existing stone slabs need to be renewed new stone slabs should be laid. Similarly, stone steps and platts to ground floor entrances should be repaired or renewed in natural stone to match the original in

colour. Basement steps, floors and walls should not be painted .

Proposed extensions in front basement areas or under entrance platts are not normally acceptable and owners are encouraged to remove existing extensions.

The formation of lightwells in basements will only be permitted where they are part of the character of the street. These should always be in matching materials to the main building and covered with a flush cast iron grille.

Access Stairs

New external access stairs will require listed building consent and may also require planning permission.

There is a general presumption against the introduction of external access stairs on any elevation. External access stairs may be acceptable in exceptional circumstances where there is a pattern of original access stairs established relevant

to the elevation(s) in question and this can be fully supported by an historic building analysis.

Where access stairs can be justified, they should be in-keeping with the character of the building. The design of the stair should either be based on an original design for the type of building or a lightweight modern addition with metal being the preferred material. New doors and stairs should be painted appropriate colours, usually black for metal work. They should not be enclosed structures.

Stairs should normally be for access only. Where they include platforms for incidental use, the Council's guidelines on privacy must be complied with. Stairs should be kept close to the building, but should not obstruct daylight from existing windows.

When buildings are in single occupancy and there is an existing door at either ground floor or basement level, an access stair at upper levels will not normally be permitted. On all other properties, access stairs will be restricted to the floor above the lowest habitable floor level. Bridges over rear basement areas will not be considered acceptable.

Renewable Energy Technologies (Solar Panels, Wind Turbines etc.)

Listed building consent will normally be required for the installation of renewable energy technologies. Planning permission may also be required, depending on the proposal.

The installation of renewable energy technologies should be carefully sited in order to protect the architectural integrity of the listed building.

Poorly located renewable energy technologies can be visually intrusive and will not be acceptable where they detract from the character of the building. They should not be visible from public view. They may be acceptable in the following locations:

- On the ground to the rear of the building.
- On a modern extension to the rear of the building, providing that no part is higher than the main building.
- In the internal valley of a roof, provided that no part projects above the ridge.

In the New Town Conservation Area and World Heritage Site, aerial views will also be considered.

External Plumbing

Listed building consent may be required for external plumbing. In some circumstances, planning permission may also be required, depending on the proposal.

Additional pipework on important facades should be avoided especially if it would result in disturbance to, or the breaking through of masonry, mouldings or decorative features. Replacements should be in cast iron, painted to match the colour of the walling and should match the original sections.

Gas Pipes and Meter Boxes

Listed building consent is only required where the guidelines listed below cannot be complied with.

A maximum of a 450mm of supply pipe can be visible on the front wall of listed buildings. External pipes which are both horizontal and vertical must have the horizontal section within the basement areas (where applicable) and not be visible from the street.

Holes in stonework must be kept to a minimum and should be made through stone joints, except in the case of “V” jointing or rubble where holes should be in the stonework. Non-ferrous fixings must be used.

Pipe runs should not interfere with cornices and decorative plasterwork. Where pipes are chased into walls, plasterwork must be reinstated to original.

All redundant surface-run pipe work must be removed and the surfaces made good and painted to match existing materials and colour.

Meter boxes should not be fitted to the front or any conspicuous elevation of buildings.

Pipe work and meter boxes should be painted to match adjacent stone.

Flues

Listed building consent is required to install balanced flues on the front or any conspicuous elevation of listed buildings. In certain circumstances an application for planning permission will also be required.

Balanced flues will not normally be acceptable on the front or conspicuous elevations of listed buildings.

The balanced flue should be painted to match the colour of the surrounding stonework.

Holes to accommodate the balanced flue should be formed with a core cutter.

Ventilation Grilles

Listed building consent is required to install ventilation grilles on the front elevation (or any conspicuous elevations) of listed buildings. Planning permission is not normally required if of a domestic scale.

Ventilation grilles will not normally be acceptable on the front or other conspicuous elevations of listed buildings.

If acceptable in principle, ventilation grilles should generally be no bigger than the standard size, flush with the wall surface and coloured to match the background.

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

Planning permission and listed building consent will normally be required to install air conditioning and refrigeration units on the exterior of buildings. Listed building consent may also be required to install units within listed buildings where units would disrupt architectural features and fixtures.

The preferred location for units on listed buildings are:

- Free standing within garden or courtyard areas, subject to appropriate screening and discreet ducting.
- Within rear basement areas.
- Inconspicuous locations on the roof (within roof valleys or adjacent to existing plant). However, in the New Town Conservation Area and World Heritage Site, aerial views will also be considered.
- Internally behind louvres on inconspicuous elevations. This should not result in the loss of original windows.

Where it is not practicably possible to locate units in any of the above locations, it may be acceptable to fix units to the wall of an inconspicuous elevation, as low down as possible; they should not be located on the front elevation.

Units should be limited in number, as small as practicably possible and painted to tone with the surrounding stonework or background.

Ducting must not detract from the character of the building.

Alarm Boxes

Alarm boxes on listed buildings should be the smallest available, fitted in the least conspicuous location and painted to match the background colour or stonework.

There will be a general presumption against the location of alarm boxes on the front elevation of listed buildings which retain their original domestic character, irrespective of the use of the premises. Where alarm boxes have to be located on the front elevation, they should be restricted to the least visible location. On tenemental properties, alarm boxes should not normally be located above the ground floor.

In basement areas, it may be possible to fit alarm boxes in inconspicuous locations such as on in-facing walls, under entrance platts and stairs, and on the sides of platt supporting arches close to the junction with the pavement.

Concealed locations on side and rear elevations should also be considered. Consideration should also be given to fitting boxes inside the building behind windows and fanlights. Alarm boxes should not bridge mortar joints in the stone, particularly where V or square joints are used.

Alarm boxes will normally be considered acceptable in appropriate locations and on painted shop fronts and commercial frontages where the boxes are painted to match the background colour.

Satellite Dishes

Listed building consent will normally be required to install a satellite dish on a listed building. Planning permission may also be required if located within a Conservation Area.

Poorly sited satellite dishes can be visually intrusive and will not be acceptable where they detract from the character of the building. They should not be visible from public view. They may be acceptable in the following locations:

- On the ground to the rear of the building.
- On a modern extension to the rear of the building, providing that no part of the dish is higher than the main building.
- In the internal valley of a roof, provided that no part of the dish projects above the ridge.
- Behind a parapet, provided no part of the dish projects above it.

In the New Town Conservation Area and World Heritage Site, aerial views will also be considered.

Where the location for a dish is considered to be appropriate, it should be chosen to blend in with its background. This may require the dish to be painted.

All fixings should be non-ferrous.

Consent may be refused for additional dishes due to the visual effects of a multiplicity of dishes, even if this precludes some residents from receiving satellite television. The sharing of satellite dishes will be encouraged.

Other Additions

External fixtures will require listed building consent when they affect the character of the listed building. These include floodlighting, security cameras, window boxes, key boxes, bird control installations and eyebolts (unless on window reveals). Planning permission may also be required, depending on the proposal.

Only undamaging and visually unobtrusive positions for such fixtures will be considered acceptable. Fixtures should not lie across, cut into or through any architectural feature or disturb the balance of a symmetrical façade. Fixings into stonework should be kept to a minimum and should be non-ferrous.

The size and number of additions will also be an important consideration and, where appropriate, applicants may be asked to erect fixtures on a temporary basis in order that their impact can be accurately assessed.

Proposals to erect any fixtures which fail to respect the form and detailing of the building and detract from its appearance are not likely to be acceptable.

The position and colour of cabling for lighting, television and other services should be inconspicuous. Cabling may often be accommodated behind or next to downpipes or on top of projecting string courses and cornices. Black or grey cabling is normally the most appropriate colour.

Adaptation for Accessibility

Listed building consent is required to install ramps, handrails, indicators and lifts and for alterations to doors. Planning permission may also be required.

While the Equality Act 2010 requires service providers to take "reasonable" steps to make their buildings and services accessible, there is also a statutory duty to protect the character of the historic environment. The provision of access for the less able to historic buildings will, therefore, require careful consideration and design.

Full access for everyone via the principal entrance may not be appropriate. Alternative access arrangements which preserve the character of the listed building may be required.

Listed building consent will be required for any internal alterations which will alter the character of the listed building.

Planning permission is not required for internal alterations.

Solutions should be tailored to the particular building through the use of innovative design and high quality materials.

Ramps

The placing of a ramp on a building should have minimal impact on the historic fabric.

The symmetry of existing elevations and the rhythm of the street as a whole should be respected, and where relevant, care should be taken to protect the relationship between railings, property and basement.

Where appropriate, consideration should be given to regrading the ground at the entrance in order to overcome the need for larger ramps and minimise the visual impact on the building. If this will cause a footway hazard, a ramp inside the building may be appropriate; the removal of steps and the lengthening of doors can sometimes accommodate this.

Ramps on the public footway will not generally be supported. Where acceptable, ramps must leave sufficient clear footway for pedestrians. This will vary according to the volume of pedestrian traffic. In general, this is 2 metres for residential areas, 3 metres for main roads and 5-6 metres for busy shopping streets.

Where a ramp is acceptable, high quality materials, such as stone to match the existing building, will be encouraged. In some circumstances, high quality design in modern materials may be more appropriate.

Handrails

Where required, handrails should be carefully designed and sensitively located to avoid being visually intrusive.

Appropriate contrast with the background material can be achieved with high quality traditional or contemporary materials.

Tactile Indicators

Historic flooring materials should not be replaced with standard tactile paving. A tactile grid can be achieved by using materials that match those of the surrounding area, and which have been textured with ridges or dimples. More information is available in the **Edinburgh Design Guidance**.

Visual indicators

Brightly coloured high-visibility strips should be avoided, unless their use helps to avoid other more visually intrusive works.

Doors

There may be cases (particularly in the case of historic buildings) where it is less damaging to seek alternative access routes than to widen or alter a doorway. Historic doors are often an integral part of the design of the building, and should be retained wherever possible.

Where historic doors are heavy or difficult to operate, it is normally possible to adapt them by re-hanging and/or introducing opening mechanisms or visual indicators to make the handles more prominent.

Lifts

External chair and platform lifts can have a significant impact on the architectural character of a building, but may be more appropriate than a ramp in certain circumstances. The resting position of any external lift should be as low as possible, and the design of the platform and restraints should be as transparent as possible. Metal cages are unlikely to be acceptable as they are disruptive to the streetscape and can seem intimidating to the user.

Internal Alterations

Listed building consent will be required for any internal alterations which will alter the character of the listed building.

Planning permission is not required for internal alterations.

Subdivision

The original plan form of a building should always be respected.

All major works of alteration should be limited to areas of secondary importance. There will be a particular requirement not to sub-divide, either vertically or horizontally, principal rooms and entrance/stair halls. Where the interior is of particular architectural or historical importance, subdivision will not be permitted.

The degree of change to the plan form which may be acceptable will normally be dependent on previous alterations and use.

There will be a presumption against the sub-division of complete houses and flats currently in residential use. A greater degree of flexibility will be exercised where the current use is non-residential and a return to residential is proposed.

Where acceptable, subdivision should not normally result in the formation of more than one flat per floor in town houses.

Rear stairs should not be attached as part of a sub-division proposal. Access to rear gardens should be retained through a basement room, where possible.

Garden ground should not be formally divided up by the use of fences and other unsuitable boundary markers to delineate ownership. Particular care should be taken to conceal the clutter of intensified domestic use, e.g. garages and bin stores.

Internal Walls and Partitions

Internal walls in listed buildings should always be investigated with care in advance of alterations as historic or interesting features may be concealed by plaster or behind panelling. In some cases, the partitions themselves may be of historic interest.

In general, consent will not be granted for the removal of original internal walls or partitions between front and rear principal rooms at ground and first floor level.

In cases where it is considered acceptable for an existing wall or partition to be removed, it will be necessary to leave nibs and a downstand of at least 300mm with any original cornice left intact. Work should not cut through mouldings or enriched plaster decoration but be shaped around them to allow for reinstatement at a later date. In most cases it will be desirable to replicate the original cornice detail at the head of new partitions as well as dadoes and skirtings.

New partitions which affect the proportions of principal rooms will not be considered acceptable.

Internal Doors

Doors that form part of the architectural composition of a room or plan form should be retained. Where they are redundant in terms of circulation, they should be locked shut and left in position, rather than being removed.

If traditional panelled doors require to be upgraded for fire resistance, fire resistant paper applied to the panelling or intumescent paint and edge strips should be used. Door closers should be hidden.

In general, consent will not be granted for new doors connecting front and rear principal rooms at ground and first floor level. Jib (secret) doors may only be allowed in certain cases.

Where new door openings are considered acceptable, they should be correctly detailed with matching doors and architraves. They should not incorporate features such as glazed panels. Where doors are to be added, but are not in traditional positions it is often acceptable to design a jib door or modern opening, so as not to confuse the building's history.

Buffet recesses are an important feature in the dining rooms of listed buildings, particularly in the New Town, and should be retained. New door openings will not be granted within a buffet recess.

Plasterwork

Care should always be taken with works to old plaster to avoid destroying early decoration. All decorative features from a simple cornice or cove to elaborate wall and ceiling decoration should be preserved. Suspended ceilings should never be formed in principal rooms or entrance halls which have decorative plasterwork. They may be acceptable in minor rooms provided they are above window height.

Chimneypieces

Chimneypieces, along with fireplaces containing original features are part of the decorative history of a building and are often central to the design of a room. Even later chimneypieces of interest can make a significant contribution to the character of a room. Original or later chimneypieces or fireplaces of interest should not be removed, even if the chimney is redundant. In cases where there is no alternative to the removal of a chimneypiece, it should be re-used in an appropriate location within the building. The removal of a chimneybreast is almost never acceptable, particularly as this may affect the structural stability and ventilation of the building. The restoration of missing chimneypieces will be supported.

Staircases

The removal or alteration of any historic staircase, including handrails and balusters, is not normally acceptable. The stair is often the most significant piece of design within a building and can be important dating evidence. Where subdividing ground and basement floors, the basement stair must be retained. In retail premises, the removal of the lowest flight of stairs, which provides access to and use of upper floors, will not be allowed.

Lifts and Stair Lifts

Wherever possible, lifts should be installed in an existing opening in order to minimise physical and visual disruption to the built fabric.

Stair lifts and chair lifts may not be acceptable in sensitive interiors. It may be better to use a secondary stair if possible, or to rationalise the service provision within the building so that access to all floors is not required. An independent device such as a stair climber could also be considered.

Floors and Ceilings

Floors which are original to the building and/or of interest because of their materials, form or surface treatment should be respected, and repaired and retained in situ. Care must be taken when such floors require to be lifted in order to install or repair services. In some instances, features of interest are concealed behind suspended or false ceilings. This should always be the subject of investigation prior to any works being carried out.

Kitchens and Bathrooms

New kitchens and bathrooms should be located at the rear of a building to prevent fittings being built across windows to the front of a property and to avoid cluttering a front elevation with downpipes and ventilators.

New kitchens will generally not be acceptable in principal rooms and must not obscure any architectural detailing.

Podded kitchens and bathrooms will rarely be permitted in principal rooms but may be permitted elsewhere provided they are of a limited area, are freestanding and do not have a detrimental effect on any fixtures of architectural interest.

En-suite bathrooms will not be acceptable in principal rooms. They should ideally be located within existing boxrooms or cupboards. Where this is not possible, it may be acceptable to locate them in larger, secondary rooms although this will be dependent on their form and how they affect room proportions.

En-suite bathrooms, where acceptable within rooms, will normally be height, appearing as a 'piece of furniture' within the room.

Sprinkler Systems

The introduction of sprinkler systems into important and/or vulnerable interiors will normally be acceptable. Whilst exposed pipework systems minimise the degree of disturbance to the structure, care must be exercised in the design of exposed pipework to ensure its appearance is appropriate to the historic interior to be protected. Pipework should not be cut into decorative plasterwork.

The location of sprinkler heads, either ceiling or wall mounted, must be carefully integrated into interiors in order to reduce their visual impact. In particular, ornate interior locations, will not normally be considered acceptable. On highly decorative ceilings, sprinkler heads are best concealed within the raised modelling of the ceiling.

The presence of sprinkler protection does not eliminate the need for preventative measures to reduce the risk of a fire occurring or spreading.

Other Services

The installation of services, such as computer trunking, fibre optics and central heating pipes, should be reversible and should not result in damage to architectural features. Surface mounting such services may be preferable.

New development in the grounds of listed buildings

Development within the curtilage of a listed building which is not physically attached to listed structures does not require listed building consent, but may require planning permission.

Buildings and structures erected before 1 July 1948 within the curtilage of a listed building are treated as part of the listing building, even if they are not included within the description. Listed building consent will, therefore, be required for works which affect their character. Planning permission may also be required.

The curtilage of a listed building is the area of land originally attached to, and containing the structure of the main house and its ancillary buildings, and which was used for the comfortable enjoyment of the house. The extent of the curtilage in individual cases will be based on an assessment of the physical layout, pattern of ownership, and the past or present use and function of the building. Thus, buildings such as coach-houses, doocots, mews/stable courts, walled gardens, lodges, boundary walls, garden ornaments and gates would all be considered to be part of the curtilage of the listed building and are treated as part of the listed building, even if they are not individually listed.

The setting of a listed building is the environment of which the building was designed to be a principal focus, and which it was designed to overlook. The 'setting' of a listed building takes into account a much broader assessment of the siting and situation

of the building. The curtilage of a house will normally form part of the setting, but it is also important to consider land immediately adjacent to, or visible from, the listed building.

Development within the setting of a listed building will only be acceptable if it can be demonstrated that the proposal would not be detrimental to the architectural or historic character of the listed building.

The sympathetic conversion and re-use of existing buildings on the site, particularly stable blocks, mews, service courts and steadings, should be considered prior to developing proposals for new build; care should be taken to incorporate surviving original features in these buildings where possible.

However, any proposals to alter unsympathetically, relocate or remove items within the curtilage, such as stables, mews, garden walls, stone steps , stone paving and cobbled or setted areas are likely to detract from the quality of the building's setting and are unlikely to be approved.

The condition of the main item of listing is critical and, where it has gone out of use, it is important that the restoration of the listed building is sought as a priority. It should be a condition that work on the listed building should be completed, or that an appropriate contract has been let for its restoration, prior to the commencement of new development.

New Development

Where new development within the grounds of a listed building is acceptable, the siting, design, scale, form, density and materials should be sympathetic to the listed building, including ancillary buildings.

The feeling of spaciousness of the grounds in relation to the main building should be protected for the amenity of the property. The scale of new development should be controlled so as not to crowd or obscure the house. No building of similar or greater bulk should be erected close to the main listed building.

The relationship that exists between the main house and its ancillary uses should not be disrupted by the new build.

Views

New development should always be set back from the original building line of the main house to avoid interfering with oblique views of the listed building and disrupting formal approaches. Development to the front of a listed building which breaks its relationship to the street is not acceptable. This is particularly destructive of character, not only to the building, but to the area, especially where the building is part of a unified group. The principal elevations should remain visible in their entirety from all principal viewpoints. New development should not restrict or obstruct views of, or from, the listed building or rise above and behind the building so that its silhouette can no longer be seen against the sky from the more familiar viewpoints. Distant views of features and landmarks which may gave been exploited in the design of the building should not be obstructed by the development.

Landscape

The landscape setting of the building should be analysed as the loss of garden ground can seriously affect the setting of a listed building.

Planting which forms part of the original landscape should be retained and, where appropriate, the original landscape restored. New landscaping should be used imaginatively to screen and enhance new development and to retain the landscape setting of the building. Immediate surroundings should be maintained communally, avoiding individually defined gardens.

Conservation areas are areas of special architectural or historic interest which have a character and appearance which is desirable to preserve or enhance.

To check whether your property is located within a conservation area, the Council's online map can be used.

Part 2: Conservation Areas

Conservation Area Character Appraisals

Conservation Area Character Appraisals identify the essential character of conservation areas. They guide the local planning authority in making planning decisions and, where opportunities arise, preparing enhancement proposals. The Character Appraisals are a material consideration when considering applications for development within conservation areas.

Implications of Conservation Area Status

1. The permitted development right which allows any improvement or alteration to the external appearance of a flatted dwelling that is not an enlargement is removed.
2. Special attention must be paid to the character and appearance of the conservation area when planning controls are being exercised. Most applications for planning permission for alterations will, therefore, be advertised for public comment and any views expressed must be taken into account when making a decision on the application.
3. Within conservation areas the demolition of unlisted buildings requires conservation area consent.
4. Alterations to windows are controlled in terms of the Council's policy.
5. Trees within conservation areas are covered by the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997. The Act applies to the uprooting, felling or lopping of trees having a diameter exceeding 75mm at a point 1.5m above ground level, and concerns the lopping of trees as much as removal. The planning authority must be given six week's notice of the intention to uproot, fell or lop trees. Failure to give notice renders the person liable to the same penalties as for contravention of a Tree Preservation Order (TPO).

Do I Need Planning Permission?

Planning Permission

Planning permission is required for many alterations, additions and changes of use. However, some work can be carried out without planning permission; this is referred to as 'permitted development'.

Within conservation areas, fewer alterations are permitted development and most changes to the outside of a building, including changing the colour, require planning permission.

The **Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Order 1992 (as amended)** sets out the requirements for planning permissions.

If you believe your building work is 'permitted development' and doesn't need planning permission, you can apply for a Certificate of Lawfulness. This is a legal document from the Council which confirms that the development is lawful.

What Other Consents Might Be Required?

Listed Building Consent

Listed building consent is required for works affecting the character of listed buildings, including the interior and any buildings within the curtilage. Planning permission may also be required in addition. If your building is listed, the Listed Buildings Guidance should be used.

Advertisement Consent

Advertisements are defined as any word, letter, model, sign, placard, board, notice, awning, blind, device or representation, whether illuminated or not, and employed wholly or partly for the purposes of advertisement, announcement or direction.

While many advertisements require permission, certain types do not need permission as they have "deemed consent". You can check this by consulting **The Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) (Scotland) Regulations 1984**.

Building Warrant

Converted, new or altered buildings may require a Building Warrant, even if Planning Permission is not required. Please contact Building Standards for more information on 0131 529 7826 or **email: buildingwarrant.applications@edinburgh.gov.uk.**

Road Permit

A Road Permit will be required if forming a new access or driveway. Please contact the Area Roads Manager in your **Neighbourhood Team** for more information.

Biodiversity

Some species of animals and plants are protected by law. Certain activities, such as killing, injuring or taking the species or disturbing it in its place of shelter, are unlawful.

If the presence of a European Protected Species (such as a bat, otter or great crested newt) is suspected, a survey of the site must be undertaken. If it is identified that an activity is going to be carried out that would be unlawful, a licence may be required.

More information on European Protected Species, survey work and relevant licenses is available in the Edinburgh Planning Guidance on Biodiversity and the **Scottish Natural Heritage** website.

Trees

If there are any trees on the site or within 12 metres of the boundary, they should be identified in the application. Please refer to **Edinburgh Design Guidance** for advice.

Trees with a Tree Preservation Order or in a conservation area are also protected by law, making it a criminal offence to lop, top, cut down, uproot, wilfully damage or destroy a tree unless carried out with the consent of the Council. You can read more about this on our website at www.edinburgh.gov/privatetrees

General Principles

Designation of a conservation area does not mean development is prohibited.

However, when considering development within a conservation area, special attention must be paid to its character and appearance. Proposals which fail to preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the area will normally be refused. Guidance on what contributes to character is given in the conservation area character appraisals.

The aim should be to preserve the spatial and structural patterns of the historic fabric and the architectural features that make it significant.

Preservation and re-use should always be considered as the first option.

Interventions need to be compatible with the historic context, not overwhelming or imposing.

Without exception, the highest standards of materials and workmanship will be required for all works in conservation areas.

Repair

Planning permission is not normally required for repairs which match the original materials and methods and do not affect the character of the building.

Demolition

Conservation area consent is required for the complete demolition of unlisted buildings within conservation areas.

Demolition will only be acceptable if the new development preserves or enhances the area.

Extensions and Alterations

Information on extensions and alterations to residential properties is included within **'Guidance for Householders'**.

Proposals must preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the conservation area.

The use of traditional materials will be encouraged. UPVC will not be acceptable.

Shopfront Alterations and Signage

Specific information is included in Guidance for Businesses. This should be considered alongside this document, where relevant.

Windows and Doors

The replacement, repair and painting of windows and doors which match the design, materials and methods utilised in the existing build will not require planning permission.

Planning permission will not be required where replacement or altered windows and doors meet the following requirements.

Replacement windows and doors on all elevations of unlisted properties of a traditional design within conservation areas must match the original proportions, appearance, materials, and opening method. Appropriate timber sealed unit double glazing will normally be considered acceptable. Rooflights on unlisted properties of a traditional design should be of a 'conservation style'. Alternative materials such as uPVC will not be acceptable.

A departure from these guidelines must be fully justified. The form of the existing windows & doors within the building and in its immediate surroundings will be taken into consideration.

Replacement windows and doors in less traditional developments within conservation areas should maintain the uniformity of original design and materials and should open in a manner that does not disrupt the elevation. However, the exact replication of the original windows or doors may, in some cases, be of lesser importance.

Doors should be painted in an appropriate dark and muted colour. Windows should normally be painted white or off-white.

Planning permission is required for the stonecleaning of any building within a conservation area.

Stone Cleaning

Stone cleaning cannot be undertaken without damaging a building. It can also reveal the scars of age, such as staining, poor previous repairs and surface damage. It may also remove the natural patina, the protective layer on the stone, opening up the surface pore structure and making re-soiling much easier.

There will therefore be a presumption against the stone cleaning of buildings within conservation areas. Stone cleaning will not be considered acceptable on any street where cleaning has not commenced.

Where cleaning of a street has commenced, the issue of reinstating architectural unity will be a material considerations in assessing the merits of individual applications.

Specialist professional skills should be sought to undertake analysis and, where acceptable, design a suitable cleaning method and undertake work.

1. Fabric Survey

A full drawing and photographic survey should be submitted. This should identify the types of stone on the building and the extent and nature of any current defects, including previous mortar or plastic repairs and the condition of pointing. The photographic survey should illustrate the frontage in relation to neighbouring properties and streetscape. This will allow an assessment of the impact of a 'clean' building within its wider environmental context. For comparative purposes, the fabric survey should also include a record of 'colour value' measured either by chromatic or Kodak colour strip.

2. Laboratory Analysis

To assess the most appropriate method of stone cleaning, applicants will be required to ascertain geological characteristics through laboratory tests. These tests should be carried out on uncleaned and trial area cleaned samples. The tests should include:

(i) depth profiling

(ii) petrological analysis

(iii) stone permeability

These may reveal the presence of potentially damaging salts, the types of density of mineral grains and the stone's resistance to surface water penetration.

Applicants will also be asked to provide photographs to allow assessment of surface texture and roughness, both before and after trial cleaning.

The extent of laboratory analysis required may vary, subject to the architectural and historic importance of the building.

3. Trial Cleaning Samples

Paint removal methods should be tested on an inconspicuous trial area of two or three stones. A photographic survey should be carried out of the pre and post cleaning samples and the visual and chemical effects recorded. This enables an assessment of the technique's effectiveness. Applicants may be asked for further samples.

The number of samples should reflect the nature of the specific building being tested; all varieties of stone should be tested.

4. Post-Cleaning

If acceptable, post-cleaning photographic records should be submitted and should be documented for research purposes.

It is expected that most necessary repairs will be identified at the initial application stage. Therefore, consent would be conditional upon a commitment by applicants to undertake a minimum standard of repair subsequent to stonecleaning.

Stone Cleaning Methods

The following are the most common stone cleaning methods. Their inclusion in this guideline is for information only and does not imply their acceptability.

1. Mechanical - Carborundum Disc

This method comprises a hand-held rotary disc with a carborundum pad. The surface layer of stone is removed along with the dirt, often creating contours as the disc hits hard and soft areas. This produces an uneven surface and causes the loss of fine detail.

2. Air and Water Abrasive

These methods comprise grits carried by jets of air and/or water. The impact of the particles on the surface of the stone removes both dirt and stone and relies upon the skill of the operative to ensure that not too much stone is lost. The results of this method vary, but the pitting of the surface of the stone and the loss of fine detail are common. Dry grit blasting is usually more aggressive than wet grit washing.

3. Chemical Cleaning

This method comprises the application of chemicals and a high pressure water wash. The balance of chemicals varies with the type of stone and surface deposit to be removed. Poultices can also be used; these are more gentle but damage still occurs.

After chemical cleaning, most stones retain the chemicals, even after pressure washing. This then increases decay.

4. Water

When water pressure is used as part of the cleaning method, water is forced into the stone to a depth where natural evaporation will not take place. The water can then percolate down through the fabric of the wall and cause accelerated weathering at lower levels in the building. High pressure water can also cause damage to the stone.

A water wash, pressurised or not, remains an alternative stone cleaning technique. It is likely that a low pressure water wash remains the least aggressive method of stone cleaning. However, it will not remove dirt which has combined with the surface to form an insoluble compound. High pressure and/or excessive water can cause surface erosion, pointing wash-out, staining and force water into the core of the wall. Due to the dangers of thermal expansion, water washing should be avoided in frosty conditions.

Painting

Planning permission will be required to paint or render a previously untreated surface or change the colour of a building.

Paint which matches the existing in colour and uses traditional materials and methods will not require planning permission.

External stonework must not be painted or rendered, unless the surface was originally painted or rendered.

In basements, painting the underside of the entrance platt will be considered exceptions. Coping stones and the edge of steps should not be painted.

Walls covered with smooth cement render or a harled finish should generally be painted in earth colours or neutrals (grey, cream or beige). Rendered bands to windows should generally be in stone colours.

Information on painting a shop or other commercial premises is included within the **Guidance for Businesses**.

Doors should be painted in an appropriate dark and muted colour. Windows should normally be painted white or off-white. All areas of dormer windows, other than the window frames, should be painted to tone in with the roof.

Railings, balconies, other ornamental ironwork and downpipes should be painted black gloss, although other very dark colours may be appropriate for railings, such as dark green for railings around gardens.

Paint Removal

Paint removal will require planning permission.

The restoration of the original surface through the removal of paint can improve the character and appearance of a building. Where surfaces have been previously painted, the removal of paint will be supported in principle, provided that the proposed removal method does not adversely affect the original surface.

The removal of paint requires chemical and/or abrasive cleaning to re-expose the stone beneath. Abrasive methods can cause severe damage to the surface and will be unlikely to remove all traces of paint from coarse, porous sandstone. In certain circumstances, a minimally abrasive method may be appropriate to remove the outermost paint layers not in contact with the stone surface. Chemical paint removal varies from paint stripper to a proprietary poultice (a substance placed on the stone to draw out the paint). Each requires extreme caution due to their potentially damaging effects and trial samples should be carried out.

Previous painting could have disguised the poor condition or appearance of the surface so repair work may be required following paint removal. Therefore, consents will be conditional upon a commitment by applicants to undertake a minimum standard of repair subsequent to paint removal.

Where paint removal is not appropriate, the property should be repainted in a matt finish stone coloured paint to tone with the adjoining stonework.

Specialist professional skills should be sought to undertake analysis, design a suitable treatment method and undertake any work.

1. Fabric Survey

A full drawing and photographic survey should be submitted. This should identify the types of stone on the building and the extent and nature of any current defects, including previous mortar or plastic repairs and the condition of pointing. The photographic survey should illustrate the frontage in relation to neighbouring properties and streetscape. This will allow an assessment of the impact of paint removal within its wider environmental context. For comparative purposes, the fabric survey should also include a record of 'colour value' measured either by chromatic or Kodak colour strip.

2. Trial Paint Removal Samples

Paint removal methods should be tested on an inconspicuous trial area of two or three stones. A photographic survey should be carried out of the pre and post painting samples and the visual and chemical effects recorded. This enables an assessment of the technique's effectiveness. Applicants may be asked for further samples.

The number of samples should reflect the nature of the specific building being tested; all varieties of stone should be tested.

Telecommunications including Satellite Dishes

Planning permission will be required for a satellite dish on a building within a conservation area.

The installation of cable television equipment in conservation areas requires planning permission. Equipment should be sensitively sited to minimise the affect on the special character and appearance of the conservation area.

Satellite dishes in conservation areas should not be easily visible from public view.

They should be located in inconspicuous locations, such as behind a parapet wall, within a roof valley or concealed behind by a chimney. They may also be acceptable on modern extensions to the rear, providing no part is higher than the main building.

To prevent a multiplicity of satellite dishes, the Council may refuse consent for additional dishes, even if this may prevent some properties from receiving satellite television. The sharing of dishes on buildings will be encouraged.

Where acceptable, satellite dishes should blend in with the background; this may require it to be painted. All fixings should be non-ferrous.

Gas Pipes and Meter Boxes

Planning permission is only required where the guidelines below cannot be complied with.

A maximum of a 450mm of supply pipe should be visible on the front wall. External pipes which are both horizontal and vertical must have the horizontal section within the basement areas (where applicable) and not be visible from the street.

Holes in stonework must be kept to a minimum and should be made through stone joints, except in the case of "V" jointing or rubble where holes should be in the stonework. Non-ferrous fixings must be used.

All redundant surface-run pipe work must be removed and the surfaces made good and painted to match existing materials and colour.

Meter boxes should not be fitted to the front or any conspicuous elevation of buildings.

Pipe work and meter boxes should be painted to match adjacent stone.

Flues

Balanced flues will only be permitted where it is not possible to line an existing chimney to form an internal flue.

Balanced flues will not normally be acceptable on the front or conspicuous elevations of listed buildings.

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

Planning permission will normally be required to install air conditioning and refrigeration units on the exterior of buildings.

The preferred location for units within conservation areas is:

- Free standing within garden or courtyard areas, subject to appropriate screening and discreet ducting.
- Within rear basement areas.
- Inconspicuous locations on the roof (within roof valleys or adjacent to existing plant). However, aerial views will also be considered.
- Internally behind louvres on inconspicuous elevations. This should not result in the loss of original windows.

Where it is not practicably possible to locate units in any of the above locations, it may be acceptable to fix units to the wall of an inconspicuous elevation, as low down as possible; they should not be located on the front elevation.

Units should be limited in number, as small as practicably possible and painted to tone with the surrounding stonework or background.

Ducting must not detract from the character and appearance of the building and area.

Adaptation for Accessibility

Planning permission may be required to install ramps, handrails, indicators and lifts and for alterations to doors.

While the Equality Act 2010 requires service providers to take "reasonable" steps to make their buildings and services accessible, there is also a statutory duty to protect the character of the historic environment. The provision of access for the less able to historic buildings will therefore require careful consideration and design.

Full access for everyone visa the principal entrance may not be appropriate. Alternative access arrangements which preserve the character of the listed building may be required.

Solutions should be tailored to the particular building through the use of innovative design and high quality materials.

Apply for planning permission or a certificate of lawfulness at **www.eplanning.scot**. apply

Ramps

The placing of a ramp on a building should have minimal impact on the historic fabric.

The symmetry of existing elevations and the rhythm of the street as a whole should be respected, and where relevant, care should be taken to protect the relationship between railings, property and basement.

Where appropriate, consideration should be given to regrading the ground at the entrance in order to overcome the need for larger ramps and minimise the visual impact on the building. If this will cause a footway hazard, a ramp inside the building may be appropriate; the removal of steps and the lengthening of doors can sometimes accommodate this.

Ramps on the public footway will not generally be supported. Where acceptable, ramps must leave sufficient clear footway for pedestrians. This will vary according to the volume of pedestrian traffic. In general, this is 2metres for residential areas, 3metres for main roads and 5-6metres for busy shopping streets.

Where a ramp is acceptable, high quality materials, such as stone to match the existing building, will be encouraged. In some circumstances, high quality design in modern materials may be more appropriate.

Handrails

Where required, handrails should be carefully designed and sensitively located to avoid being visually intrusive.

Appropriate contrast with the background material can be achieved with high quality traditional or contemporary materials.

Tactile Indicators

Historic flooring materials should not be replaced with standard tactile paving. A tactile grid can be achieved by using materials that match those of the surrounding area, and which have been textured with ridges or dimples. More information is available in the **Edinburgh Design Guidance**.

Visual indicators

Brightly coloured high-visibility strips should be avoided, unless their use helps to avoid other more visually intrusive works.

Doors

There may be cases (particularly in the case of historic buildings) where it is less damaging to seek alternative access routes than to widen or alter a doorway. Historic doors are often an integral part of the design of the building, and should be retained wherever possible.

Where historic doors are heavy or difficult to operate, it is normally possible to adapt them by re-hanging and/or introducing opening mechanisms or visual indicators to make the handles more prominent.

Lifts

External chair and platform lifts can have a significant impact on the architectural character of a building, and should only be proposed where no other option is suitable. The resting position of any external lift should be as low as possible, and the design of the platform and restraints should be as transparent as possible. Metal cages are unlikely to be acceptable as they are disruptive to the streetscape and can seem intimidating to the user.

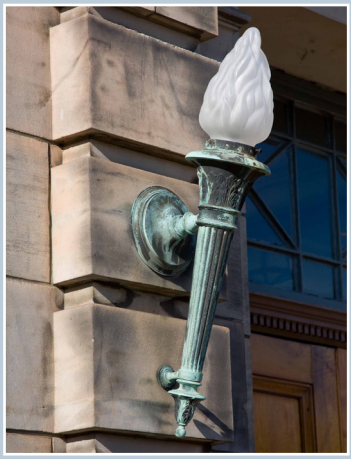
You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats if you ask us. Please contact ITS on 0131 242 8181 and quote reference number 12-0932. ITS can also give information on community language translations.

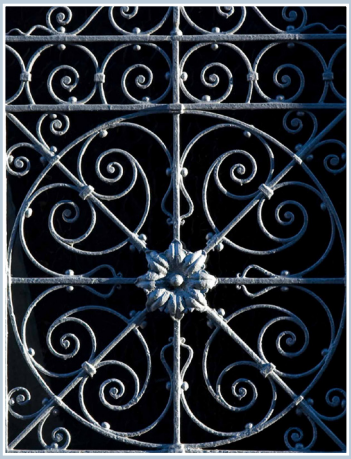
The City of Edinburgh Council. Planning & Transport, PLACE. Published March 2018

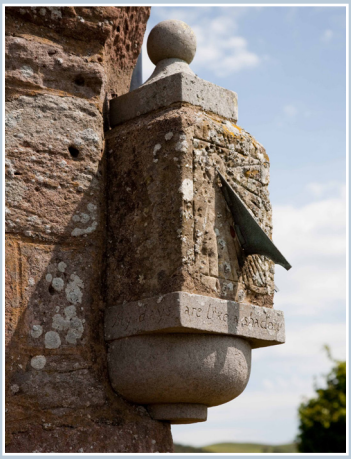
Managing Change in the Historic Environment

HISTORIC SCOTLAND ALBA AOSMHOR

External Fixtures







October 2010

Key Issues

1. **Historic external fixtures form an important element in defining the character of a historic building or group of historic buildings. New external fixtures can have an impact on the character of historic buildings or areas. Listed building consent is required for any works affecting the character of a listed building and planning permission may be required in a conservation area.**

2. **The protection provided by statutory listing extends to all categories of listing, and to all parts of a building, including its external fixtures.**

3. **Before undertaking repairs or alterations it is important to identify the interest of the fixture and seek to maintain its characteristics in the new work. This includes understanding the materials, method of construction, colour, texture and detailing.**

4. **New external fixtures should be sited to maintain the special architectural or historic interest, integrity and fabric of the building.**

5. **The means of new fixing should always be non-ferrous to prevent structural damage or staining.**

6. **Planning authorities give advice on the requirement for listed building consent, planning and other permissions.**

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 This is one of a series of guidance notes on managing change in the historic environment for use by planning authorities and other interested parties. The series explains how to apply the policies contained in the *Scottish Historic Environment Policy* (2009) (SHEP, PDF 312K) and *The Scottish Planning Policy* (2010) (SPP, PDF 299K).

1.2 This note sets out the principles that apply to altering the external fixtures of historic buildings. It should inform planning policies and the determination of applications relating to the historic environment, and replaces the equivalent guidance in *The Memorandum of Guidance on Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas* (1998).

1.3 Monuments scheduled under the Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979 require scheduled monument consent for any works. Where a structure is both scheduled and listed, the scheduling controls have precedence. Separate advice is available from Historic Scotland's website: Scheduled Monuments: Guidance for Owners, Occupiers & Land Managers (PDF 718K).

1.4 Separate guidance in this series is available on new micro-renewable technology fixtures.

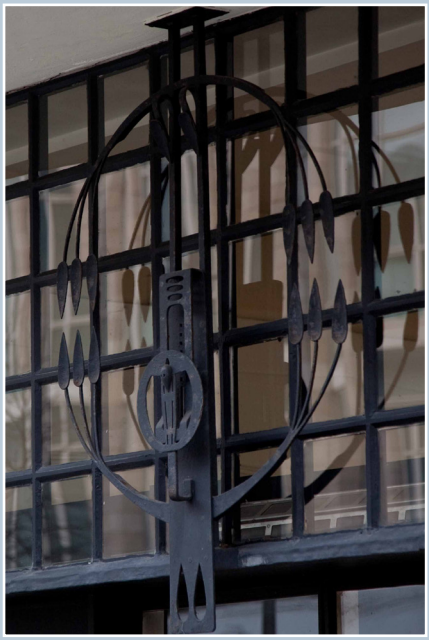
2. WHY ARE EXTERNAL FIXTURES IMPORTANT?

2.1 Historic external fixtures contribute to the architectural and/or historic character of a building and townscape. Decorative ironwork, balconies, lamps, clocks, street signs, rainwater goods, machinery, and other fixtures can be integral to the architecture and reveal information about the age and use of a building and may be examples of technological advances. Beyond their functional value they are often decorative and contribute to the visual attractiveness of a historic building. External fixtures can reveal a hierarchy of spaces within a building, perhaps indicating the location of the main entrance or principal floor or room.

2.2 New fixtures can have a substantial impact on the appearance of a historic building, and the means of attachment can cause damage to historic fabric. The location, size and number of fixtures and the method of fixing require careful consideration to protect the character of a historic building.

3. IDENTIFYING THE INTEREST OF HISTORIC EXTERNAL FIXTURES

3.1 From early times various sorts of fixtures have been applied to buildings, from simple tethering hoops to lamps. From the



Decorative ironwork by Charles Rennie Mackintosh fixed to the exterior of the Willow Tea Rooms in Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. © N. Haynes.

A cast-iron balcony marking the principal room on the first floor of a townhouse in Regent Terrace, Edinburgh, part of the development planned by William Henry Playfair in 1825 and built 1826–33. © N .Haynes.

The weather vane at New Lanark mill village was restored in 1980, made by a local craftsman with the names of the villagers stamped on the shaft. © New Lanark Trust.

An elaborate cast-iron bootscraper at the entrance to a house in Randolph Crescent (1829), Edinburgh. Such fixtures were common in the early 19th century when road surfaces were generally muddy. © N. Haynes.

A cheese press built into the wall of a farm cottage at Reay, Highland. Although the press is no longer used, it provides insight into the type of farming of the area and past methods of cheese production.

A later 19th-century cast-iron 'barleysugar' downpipe and decorative bracket in Rothesay, Isle of Bute. © N .Haynes.

18th century the range and complexity of fixtures expanded enormously. Some fixtures were planned from the outset of a building, whilst others were added at a later stage. Fixtures can demonstrate a combination of architectural, associated and historical interest:

3.2 **Architectural interest**: in for example the design or style of fixtures, or the way in which they relate to the architectural form of the building.

3.3 **Associated interest**: a fixture, such as a clock, might be connected with a significant designer, craftsman, patron, or occasionally with historical events.

3.4 **Historical interest:** this derives from the potential of a fixture to provide evidence about the past, illustrating social change, revealing how an object was made, advances in technology, or how a building worked. For example the widespread provision of bootscrapers at the entrances to 18th- and 19th-century houses gives an insight into life before the advent of asphalt roads and cars.

4. GENERAL PRINCIPLES FOR ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS TO HISTORIC EXTERNAL FIXTURES

4.1 Alterations or repairs to historic external fixtures must protect their character and special interest. Fixtures can be valuable in their own right as major elements in the design of a historic building, broader streetscape or landscape setting. Documentary research and fabric analysis will be useful in understanding the design and material properties of historic external fixtures before undertaking alterations or repairs.

4.2 The potential impact of repetition of alterations to fixtures in unified designs of streets and other groups of buildings should be considered.

Maintenance

4.3 Cast-iron fixtures require regular re-painting to prevent corrosion. Other types of metal may need different maintenance regimes. Where corrosion is severe and the structural integrity of the feature compromised, in rainwater goods for example, a careful record should be made and its replacement made to match in material and design. In some instances there may be a variety of styles employed and proposals to unify non-matching details should be carefully considered as they may relate to a significant historical alteration.

Removal

4.4 Certain historic fixtures may be functionally obsolete but continue to contribute to the architectural interest of a listed building and be of historical value. They should always

be retained. Should a historic fixture require removal and reattachment, non-ferrous fittings should be used and existing fixing points used where possible. Where ferrous fittings are required, an epoxy barrier must be used.

5. PRINCIPLES FOR THE ADDITION OF NEW EXTERNAL FIXTURES

General

5.1 A great number of possible new external fixtures associated with contemporary living can be proposed that may have an impact upon historic buildings, from alarm boxes to security cameras. A number of these may be small in size but their cumulative effect in a historic place can be detrimental. Consideration should be given to the lifespan of a new fixture and whether or not change of ownership could result in replacement or removal.

5.2 The potential for incremental damage by numerous fixtures of a similar nature can be avoided by the shared use of equipment on buildings in multiple occupation or on buildings grouped closely together.

Siting of new fixtures

5.3 New external fixtures must be sited to minimise impact on the architectural integrity and fabric of the building. Secondary elevations, outbuildings and roof valleys or flats that are out of sight from principal views can often accommodate new fixtures without significant impact. Close attention to the routing of any associated cabling or pipework away from principal elevations and features will help to minimise the visual effect of new equipment.

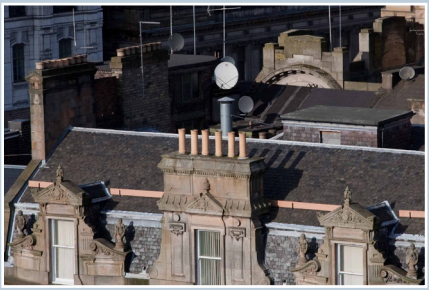
5.4 If a new fixture is necessary and no alternative to a prominent elevation is appropriate then it should be discreetly located without damaging any architectural feature. Painting the fixture to match the colour of stonework can sometimes minimise its impact. The fitting and means of fixing should always be non-ferrous to prevent damage and staining. Fixing into joints is normally the best option.

Telecoms and satellite technology

5.5 Telecommunication devices and satellite dishes can have an adverse impact upon the appearance of a building. These should be positioned so as not to alter a historic profile or skyline, or where impact is minimal.

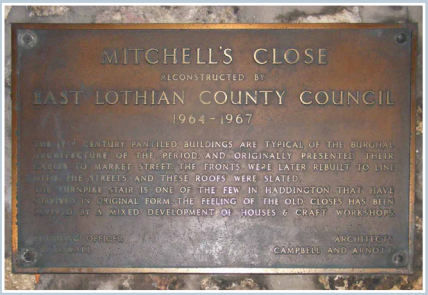
5.6 Antennae associated with mobile phone technology can be situated within some prominent buildings where installation does not require the removal of original fabric or where timber components can be removed and stored for later restoration. A creative approach can result in successful camouflage in some

The cumulative effect of modern fixtures, including satellite dishes, air conditioning units, signage and street lighting, is damaging to the character of this 18th-century building.



These satellite dishes are positioned in a roof valley and are not visible from street level. Fixed to later service features, they do not damage architectural details. © N. Haynes.

The landmark tower of St Stephen's Church (1828), Edinburgh. Telecommunications antennae are positioned on either side of the clock face and on the parapet above behind GRP (glass-reinforced plastic) material that replicates the colour of the surrounding stonework. All the works are easily reversible if the technology changes or becomes redundant. © N. Haynes.



A small, discreet, brass plaque commemorates the reconstruction of Mitchell's Close in Haddington, East Lothian.

Discreet sprung wires are attached to the top surface of this cornice to deter birds. Miller Street, Glasgow.

Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow. The floodlights are positioned behind a cornice and on the roof, therefore making little impact in daylight but providing atmospheric lighting after dark. © N. Haynes.

locations. Planning authorities are able to condition the removal of equipment when it becomes redundant.

Signage

5.7 New signage should be incorporated into the overall architectural composition of a building. It should not obscure or damage any architectural detail. Traditional signage materials and palettes of colour can complement the appearance of the building. Paint should not be applied directly to previously unpainted stonework. Separate guidance on shopfronts and shop signage is available in this series.

Flagpoles

5.8 Flagpoles should relate to the building's character, scale, proportions and architectural detailing.

Banners

5.9 Banners may sometimes be fixed to historic buildings if the means of attachment does not damage any architectural details. However, they should only be allowed on a temporary basis, and not where they would have an adverse impact upon the character or appearance of the building.

Bird control

5.10 Bird control devices require careful consideration to minimise the impact upon historic character. Wire mesh and spikes can be visually detrimental whereas sprung wires are generally less obtrusive. A balance should be sought between conserving the visual characteristics and protecting the building and its users from bird nuisance: less intrusive bird control devices should be considered first.

Lighting

5.11 Street and floodlighting must be considered carefully to minimise detrimental impact on the character of the building.

5.12 Street lighting fixed to a principal elevation should only be considered where independent lighting poles are not appropriate. The lamp and the associated cabling should be carefully integrated within the architectural composition.

5.13 The innovative and imaginative use of lighting can be an important component in enhancing the distinctiveness and character of a building or conservation area. Fixtures should always be located unobtrusively, on a basement wall for example.

5.14 New lamps to light an entrance should be sympathetic to the design and materials of the building.

Alarm boxes and utility meters

5.15 Alarm boxes and utility meters should be fixed in discreet positions without damaging architectural composition or details.

Lesser elevations, basement walls or beneath a platt may be appropriate solutions.

Security cameras

5.16 Security cameras require prominent positions to achieve maximum surveillance but should not be permitted in positions that damage the architectural character or appearance of a historic building. Careful consideration should be given to the size of the camera. Positioning of security cameras and cabling should be discrete.

Here the corner profile of the building is broken by the brackets for a security camera, an old lamp, and modern street lamp. High Street, Edinburgh.

Eye bolts and brackets

5.17 Eye bolts for window cleaning access or the attachment of seasonal street decorations should only be permitted where they will be situated discreetly and without damaging architectural details. The material and means of fixing should be non-ferrous, preferably coloured to match adjacent stonework.

5.18 Temporary scaffolding should not be anchored into stonework as the fixings will leave permanent damage. Scaffolding should be fixed around architectural features, ensuring no damage occurs during construction or dismantling. Protective materials fixed between steel scaffolding ends and stonework will help prevent accidental damage.

5.19 The location and number of hanging baskets and their associated fixings should be carefully considered, and where possible incorporated within the composition of an elevation. The baskets and fixings should not damage or obscure any architectural detailing.

6. CONSENTS

6.1 Listed building consent is required for any work to a listed building that affects its character. The local authority determines the need for consent.

6.2 Where listed building consent is required, an application is made to the local authority. This should include accurate scale drawings showing both the existing situation and the proposed works in context. It is normally helpful to provide detailed technical information and photographs. A brief description of the interest of the external fixture and an explanation of the impact of the alterations are always useful in assessing change.

Discreet stainless steel eye-bolts are re-used each year for the Christmas decorations in Bo'ness. © N. Haynes.

Other selected Historic Scotland publications and links

Maintaining your Home – A Short Guide for Homeowners (2007) (PDF 1.4MB)

Inform Guide: Finials & Terminals (2008)

Inform Guide: The Maintenance of Cast-iron Rainwater Goods (2007)

Inform Guide: Maintenance of Iron Gates and Railings (2007)

Inform Guide: Boundary Ironwork - A Guide to Reinstatement (2005)

Inform Guide: Bird Control on Buildings (2008)

Inform Guide: Bronze - The Care & Maintenance of Monumental Bronze (2005)

For the full range of Inform Guides, Practitioner Guides, Technical Advice Notes and Research Reports please see the Publications section of the Historic Scotland website.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND ADVICE

Details of all individual scheduled monuments, listed buildings, designated gardens and designed landscapes, and designated wrecks can be obtained from Historic Scotland (see contact details below) or at: www.pastmap.org.uk. Details of listed buildings can also be obtained from the relevant local authority for the area.

Advice on the requirement for listed building consent, conservation area consent, building warrants, and other permissions/consents should be sought from local authorities.

Historic Scotland
Longmore House
Salisbury Place
EDINBURGH
EH9 1SH

Tel: 0131 668 8981 or 8717
Fax: 0131 668 8765
E-mail: hs.inspectorate@scotland.gsi.gov.uk
Web: www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

Cover images (all © N. Haynes)

Bronze torchère lamp (1929), Younger Hall, St Andrews, Fife.

Later 19th-century cast-iron window grille, Vicar Street, Falkirk.

Eighteenth-century sundial, Linton Kirk, Scottish Borders.

MANAGING CHANGE IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT
WINDOWS

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND | ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA

January 2018

Cover image:
© Nick Haynes

Cover image: Signet Library, Parliament Square, Edinburgh. A round-headed sash and case window with astragals, or glazing bars.

Below: Gourock Rope Works, Port Glasgow. Conversion of a former industrial building with the addition of new windows suitable for its change to residential use.

MANAGING CHANGE IS A SERIES OF GUIDANCE NOTES ABOUT MANAGING CHANGE IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT. ALONG WITH HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND'S POLICY STATEMENT (JUNE 2016), THEY SUPPORT THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT POLICIES SET OUT IN SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY (2014)

The aim of the series is to identify the main issues that can arise in different situations, to advise how best to deal with these, and to offer further sources of information. They are also intended to provide advice to local authorities when developing their planning policies, and in the determination of applications relating to the historic environment.

KEY ISSUES

1. The windows of a historic building form an important element in defining its special interest and character.

2. The contribution windows make to the character of a historic building must be understood before considering alteration.

3. The size, shape, design and proportions of a window, the reflective sparkle and irregularities of old glass, the pattern of design, the materials and details of construction, the method of opening, the finish, and associated fixtures, typically contribute to the character of a historic window.

4. Maintenance and appropriate repair is the preferred means of safeguarding the character of a historic window.

5. Improvements in energy efficiency of existing windows can be achieved by draught-proofing, internal secondary glazing, and use of shutters and lined curtains.

6. Some types of double-glazing can be incorporated within existing window joinery and may be acceptable where no historic glass remains.

7. Where a window is of limited interest or beyond repair, its replacement should be permitted. New double-glazed windows may be acceptable, if they can closely match the original window design, detail and materials.

8. Local planning authorities give advice on the requirement for listed building consent, planning and other permissions, and will often have their own detailed guidance on windows. Listed building consent is required for any works affecting the special interest or character of a listed building and planning permission may be required for window replacement within a conservation area.

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

Historic Environment Scotland is charged with ensuring our historic environment provides a strong foundation in building a successful future for Scotland. One of its roles is to provide advice about managing change in the historic environment.

This note sets out the principles that apply to altering the windows of historic buildings. It has been produced to guide local authorities when developing their planning policies and in the determination of applications relating to the historic environment.

Historic Environment Scotland will be consulted on listed building consent cases for works to windows in A and B listed buildings, and expect this guidance to inform decision making.

Local authorities alone determine listed building consent applications for windows in Category C listed buildings and planning applications, where applicable, for windows in unlisted buildings in conservation areas. Whilst this guidance is best practice for historic buildings generally, local authorities will often have specific window guidance for listed and unlisted buildings in conservation areas, reflecting local character and particular circumstances, and thus, other approaches may be appropriate.

In this guidance note the term ‘historic window’ is used for both original and significant historic windows.

Monuments scheduled under the Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979 require scheduled monument consent for any works. Where a structure is both scheduled and listed, the scheduling controls take precedence. Further advice is available from Historic Environment Scotland’s website: www.historicenvironment.scot/advice-and-support/listing-scheduling and-designations/scheduled-monuments

1. WHY ARE HISTORIC WINDOWS IMPORTANT ?

Windows make a substantial contribution to the character, authenticity and physical integrity of most historic buildings and also to the character and interest of historic streets and places.

They are an important element of a building's design. The size, shape and positioning of the openings are significant, as are the form and design of the framing, astragals and glazing. Their style, detailing and materials help us to understand the date when a building was constructed or altered, its function, and advances in related technology.

Windows can be a product of many factors, including the status of the building, architectural fashions, technological changes, local customs and even individual designers.

In simple vernacular or plainer buildings a considerable amount of the character and visual prominence of a building can derive from the windows.

2. IDENTIFYING THE INTEREST OF HISTORIC WINDOWS

The significance of a historic window is derived from a number of factors including its form or shape, the characteristics of historic glass, the materials and details of construction, the method and pattern of opening, associated fixtures, and sometimes even the paint colour.

This guidance is focused on the most common type of traditional historic window, the double-hung vertically-sliding timber sash and case window (the sash window). Other window types will be addressed later in the document.

FORM AND DESIGN

There are many shapes and sizes of historic window, from simple rectangular openings to arched or elaborately-traceried windows. Whilst some windows are sized and located for purely functional purposes, in most cases, windows are carefully provided as part of a broader design for a building or group of buildings.

Window proportions and spacing frequently relate to other elements of the building, such as the overall dimensions of an elevation or other features (e.g. doorways). Windows are important components of the hierarchy of an architectural design or interior, perhaps expressing different parts of a building and principal rooms within, through differences in size, positioning and design.

Six over six pane timber sash and case windows, Edinburgh. This style of window was popular from the eighteenth to the mid nineteenth century. This one image shows the varied reflections provided by different kinds of crown, cylinder and plate glass.

HISTORIC GLASS

The different production methods for various types of historic glass resulted in a wide range of thicknesses and tints, whilst irregularities in the process often provide an attractive reflective sparkle, refractive variety and distinctive appearance to each window.

Two forms of early glass predominated until the later nineteenth century. Crown glass was made by hand-spinning molten glass into a thin circular disc which was then cut into individual panes. From around 1700 onwards, cylinder or broad sheet glass was made by forming cylinders of molten glass that were then cut and flattened into thick panes. Both these methods were expensive, had a restricted pane size, and produced distortions and bubbles in the glazing that add character, and identify the production process. Surviving examples of this hand-made glass should be retained.

Early plate glass was quite thick and expensive, made in a similar method to cylinder glass or by casting molten glass on a table and then grinding and polishing it flat. The cylinder sheet glazing process was greatly improved in the 1830s which is also when Patent plate glass was invented, allowing thinner low-tax glass to be produced, with later mechanical polishing further reducing costs. The production methods of improved cylinder and plate glass retain varying levels of imperfections and irregularities in the glass that can add character to a window.

MODERN GLASS

Drawn flat sheet and float glass are both C20th mechanised processes, the latter producing glass with few imperfections. More recently, glazing technology has produced many different types of glazing, the major change being the advent of double-glazing or Insulated Glass Units (IGUs) with two panes of glass separated by either a vacuum cavity, or a cavity filled with air or an inert gas, to reduce energy loss through the glazing. Standard double glazing has two panes, usually of 4-6mm glass, with a cavity of around 13-20mm. Slim, thin or narrow-profile/section double-glazing has cavities of between 3mm and 6mm and a narrower edge strip. Vacuum glass has a 'cavity' between the panes of only 0.2mm. The latter two are sometimes used to replace historic glass within existing or new frames. Both double glazing and specialist single glazing can be fitted with low-emissivity coatings which can further improve their thermal efficiency.

GLAZING PATTERNS

The vertically sliding sash and case window was introduced to Scotland in the early 1670s. After some variation it commonly comprised two equally-sized glazed sashes that slide vertically, on counterbalanced lead or iron weights, in a sash case or box set in a rebate in the wall for weather protection. Windows were made of softwood, usually well-seasoned pine, often imported.

Early sash windows were sometimes fixed or held open by pegs rather than counterbalanced weights. Their sashes contained small thick panes, often square, held by thick glazing bars or 'astragals'. As the eighteenth century progressed an arrangement of two equally-sized sashes containing six 'portrait' format panes each became the standard. Generally, over time, astragal sections and glass thicknesses reduced as window openings increased in size and glazing technology improved. The standard six-over-six 'Georgian' pattern was widely used until at least the mid-nineteenth century, with occasional use of 'lying-panes' ('landscape' format) and margin panes, but the advent of improved cylinder and patent plate glass, and the removal of taxes, allowed larger panes of glass and fewer astragals. There was a gradual transition to larger panes with four-over-four and two-over-two panes frequently used, but by the later nineteenth century the one-over-one pattern was common. Horns, added to the meeting rails of sash windows to address these heavier panes of glass, are not very common in Scotland and often do not appear until late in the C19th, if at all.

When larger pane sizes first became available, often the astragals in existing sashes would be removed and retrofitted with single panes of glass. Again, due to expense, frequently only the front windows of properties would be re-glazed in this fashion. Likewise, in new buildings, sometimes the rear elevations continued to be designed with cheaper smaller panes.

Either side of 1900 saw experimentation with different sash sizes, often a lower large-paned sash with smaller multi-paned sash above, or sometimes decorative glass. The popular 'Queen Anne' style saw the reintroduction of smaller panes, and sometimes exposed sash cases, whilst multi-paned sashes were popular in inter-war social and private housing developments.

OTHER WINDOW TYPES

Besides the sash and case window, there were other types of window used in Scotland, including timber and metal casements, often with leaded lights, associated with the 'cottage orne' style and with Arts & Crafts style housing.

Although timber windows continued to predominate as a framing material until the Second World War, the early C20th saw the introduction of steel casement windows, popularised by the Crittall Company. They allowed schools and industrial buildings to have large expanses of glazing and curtain walling, and also facilitated 'picture windows' in housing. The use of steel windows was largely superseded in the post-war period by aluminium, and later still, uPVC.

METHOD OF OPENING

The way in which a window opens can contribute significantly to the authenticity and appearance of a historic building. All traditional 'double hung' sash and case windows open by sliding the sashes up and down in the same plane: in the open position they never project outwards or inwards from the building. Other common forms of opening method are casements, which are hinged at the side and open outwards (or more rarely inwards), and hoppers, which are hinged at the bottom and usually open on a track or restrictor. Some C20th metal-framed windows use a vertical or horizontal pivot mechanism.

Associated fixtures such as traditional timber shutters, where they survive, contribute to the interest and character of a window

FINISH

Like most softwoods, window frames were traditionally painted, and this is the preferred finish. It is sometimes possible to sample underlying layers to establish the original paint colours. Whilst shades of white are now ubiquitous, many traditional colours were much darker, with green, brown and black often used. Lead-based paint is now prohibited, but more recently natural paint systems have offered an alternative to synthetic paint.

ASSOCIATED FIXTURES

A wide range of fixtures are often associated with historic windows, including sash cases, cords, weights, sash lifts, catches, shutters (and their ironmongery), architraves and blinds. Surviving original ironmongery should be retained and reused. Many sashes in Scotland incorporate 'simplex' hinges that allow them to be opened inwards for cleaning.

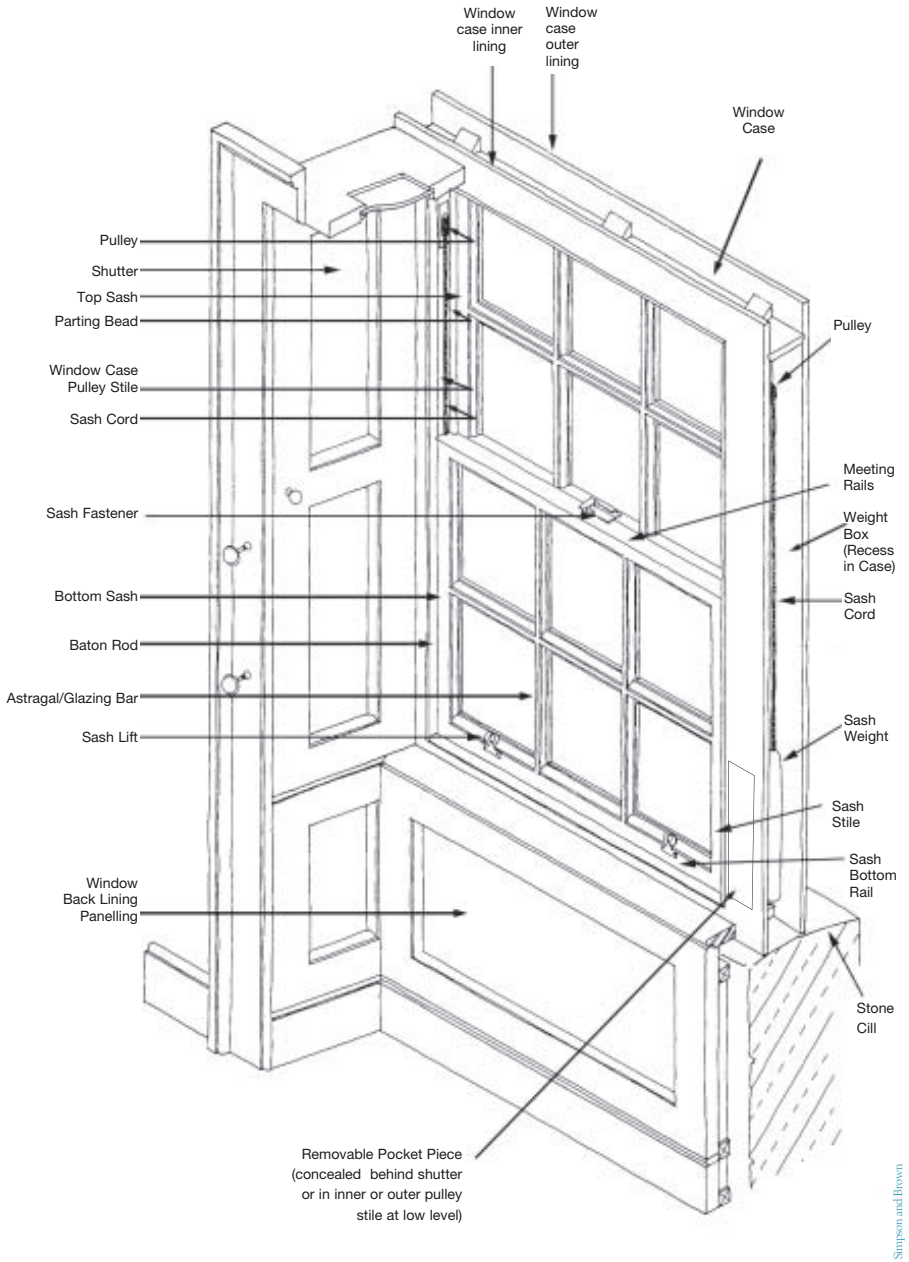


Illustration of a typical sash and case window

3. PRINCIPLES FOR REPAIR AND ALTERATIONS

CHARACTER AND INTEREST OF THE BUILDING

Repairs and alterations to a historic building should protect its character and special interest. The contribution windows make to this character must therefore be understood before proceeding. In assessing the character, it is essential to determine whether the windows are original to the building or, if later, whether they are of historic significance in their own right: e.g., part of a major or important scheme of overall works or decoration to the building. Evidence from adjacent or similar buildings, especially planned set-pieces or terraces, will be important. Such an assessment will inform any subsequent strategy for repair or replacement.

Repair of a sash and case window showing replacement of some of the component parts, such as the cill.

Image:© Derek Thompson

REPAIR

Where windows are of historic interest, repair of their components is preferable to replacement. This approach not only retains historically-important fabric and character, but is sustainable. Historic timber windows often used high-quality close-grained softwood, not easily available today, and with maintenance, have frequently lasted hundreds of years.

In some cases there will be cosmetic damage to windows, with sashes painted shut, or peeling paint, often only on the more exposed faces of the building. There may also be individually decayed elements, such as rotten cills, which can normally be repaired or replaced. However, there will be situations when a window is in such poor condition, damaged or rotten to an extent that it is not possible or practicable to repair it. A specialist joiner may be able to advise on condition, and more detailed advice on the repair of timber windows can be found in our Inform and Short Guides (details at the end of this leaflet).

Steel windows can also suffer from rust and distortion and, although repair is possible and preferable, sometimes this may not be practicable.

ALTERATION

An assessment of character and special interest will be important when changes to the window's design are envisaged. If clear evidence for an earlier pattern exists, reinstatement of that pattern should be acceptable, unless the later windows are of interest in their own right; for example, if they relate to significant alterations and additions that are part of the building's special interest.

In other cases the windows may be modern replacements, sometimes inexact copies of the original examples, or using inappropriate sections or materials. In such cases it should be acceptable to replace the windows with an aim to regain the original design intention or improve the existing situation.

VENTILATION

Sometimes additional controlled ventilation is required, especially in conversion works. Discreet vents inserted in the head, meeting rail or sides of the window should be used rather than adding prominent trickle vents. Further information on providing alternative methods of ventilation is available in our Short Guide to Sash and Case Windows.

SECURITY

Additional window security measures, such as security bolts or sash restrictors, can normally be installed discreetly without damage to the historic character of the building. Use of traditional internal shutters, or if necessary internal retractable grilles, is likely to be less disruptive to the historic appearance of a building than external shutters.

Where external measures are unavoidable, removable grilles are more acceptable than permanent fixtures (including roller shutters). Where no historic glass remains laminated, toughened glass can often be installed to increase security.

COLOUR

Where colour or early paint schemes can be established by analysis, their use should be acceptable, although individual changes to set-piece designs or terraces may be unwelcome. Some local authorities control the palette of window paint colours to maintain the unified design of a conservation area or groups of listed buildings in multiple ownership/ occupation. In addition, some areas have developed a custom of using specific colours; e.g., black-painted frames in the West End of Glasgow and white frames in Edinburgh New Town.

NEW WINDOW OPENINGS

Location and design are key considerations in proposals for new window openings. New openings must be carefully located to avoid disruption to the characteristics of the surrounding external and internal context. For example, subsidiary elevations with no formal symmetry, or rooms with few internal features, are likely to be more suitable for new window openings than principal elevations or rooms.

In cases where the building forms part of a larger grouping, it may be necessary to consider the wider context of the group and the potential for unsuitable precedent and cumulative effect if similar work was undertaken on every building. Where the location is appropriate in principle, the design of the new window must take account of the size, proportion, material and detailing of surrounding nearby windows.

BLOCKING UP WINDOWS

Permanent blocking of windows by building up the opening should only occur where the window makes very little contribution to the character of the building. If the window is of any interest, evidence of the opening, such as the window surrounds, cill, lintel or relieving arch should be retained, preferably with the window kept in-situ with blocking materials set behind or with the blocking recessed to the position of the former window, creating a traditional blind window. If the window being blocked is of no interest or detrimental to the building it can be blocked without any evidence being kept, using materials compatible with the surrounding masonry.

CONVERTING WINDOWS TO DOORS

Subsidiary elevations are more suitable for work of this type. Wherever possible the existing width of the window should be maintained and the opening expanded downwards to ground level. Depending on the circumstances, it may be appropriate to match any external window-surround detailing at the lower level. Where windows contribute to the character of an elevation or internal space, the replacement door should be solid to cill level and glazed above to match the pattern of surrounding windows. Any internal joinery, such as shutters or panelling, should be retained and matched at the lower level of the new opening. Doors are also sometimes converted to windows. Here, if the door is an important part of the character of the building, it will be desirable to provide a glazed or part-glazed door rather than blocking up the opening to insert a window.

BLIND WINDOWS

Original blind or dummy windows form an important part of the interest of a historic building and should not normally be opened up. Such features were originally designed to maintain the pattern and symmetry of window openings in the external elevations of a building, or sometimes to provide a visual trick or ‘trompe l’oeuil’. They are often faced in large stone slabs designed to resemble the sashes. Often fireplaces, chimneys, or other internal features prevented the creation of working windows in some locations. Windows specifically blocked to avoid paying window taxation are rarer.

South Charlotte Street, Edinburgh. The blind openings are detailed with cills and a meeting rail to maintain the symmetry of the architectural elevation. There are chimney flues behind them within the walling.

4. UPGRADING WINDOWS

ADDRESSING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND HEAT LOSS

Having regard for the energy conservation of buildings in use is an important element in addressing climate change and reducing heating costs. In many cases effective and sustainable improvements to the energy efficiency of historic buildings are possible and can be achieved without damage to their character.

The use of traditional shutters at night can help reduce heat loss.

It is important to consider heat loss throughout the entire envelope of a building and, in most cases, less invasive approaches than double-glazing or window replacement may be more cost-effective in both the short and longer term. However, single-glazed windows are often the worst-thermally performing element in a building and a readily identifiable route for heat loss, especially in buildings with large window-to-wall ratios.

There are several methods of improving the energy efficiency of existing windows. Low-key and low-cost improvements include applying low-emissivity window films onto or behind the glass. At night, considerable improvements to heat loss can be obtained by lined curtains, insulated blinds, or using historic shutters, which can also be insulated. A combination of the above measures can be particularly effective.

DRAUGHT-PROOFING

Sash windows were designed to allow some air flow into a room but not to be draughty. Draught-proofing can reduce air-leakage and the feeling of cold within a building. It is relatively simple to draught-proof a window using silicone sealant, foam-backed strips or by inserting brush strips into the baton rods and meeting rails. Removing draughts can lead to reductions in the heating levels required and can also be helpful in reducing dust and noise.

SECONDARY GLAZING

Recent technical research (see section 6 & 7) shows internal secondary glazing can reduce heat loss by over 60% and also has the advantage of leaving the original windows untouched, a welcome approach where the window is significant, retains historic glass, or where adaptation for double-glazing would be complicated or damaging. It can also be cheaper than replacement, and can be a more permanent solution than double-glazed units, whose performance will degrade over time. Acoustically, secondary glazing can also be better at reducing noise transmission than double-glazing.

Systems vary, but normally comprise glass in thin aluminium or timber frames set on the internal window framing or staff beads, and they can sometimes be designed and fitted to still allow historic shutters to function. Secondary double-glazing is rarer, but has also been used. Care should be taken to keep frame sections minimal and match up internal meeting rails or frames with outside sashes. Painting the external frame face black can further disguise units from external view. Care is needed to allow ease of use for both opening and cleaning.

Temporary or demountable secondary glazing solutions are also available, utilising clear rigid acrylic or polycarbonate sheets. These can also provide significant reductions in heat loss, and can be fitted easily (often with velcro or magnetic strips) for winter and removed and stored in summer. Another approach is to fix the sheets to individual panes. Again, these approaches can significantly reduce heat loss at a lower cost than more invasive works.

RETROFITTING DOUBLE-GLAZING

In some cases, where no historic glass survives, it can sometimes be possible to retrofit double-glazing within existing window frames. Due to the design and construction of historic windows, it is normally only vacuum- or narrow-profile double glazing that may be able to be used. Vacuum glazing is thin enough to directly replace single glazing, but if narrow-profile glazing is used, the windows concerned will have to be robust enough to withstand any adaption or routing required to accommodate the thicker panes. Any works that either weaken the window or may lead to exacerbated decay should be avoided.

Inveraray Castle, Argyll, showing the discreet addition of secondary glazing, in this case polycarbonate sheeting on magnetic strips. The placing of the unit allows the shutters to operate freely.

Image: © Glaze & Save Ltd

5. REPLACEMENT WINDOWS

REPLACEMENT DOUBLE GLAZED WINDOWS

Where existing windows are beyond repair, or of little historic interest, it should be acceptable to replace them. This can involve replacing just the individual sashes or the sash case as well. Where a new sash case is fitted it should be set wholly within the wall's rebate, with no, or minimal, protrusion of the case's facing plate, unless exposed sash-cases are a feature of the original design. Sash cases were traditionally fixed with timber wedges and burnt sand mastic. Internal shutters and joinery should always be retained.

Generally, replacement windows should seek to match the original windows in design, form, fixing, method of opening and materials. In replacing sash windows, materials other than timber, e.g. uPVC, will rarely be acceptable. Softwood is traditionally used, now often treated to improve durability.

For metal windows, steel replacement double-glazed windows are available, although can be expensive for individual replacements. Aluminium may be acceptable as an alternative if original patterns and sections can be successfully replicated.

The success of a replacement window will depend on its detailed design, and on how well the new replicates the old. Features to consider in the design of new windows may include the correct placing of the case within the wall and, importantly, its method of operation with vertically sliding sashes. Sections of sash meeting rails and astragal profiles should match the original as closely as possible, and horns should only be provided if there is historical evidence for their use. In seeking the best replication of the design and construction of the window, how astragals hold the glass is important. Therefore, true, or through, astragals should be provided.

In most cases, as thermal performance is a major driver for change, replacement windows will be double-glazed. In such cases care is required to adapt the detailed design of new timber windows to incorporate double-glazed units

Narrow-profile double glazing has been specifically developed to allow more accurate replication of historic window patterns, and vacuum glass is similarly marketed. Such approaches have directly resulted in double-glazing becoming more generally acceptable in historic buildings, with consequent improvements in energy efficiency. Although some narrow-section units may not be optimised for thermal performance, they give significant improvements in heat loss from single glazing and can allow for near like-for-like replacement windows.

Standard double-glazing may occasionally be acceptable for some replacement windows, e.g. one-over-one sashes. However, the thicker astragals required by standard units, together with limitations on some manufacturer's guidance on edge-sealing of units, mean they often cannot successfully replicate historic multi-pane patterns, especially those windows with thinner astragals.

Example of narrow-profile double-glazing retrofitted within an existing sash window.

Some manufacturers have attempted to address this by using a standard double-glazed unit with applied astragals or an astragal cassette, often in conjunction with integral dividers in the cavity. Such approaches may be considered in cases where a replacement window will improve the current situation, allowing an aesthetically accurate match. Astragals sandwiched between panes alone, will be very unlikely to be acceptable.

FITTING GLAZING

Double glazed units can be fitted with putty, or a synthetic glazing compound. Windows should be fitted according to manufacturer's instructions as linseed oil putty may damage unit seals. It may be possible to use timber fixing beads, but the beads should replicate the 45-degree section of traditional putty. Smaller details such as the colour of internal spacer bars in unit cavities can also be important; e.g., white can better replicate the glazing bar colour.

6. CONSENTS

Listed building consent is required for any work to a listed building that affects its special interest and planning permission may be required for replacement windows in conservation areas.

The local authority determines the need for consent/permission. With listed buildings, they may consider minor works such as draught-proofing will not require consent. Other works, such as the installation of secondary glazing, may sometimes require consent, often depending on its detailed design. More intensive works; e.g., retrofitting double glazing, will be likely to require consent, as will window replacement.

Where consent is required, an application is made to the local planning authority. This should include accurate scale drawings showing both the existing windows and the proposed works in context. It is normally helpful to provide detailed technical information and photographs. A brief description of the interest of the windows and an explanation of the impact of the alterations are always helpful in assessing change. Where an application proposes the replacement of a window or windows in poor condition, a condition survey by an appropriately-skilled tradesman is useful.

Notwithstanding the need to protect the historic environment, applicants and local planning authorities should ensure replacement windows comply with the requirements of the Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004. Some change of use applications may have implications for windows (e.g. window guards). Historic Environment Scotland's guide for Practitioners 6 – Conservation of Traditional buildings – provides further guidance on the application of the Scottish Building Standards.

MEETING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

If you are replacing your windows you will want assurance that the units being supplied achieve the results you seek. New glazing, in particular, Insulating Glass Units (IGUs), should be manufactured in accordance with the requirements of the Product Standard EN 1279-5, a requirement for legal compliance with the Construction Products Regulations (CPR). The industry body, the Glass and Glazing Federation (GGF) has a wealth of information for consumers and providers on its website and in its publications; http://www.ggf.org.uk/publications, which includes the Industry Guidance details on the Construction Product Regulations and the tests that must be complied with to meet them.

7. FURTHER INFORMATION AND ADVICE

For the full range of Inform Guides, Practitioner Guides, Technical Advice Notes and Research Reports please see the Publications section of the Historic Scotland website. The following will be of particular interest;

Looking After your Sash & Case Windows (2003)

Guide for Practitioners: Conservation of Timber Sash & Case Windows (2002)

Research Report: The Historical & Technical Development of Sash & Case Windows in Scotland (2001)

Inform Guide: Maintaining Sash & Case Windows (2007)

Inform Guide: Maintaining Traditional Plain Glass and Glazing (2007)

Inform Guide: Decorative Domestic Glass (2007)

Short Guide: Fabric Improvements for energy efficiency in traditional building (2013)

Technical Paper 1: Thermal Performance of Traditional Windows

Technical Paper 23: Thermal assessment of internal shutters and window film applied to traditional single glazed sash and case windows

In addition we have several Refurbishment Case Studies that show the upgrading or replacement of windows and also include costs for such works.

GRANT ASSISTANCE

In some cases grants and loans are available for energy efficiency improvements, including windows. Home Energy Scotland provide free, impartial advice. On 0808 808 2282 or www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland/grants-loans

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND | ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA

Historic Environment Scotland is the lead public body established to investigate, care for and promote Scotland's historic environment.

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Scottish Planning Policy

The Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

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Scottish Planning Policy

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Planning Series

The Scottish Government series of Planning and Architecture documents are material considerations in the planning system.

Planning and Architecture Policy

Circulars	Scottish Planning Policy	National Planning Framework	Creating Places	Designing Streets
SG policy on implementing legislation	SG policy on nationally important land use planning matters	SG strategy for Scotland's long-term spatial development	SG policy statement on architecture and place	SG policy and technical guidance on street design

Planning and Design Advice and Guidance

Planning Advice	Design Advice	Web Advice
Technical planning matters	Design matters including practical projects and roles	Best practice and technical planning matters

Further information is available at: www.scotland.gov.uk/planning

This SPP replaces SPP (2010) and Designing Places (2001)

statutory

non-statutory

Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)

Purpose

i. The purpose of the SPP is to set out national planning policies which reflect Scottish Ministers' priorities for operation of the planning system and for the development[1] and use of land. The SPP promotes consistency in the application of policy across Scotland whilst allowing sufficient flexibility to reflect local circumstances. It directly relates to:

- the preparation of development plans;
- the design of development, from initial concept through to delivery; and
- the determination of planning applications and appeals.

Status

ii. The SPP is a statement of Scottish Government policy on how nationally important land use planning matters should be addressed across the country. It is non-statutory. However, Section 3D of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) 1997 Act requires that functions relating to the preparation of the National Planning Framework by Scottish Ministers and development plans by planning authorities must be exercised with the objective of contributing to sustainable development. Under the Act, Scottish Ministers are able to issue guidance on this requirement to which planning authorities must have regard. The Principal Policy on Sustainability is guidance under section 3E of the Act.

iii. The 1997 Act requires planning applications to be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. As a statement of Ministers' priorities the content of the SPP is a material consideration that carries significant weight, though it is for the decision-maker to determine the appropriate weight in each case. Where development plans and proposals accord with this SPP, their progress through the planning system should be smoother.

1 The Planning (Scotland) Act 2006 extends the definition of development to include marine fish farms out to 12 nautical miles.

iv. The SPP sits alongside the following Scottish Government planning policy documents:

- the National Planning Framework (NPF)[2], which provides a statutory framework for Scotland's long-term spatial development. The NPF sets out the Scottish Government's spatial development priorities for the next 20 to 30 years. The SPP sets out policy that will help to deliver the objectives of the NPF;
- Creating Places[3], the policy statement on architecture and place, which contains policies and guidance on the importance of architecture and design;
- Designing Streets[4], which is a policy statement putting street design at the centre of placemaking. It contains policies and guidance on the design of new or existing streets and their construction, adoption and maintenance; and
- Circulars[5], which contain policy on the implementation of legislation or procedures.

v. The SPP should be read and applied as a whole. Where 'must' is used it reflects a legislative requirement to take action. Where 'should' is used it reflects Scottish Ministers' expectations of an efficient and effective planning system. The Principal Policies on Sustainability and Placemaking are overarching and should be applied to all development. The key documents referred to provide contextual background or more detailed advice and guidance. Unless otherwise stated, reference to Strategic Development Plans (SDP) covers Local Development Plans outwith SDP areas. The SPP does not restate policy and guidance set out elsewhere. A glossary of terms is included at the end of this document.

2 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/National-Planning-Framework

3 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/06/9811/0

4 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/03/22120652/0

5 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/publications/circulars

Introduction

The Planning System

1. The planning system has a vital role to play in delivering high-quality places for Scotland. Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) focuses plan making, planning decisions and development design on the Scottish Government's Purpose of creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.

2. Planning should take a positive approach to enabling high-quality development and making efficient use of land to deliver long-term benefits for the public while protecting and enhancing natural and cultural resources.

3. Further information and guidance on planning in Scotland is available at www.scotland.gov.uk/planning[6]. An explanation of the planning system can be found in A Guide to the Planning System in Scotland[7].

Core Values of the Planning Service

4. Scottish Ministers expect the planning service to perform to a high standard and to pursue continuous improvement. The service should:

- focus on outcomes, maximising benefits and balancing competing interests;
- play a key role in facilitating sustainable economic growth, particularly the creation of new jobs and the strengthening of economic capacity and resilience within communities;
- be plan-led, with plans being up-to-date and relevant;
- make decisions in a timely, transparent and fair way to provide a supportive business environment and engender public confidence in the system;
- be inclusive, engaging all interests as early and effectively as possible;
- be proportionate, only imposing conditions and obligations where necessary; and
- uphold the law and enforce the terms of decisions made.

People Make the System Work

5. The primary responsibility for the operation of the planning system lies with strategic development planning authorities, and local and national park authorities. However, all those involved with the system have a responsibility to engage and work together constructively and proportionately to achieve quality places for Scotland. This includes the Scottish Government and its agencies, public bodies, statutory consultees, elected members, communities, the general public, developers, applicants, agents, interest groups and representative organisations.

6 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/built-environment/planning

7 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/08/11133705/0

6. Throughout the planning system, opportunities are available for everyone to engage in the development decisions which affect them. Such engagement between stakeholders should be early, meaningful and proportionate. Innovative approaches, tailored to the unique circumstances are encouraged, for example charrettes or mediation initiatives. Support or concern expressed on matters material to planning should be given careful consideration in developing plans and proposals and in determining planning applications. Effective engagement can lead to better plans, better decisions and more satisfactory outcomes and can help to avoid delays in the planning process.

7. Planning authorities and developers should ensure that appropriate and proportionate steps are taken to engage with communities during the preparation of development plans, when development proposals are being formed and when applications for planning permission are made. Individuals and community groups should ensure that they focus on planning issues and use available opportunities for engaging constructively with developers and planning authorities.

8. Further information can be found in the following:

- Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997[8] as amended, plus associated legislation: sets out minimum requirements for consultation and engagement
- Circular 6/2013: Development Planning[9]
- Circular 3/2013: Development Management Procedures[10]
- The Standards Commission for Scotland: Guidance on the Councillors' Code of Conduct[11]
- Planning Advice Note 3/2010: Community Engagement[12]
- A Guide to the Use of Mediation in the Planning System in Scotland (2009)[13]

Outcomes: How Planning Makes a Difference

9. The Scottish Government's Purpose of creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth is set out in the Government Economic Strategy. The aim is to ensure that the entire public sector is fully aligned to deliver the Purpose. The relationship of planning to the Purpose is shown on page 8.

10. The Scottish Government's 16 national outcomes[14] articulate in more detail how the Purpose is to be achieved. Planning is broad in scope and cross cutting in nature and therefore contributes to the achievement of all of the national outcomes. The pursuit of these outcomes provides the impetus for other national plans, policies and strategies and many of the principles and policies set out in them are reflected in both the SPP and NPF3.

8 www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1997/8/contents
9 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/12/9924/0
10 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/12/9882/0
11 www.standardscommissionscotland.org.uk/webfm_send/279
12 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/08/30094454/0
13 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2009/03/10154116/0
14 www.scotland.gov.uk/About/Performance/scotPerforms/outcome

11. NPF3 and this SPP share a single vision for the planning system in Scotland:

> We live in a Scotland with a growing, low-carbon economy with progressively narrowing disparities in well-being and opportunity. It is growth that can be achieved whilst reducing emissions and which respects the quality of environment, place and life which makes our country so special. It is growth which increases solidarity – reducing inequalities between our regions. We live in sustainable, well-designed places and homes which meet our needs. We enjoy excellent transport and digital connections, internally and with the rest of the world.

12. At the strategic and local level, planning can make a very important contribution to the delivery of Single Outcome Agreements[15], through their shared focus on 'place'. Effective integration between land use planning and community planning is crucial and development plans should reflect close working with Community Planning Partnerships[16].

13. The following four planning outcomes explain how planning should support the vision. The outcomes are consistent across the NPF and SPP and focus on creating a successful sustainable place, a low carbon place, a natural, resilient place and a more connected place. For planning to make a positive difference, development plans and new development need to contribute to achieving these outcomes.

Outcome 1: A successful, sustainable place – supporting sustainable economic growth and regeneration, and the creation of well-designed, sustainable places.

14. NPF3 aims to strengthen the role of our city regions and towns, create more vibrant rural places, and realise the opportunities for sustainable growth and innovation in our coastal and island areas.

15. The SPP sets out how this should be delivered on the ground. By locating the right development in the right place, planning can provide opportunities for people to make sustainable choices and improve their quality of life. Well-planned places promote well-being, a sense of identity and pride, and greater opportunities for social interaction. Planning therefore has an important role in promoting strong, resilient and inclusive communities. Delivering high-quality buildings, infrastructure and spaces in the right locations helps provide choice over where to live and style of home, choice as to how to access amenities and services and choice to live more active, engaged, independent and healthy lifestyles.

16. Good planning creates opportunities for people to contribute to a growing, adaptable and productive economy. By allocating sites and creating places that are attractive to growing economic sectors, and enabling the delivery of necessary infrastructure, planning can help provide the confidence required to secure private sector investment, thus supporting innovation, creating employment and benefiting related businesses.

Outcome 2: A low carbon place – reducing our carbon emissions and adapting to climate change.

15 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/PublicServiceReform/CP/SOA2012

16 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Government/PublicServiceReform/CP

17. NPF3 will facilitate the transition to a low carbon economy, particularly by supporting diversification of the energy sector. The spatial strategy as a whole aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and facilitate adaptation to climate change.

18. The Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009 sets a target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050, with an interim target of reducing emissions by at least 42% by 2020. Annual greenhouse gas emission targets are set in secondary legislation. Section 44 of the Act places a duty on every public body to act:

- in the way best calculated to contribute to the delivery of emissions targets in the Act;
- in the way best calculated to help deliver the Scottish Government's climate change adaptation programme; and
- in a way that it considers is most sustainable.

19. The SPP sets out how this should be delivered on the ground. By seizing opportunities to encourage mitigation and adaptation measures, planning can support the transformational change required to meet emission reduction targets and influence climate change. Planning can also influence people's choices to reduce the environmental impacts of consumption and production, particularly through energy efficiency and the reduction of waste.

Outcome 3: A natural, resilient place – helping to protect and enhance our natural and cultural assets, and facilitating their sustainable use.

20. NPF3 emphasises the importance of our environment as part of our cultural identity, an essential contributor to well-being and an economic opportunity. Our spatial strategy aims to build resilience and promotes protection and sustainable use of our world-class environmental assets.

21. The SPP sets out how this should be delivered on the ground. By protecting and making efficient use of Scotland's existing resources and environmental assets, planning can help us to live within our environmental limits and to pass on healthy ecosystems to future generations. Planning can help to manage and improve the condition of our assets, supporting communities in realising their aspirations for their environment and facilitating their access to enjoyment of it. By enhancing our surroundings, planning can help make Scotland a uniquely attractive place to work, visit and invest and therefore support the generation of jobs, income and wider economic benefits.

Outcome 4: A more connected place – supporting better transport and digital connectivity.

22. NPF3 reflects our continuing investment in infrastructure, to strengthen transport links within Scotland and to the rest of the world. Improved digital connections will also play a key role in helping to deliver our spatial strategy for sustainable growth.

23. The SPP sets out how this should be delivered on the ground. By aligning development more closely with transport and digital infrastructure, planning can improve sustainability and connectivity. Improved connections facilitate accessibility within and between places – within Scotland and beyond – and support economic growth and an inclusive society.

SG Purpose	To focus government and public services on creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.										
SG National Outcomes	The planning system and service contribute to all 16 National Outcomes										
SG National Plans, Policies & Strategies	**Government Economic Strategy**										
	Infrastructure Investment Plan										
	Scotland's Digital Future	Electricity & Heat Generation Policy Statements	2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity	Scottish Historic Environment Strategy and Policy	Housing Strategy	National Planning Framework & Scottish Planning Policy	Land Use Strategy	Low Carbon Scotland: Report of Proposals and Policies	National Marine Plan	Regeneration Strategy	National Transport Strategy
Planning Vision	We live in a Scotland with a growing, low carbon economy with progressively narrowing disparities in well-being and opportunity. It is growth that can be achieved whilst reducing emissions and which respects the quality of environment, place and life which makes our country so special. It is growth which increases solidarity – reducing inequalities between our regions. We live in sustainable, well-designed places and homes which meet our needs. We enjoy excellent transport and digital connections, internally and with the rest of the world.										
Planning Outcomes	Planning makes Scotland **a successful, sustainable place** – supporting sustainable economic growth and regeneration, and the creation of well-designed places.			Planning makes Scotland **a low carbon place** – reducing our carbon emissions and adapting to climate change.			Planning makes Scotland **a natural, resilient place** – helping to protect and enhance our natural and cultural assets, and facilitating their sustainable use.		Planning makes Scotland **a connected place** – supporting better transport and digital connectivity.		
National Planning	**Scottish Planning Policy (SPP)**						**National Planning Framework (NPF)**				
	Principal Policies										
	Sustainability			Placemaking							
	Subject Policies										
	Town Centres	Heat and Electricity		Natural Environment	Travel			*Cities and Towns*			
	Rural Development			Green Infrastructure				*Rural Areas*			
	Homes							*Coast and Islands*			
	Business & Employment	Zero Waste		Aquacultural	Digital Connectivity			*National Developments*			
				Minerals							
	Historic Environment			Flooding & Drainage							
	COMMUNITY PLANNING										
Strategic	Strategic Development Plans										
Local	Local Development Plans										
Site	Master Plans										

Principal Policies

Sustainability

NPF and wider policy context

24. The Scottish Government's central purpose is to focus government and public services on creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all of Scotland to flourish, through increasing sustainable economic growth.

25. The Scottish Government's commitment to the concept of sustainable development is reflected in its Purpose. It is also reflected in the continued support for the five guiding principles set out in the UK's shared framework for sustainable development. Achieving a sustainable economy, promoting good governance and using sound science responsibly are essential to the creation and maintenance of a strong, healthy and just society capable of living within environmental limits.

26. The NPF is the spatial expression of the Government Economic Strategy (2011) and sustainable economic growth forms the foundations of its strategy. The NPF sits at the top of the development plan hierarchy and must be taken into account in the preparation of strategic and local development plans.

27. The Government Economic Strategy indicates that sustainable economic growth is the key to unlocking Scotland's potential and outlines the multiple benefits of delivering the Government's purpose, including creating a supportive business environment, achieving a low carbon economy, tackling health and social problems, maintaining a high-quality environment and passing on a sustainable legacy for future generations.

Policy Principles

This SPP introduces a presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development.

28. The planning system should support economically, environmentally and socially sustainable places by enabling development that balances the costs and benefits of a proposal over the longer term. The aim is to achieve the right development in the right place; it is not to allow development at any cost.

29. This means that policies and decisions should be guided by the following principles:

- giving due weight to net economic benefit;
- responding to economic issues, challenges and opportunities, as outlined in local economic strategies;
- supporting good design and the six qualities of successful places;
- making efficient use of existing capacities of land, buildings and infrastructure including supporting town centre and regeneration priorities;
- supporting delivery of accessible housing, business, retailing and leisure development;

- supporting delivery of infrastructure, for example transport, education, energy, digital and water;
- supporting climate change mitigation and adaptation including taking account of flood risk;
- improving health and well-being by offering opportunities for social interaction and physical activity, including sport and recreation;
- having regard to the principles for sustainable land use set out in the Land Use Strategy;
- protecting, enhancing and promoting access to cultural heritage, including the historic environment;
- protecting, enhancing and promoting access to natural heritage, including green infrastructure, landscape and the wider environment;
- reducing waste, facilitating its management and promoting resource recovery; and
- avoiding over-development, protecting the amenity of new and existing development and considering the implications of development for water, air and soil quality.

Key Documents

- National Planning Framework[17]
- Government Economic Strategy[18]
- Planning Reform: Next Steps[19]
- Getting the Best from Our Land – A Land Use Strategy for Scotland[20]
- UK's Shared Framework for Sustainable Development[21]

Delivery

Development Planning

30. Development plans should:

- be consistent with the policies set out in this SPP, including the presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development;
- positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of the plan area in a way which is flexible enough to adapt to changing circumstances over time;
- support existing business sectors, taking account of whether they are expanding or contracting and, where possible, identify and plan for new or emerging sectors likely to locate in their area;
- be up-to-date, place-based and enabling with a spatial strategy that is implemented through policies and proposals; and
- set out a spatial strategy which is both sustainable and deliverable, providing confidence to stakeholders that the outcomes can be achieved.

17 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/National-Planning-Framework
18 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/09/13091128/0
19 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/03/3467
20 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/17091927/0
21 http://archive.defra.gov.uk/sustainable/government/documents/SDFramework.pdf

31. Action programmes should be actively used to drive delivery of planned developments: to align stakeholders, phasing, financing and infrastructure investment over the long term.

Development Management

32. The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not change the statutory status of the development plan as the starting point for decision-making. Proposals that accord with up-to-date plans should be considered acceptable in principle and consideration should focus on the detailed matters arising. For proposals that do not accord with up-to-date development plans, the primacy of the plan is maintained and this SPP and the presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development will be material considerations.

33. Where relevant policies in a development plan are out-of-date[22] or the plan does not contain policies relevant to the proposal, then the presumption in favour of development that contributes to sustainable development will be a significant material consideration. Decision-makers should also take into account any adverse impacts which would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits when assessed against the wider policies in this SPP. The same principle should be applied where a development plan is more than five years old.

34. Where a plan is under review, it may be appropriate in some circumstances to consider whether granting planning permission would prejudice the emerging plan. Such circumstances are only likely to apply where the development proposed is so substantial, or its cumulative effect would be so significant, that to grant permission would undermine the plan-making process by predetermining decisions about the scale, location or phasing of new developments that are central to the emerging plan. Prematurity will be more relevant as a consideration the closer the plan is to adoption or approval.

35. To support the efficient and transparent handling of planning applications by planning authorities and consultees, applicants should provide good quality and timely supporting information that describes the economic, environmental and social implications of the proposal. In the spirit of planning reform, this should be proportionate to the scale of the application and planning authorities should avoid asking for additional impact appraisals, unless necessary to enable a decision to be made. Clarity on the information needed and the timetable for determining proposals can be assisted by good communication and project management, for example, use of processing agreements setting out the information required and covering the whole process including planning obligations.

22 Development plans or their policies should not be considered out-of-date solely on the grounds that they were adopted prior to the publication of this SPP. However, the policies in the SPP will be a material consideration which should be taken into account when determining applications.

Placemaking

NPF and wider policy context

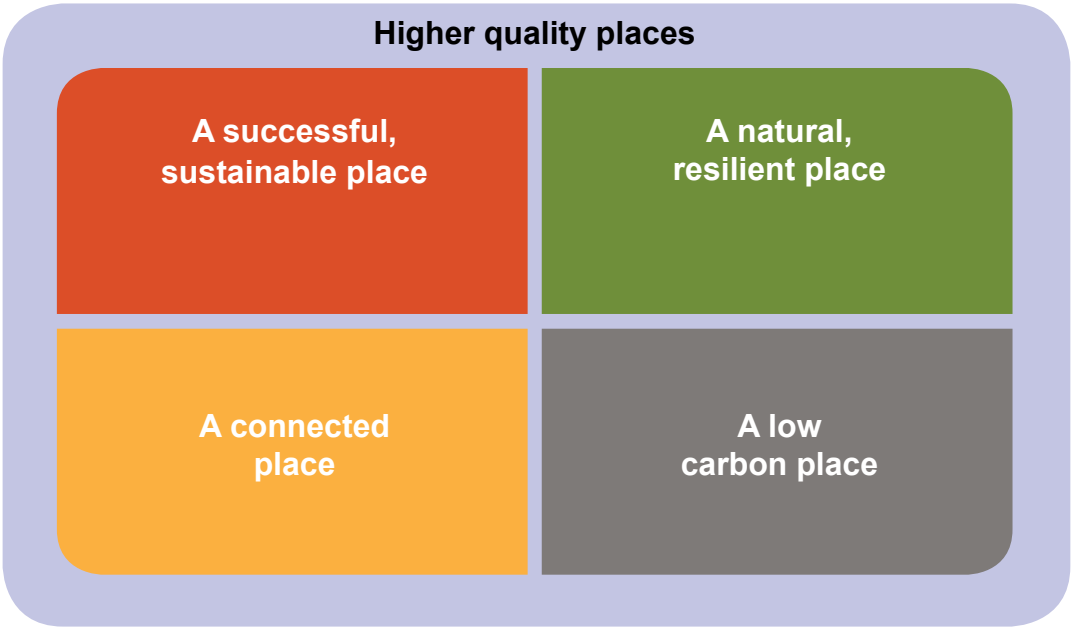
36. Planning's purpose is to create better places. Placemaking is a creative, collaborative process that includes design, development, renewal or regeneration of our urban or rural built environments. The outcome should be sustainable, well-designed places and homes which meet people's needs. The Government Economic Strategy supports an approach to place that recognises the unique contribution that every part of Scotland can make to achieving our shared outcomes. This means harnessing the distinct characteristics and strengths of each place to improve the overall quality of life for people. Reflecting this, NPF3 sets out an agenda for placemaking in our city regions, towns, rural areas, coast and islands.

37. The Government's policy statement on architecture and place for Scotland, Creating Places, emphasises that quality places are successful places. It sets out the value that high-quality design can deliver for Scotland's communities and the important role that good buildings and places play in promoting healthy, sustainable lifestyles; supporting the prevention agenda and efficiency in public services; promoting Scotland's distinctive identity all over the world; attracting visitors, talent and investment; delivering our environmental ambitions; and providing a sense of belonging, a sense of identity and a sense of community. It is clear that places which have enduring appeal and functionality are more likely to be valued by people and therefore retained for generations to come.

Policy Principles

Planning should take every opportunity to create high quality places by taking a design-led approach.

38. This means taking a holistic approach that responds to and enhances the existing place while balancing the costs and benefits of potential opportunities over the long term. This means considering the relationships between:



39. The design-led approach should be applied at all levels – at the national level in the NPF, at the regional level in strategic development plans, at the local level in local development plans and at site and individual building level within master plans that respond to how people use public spaces.

Planning should direct the right development to the right place.

40. This requires spatial strategies within development plans to promote a sustainable pattern of development appropriate to the area. To do this decisions should be guided by the following policy principles:

- optimising the use of existing resource capacities, particularly by co-ordinating housing and business development with infrastructure investment including transport, education facilities, water and drainage, energy, heat networks and digital infrastructure;
- using land within or adjacent to settlements for a mix of uses. This will also support the creation of more compact, higher density, accessible and more vibrant cores;
- considering the re-use or re-development of brownfield land before new development takes place on greenfield sites;
- considering whether the permanent, temporary or advanced greening of all or some of a site could make a valuable contribution to green and open space networks, particularly where it is unlikely to be developed for some time, or is unsuitable for development due to its location or viability issues; and
- locating development where investment in growth or improvement would have most benefit for the amenity of local people and the vitality of the local economy.

Planning should support development that is designed to a high-quality, which demonstrates the six qualities of successful place.

- ***Distinctive***

41. This is development that complements local features, for example landscapes, topography, ecology, skylines, spaces and scales, street and building forms, and materials to create places with a sense of identity.

- ***Safe and Pleasant***

42. This is development that is attractive to use because it provides a sense of security through encouraging activity. It does this by giving consideration to crime rates and providing a clear distinction between private and public space, by having doors that face onto the street creating active frontages, and by having windows that overlook well-lit streets, paths and open spaces to create natural surveillance. A pleasant, positive sense of place can be achieved by promoting visual quality, encouraging social and economic interaction and activity, and by considering the place before vehicle movement.

- ***Welcoming***

43. This is development that helps people to find their way around. This can be by providing or accentuating landmarks to create or improve views, it can be locating a distinctive work of art to mark places such as gateways, and it can include appropriate signage and distinctive lighting to improve safety and show off attractive buildings.

- ***Adaptable***

44. This is development that can accommodate future changes of use because there is a mix of building densities, tenures and typologies where diverse but compatible uses can be integrated. It takes into account how people use places differently, for example depending on age, gender and degree of personal mobility and providing versatile greenspace.

- ***Resource Efficient***

45. This is development that re-uses or shares existing resources, maximises efficiency of the use of resources through natural or technological means and prevents future resource depletion, for example by mitigating and adapting to climate change. This can mean denser development that shares infrastructure and amenity with adjacent sites. It could include siting development to take shelter from the prevailing wind; or orientating it to maximise solar gain. It could also include ensuring development can withstand more extreme weather, including prolonged wet or dry periods, by working with natural environmental processes such as using landscaping and natural shading to cool spaces in built areas during hotter periods and using sustainable drainage systems to conserve and enhance natural features whilst reducing the risk of flooding. It can include using durable materials for building and landscaping as well as low carbon technologies that manage heat and waste efficiently.

- ***Easy to Move Around and Beyond***

46. This is development that considers place and the needs of people before the movement of motor vehicles. It could include using higher densities and a mix of uses that enhance accessibility by reducing reliance on private cars and prioritising sustainable and active travel choices, such as walking, cycling and public transport. It would include paths and routes which connect places directly and which are well-connected with the wider environment beyond the site boundary. This may include providing facilities that link different means of travel.

Key Documents

- National Planning Framework[23]
- Getting the Best from Our Land – A Land Use Strategy for Scotland[24]
- Creating Places –A Policy Statement on Architecture and Place for Scotland[25]
- Designing Streets[26]
- Planning Advice Note 77: Designing Safer Places[27]
- Green Infrastructure: Design and Placemaking[28]

23 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/National-Planning-Framework
24 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/17091927/0
25 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/06/9811/0
26 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/03/22120652/0
27 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/03/08094923/0
28 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/11/04140525/0

Delivery

47. Planning should adopt a consistent and relevant approach to the assessment of design and place quality such as that set out in the forthcoming Scottish Government Place Standard.

Development Planning

48. Strategic and local development plans should be based on spatial strategies that are deliverable, taking into account the scale and type of development pressure and the need for growth and regeneration. An urban capacity study, which assesses the scope for development within settlement boundaries, may usefully inform the spatial strategy, and local authorities should make use of land assembly, including the use of compulsory purchase powers[29] where appropriate. Early discussion should take place between local authorities, developers and relevant agencies to ensure that investment in necessary new infrastructure is addressed in a timely manner.

49. For most settlements, a green belt is not necessary as other policies can provide an appropriate basis for directing development to the right locations. However, where the planning authority considers it appropriate, the development plan may designate a green belt around a city or town to support the spatial strategy by:

- directing development to the most appropriate locations and supporting regeneration;
- protecting and enhancing the character, landscape setting and identity of the settlement; and
- protecting and providing access to open space.

50. In developing the spatial strategy, planning authorities should identify the most sustainable locations for longer-term development and, where necessary, review the boundaries of any green belt.

51. The spatial form of the green belt should be appropriate to the location. It may encircle a settlement or take the shape of a buffer, corridor, strip or wedge. Local development plans should show the detailed boundary of any green belt, giving consideration to:

- excluding existing settlements and major educational and research uses, major businesses and industrial operations, airports and Ministry of Defence establishments;
- the need for development in smaller settlements within the green belt, where appropriate leaving room for expansion;
- redirecting development pressure to more suitable locations; and
- establishing clearly identifiable visual boundary markers based on landscape features such as rivers, tree belts, railways or main roads[30]. Hedges and field enclosures will rarely provide a sufficiently robust boundary.

52. Local development plans should describe the types and scales of development which would be appropriate within a green belt. These may include:

- development associated with agriculture, including the reuse of historic agricultural buildings;
- development associated with woodland and forestry, including community woodlands;
- horticulture, including market gardening and directly connected retailing;

29 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/archive/National-Planning-Policy/themes/ComPur

30 Note: where a main road forms a green belt boundary, any proposed new accesses would still require to meet the usual criteria.

- recreational uses that are compatible with an agricultural or natural setting;
- essential infrastructure such as digital communications infrastructure and electricity grid connections;
- development meeting a national requirement or established need, if no other suitable site is available; and
- intensification of established uses subject to the new development being of a suitable scale and form.

53. The creation of a new settlement may occasionally be a necessary part of a spatial strategy, where it is justified either by the scale and nature of the housing land requirement and the existence of major constraints to the further growth of existing settlements, or by its essential role in promoting regeneration or rural development.

54. Where a development plan spatial strategy indicates that a new settlement is appropriate, it should specify its scale and location, and supporting infrastructure requirements, particularly where these are integral to the viability and deliverability of the proposed development. Supplementary guidance can address more detailed issues such as design and delivery.

55. Local development plans should contribute to high-quality places by setting out how they will embed a design-led approach. This should include:

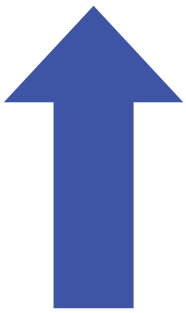
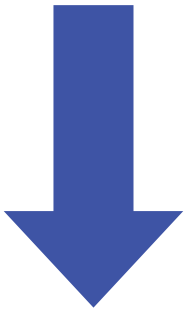
- reference to the six qualities of successful places which enable consideration of each place as distinctly different from other places and which should be evident in all development;
- using processes that harness and utilise the knowledge of communities and encourage active participation to deliver places with local integrity and relevance; and
- specifying when design tools, such as those at paragraph 57 should be used.

Development Management

56. Design is a material consideration in determining planning applications. Planning permission may be refused and the refusal defended at appeal or local review solely on design grounds.

Tools for Making Better Places

57. Design tools guide the quality of development in and across places to promote positive change. They can help to provide certainty for stakeholders as a contribution to sustainable economic growth. Whichever tools are appropriate to the task, they should focus on delivering the six qualities of successful places and could be adopted as supplementary guidance.

Scale	Tool
STRATEGIC	**Design Frameworks** For larger areas of significant change, so must include some flexibility. To address major issues in a co-ordinated and viable way. May include general principles as well as maps and diagrams to show the importance of connections around and within a place.
	**Development Briefs** For a place or site, to form the basis of dialogue between the local authority and developers. To advise how policies should be implemented. May include detail on function, layout, plot sizes, building heights and lines, and materials.
	Master Plans For a specific site that may be phased so able to adapt over time. To describe and illustrate how a proposal will meet the vision and how it will work on the ground. May include images showing the relationship of people and place. See Planning Advice Note 83: Masterplanning[31]
	**Design Guides** For a particular subject, e.g. shop fronts. To show how development can be put into practice in line with policy. Includes detail, e.g. images of examples.
SITE SPECIFIC	**Design Statements** Required to accompany some planning applications. To explain how the application meets policy and guidance, for example by close reference to key considerations of street design with Designing Streets. See Planning Advice Note 68: Design Statements[32]

31 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/11/10114526/0

32 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2003/08/18013/25389

Subject Policies

A Successful, Sustainable Place

Promoting Town Centres

NPF and wider context

58. NPF3 reflects the importance of town centres as a key element of the economic and social fabric of Scotland. Much of Scotland's population lives and works in towns, within city regions, in our rural areas and on our coasts and islands. Town centres are at the heart of their communities and can be hubs for a range of activities. It is important that planning supports the role of town centres to thrive and meet the needs of their residents, businesses and visitors for the 21st century.

59. The town centre first principle, stemming from the Town Centre Action Plan, promotes an approach to wider decision-making that considers the health and vibrancy of town centres.

Policy Principles

60. Planning for town centres should be flexible and proactive, enabling a wide range of uses which bring people into town centres. The planning system should:

- apply a town centre first policy[33] when planning for uses which attract significant numbers of people, including retail and commercial leisure, offices, community and cultural facilities;
- encourage a mix of uses in town centres to support their vibrancy, vitality and viability throughout the day and into the evening;
- ensure development plans, decision-making and monitoring support successful town centres; and
- consider opportunities for promoting residential use within town centres where this fits with local need and demand.

Key Documents

- National Review of Town Centres External Advisory Group Report: Community and Enterprise in Scotland's Town Centres[34]
- Town Centre Action Plan – the Scottish Government response[35]
- Planning Advice Note 59: Improving Town Centres[36]
- Planning Advice Note 52: Planning and Small Towns[37]

33 A town centre first policy is intended to support town centres, where these exist, or new centres which are supported by the development plan. Where there are no town centres in the vicinity, for example in more remote rural and island areas, the expectation is that local centres will be supported. The town centre first policy is not intended to divert essential services and developments away from such rural areas. See section on Rural Development.

34 www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0042/00426972.pdf

35 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/11/6415

36 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/1999/10/pan59-root/pan59

37 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/1997/04/pan52

- Town Centres Masterplanning Toolkit[38]

Development Plans

61. Plans should identify a network of centres and explain how they can complement each other. The network is likely to include city centres, town centres, local centres and commercial centres and may be organised as a hierarchy. Emerging or new centres designated within key new developments or land releases should also be shown within the network of centres. In remoter rural and island areas, it may not be necessary to identify a network.

62. Plans should identify as town centres those centres which display:

- a diverse mix of uses, including shopping;
- a high level of accessibility;
- qualities of character and identity which create a sense of place and further the well-being of communities;
- wider economic and social activity during the day and in the evening; and
- integration with residential areas.

63. Plans should identify as commercial centres those centres which have a more specific focus on retailing and/or leisure uses, such as shopping centres, commercial leisure developments, mixed retail and leisure developments, retail parks and factory outlet centres. Where necessary to protect the role of town centres, plans should specify the function of commercial centres, for example where retail activity may be restricted to the sale of bulky goods.

64. Local authorities, working with community planning partners, businesses and community groups as appropriate, should prepare a town centre health check. Annex A sets out a range of indicators which may be relevant. The purpose of a health check is to assess a town centre's strengths, vitality and viability, weaknesses and resilience. It will be used to inform development plans and decisions on planning applications. Health checks should be regularly updated, to monitor town centre performance, preferably every two years.

65. Local authorities, working with partners, should use the findings of the health check to develop a strategy to deliver improvements to the town centre. Annex A contains guidance on key elements in their preparation.

66. The spatial elements of town centre strategies should be included in the development plan or supplementary guidance. Plans should address any significant changes in the roles and functions of centres over time, where change is supported by the results of a health check. Plans should assess how centres can accommodate development and identify opportunities.

67. There are concerns about the number and clustering of some non-retail uses, such as betting offices and high interest money lending premises, in some town and local centres. Plans should include policies to support an appropriate mix of uses in town centres, local centres and high streets. Where a town centre strategy indicates that further provision of particular activities would undermine the character and amenity of centres or the well-being of communities, plans should include policies to prevent such over-provision and clustering.

38 http://creatingplacesscotland.org/people-communities/policy/town-centre-masterplanning-toolkit#overlay-context=people-communities/policy

68. Development plans should adopt a sequential town centre first approach when planning for uses which generate significant footfall, including retail and commercial leisure uses, offices, community and cultural facilities and, where appropriate, other public buildings such as libraries, and education and healthcare facilities. This requires that locations are considered in the following order of preference:

- town centres (including city centres and local centres);
- edge of town centre;
- other commercial centres identified in the development plan; and
- out-of-centre locations that are, or can be, made easily accessible by a choice of transport modes.

69. Planning authorities, developers, owners and occupiers should be flexible and realistic in applying the sequential approach, to ensure that different uses are developed in the most appropriate locations. It is important that community, education and healthcare facilities are located where they are easily accessible to the communities that they are intended to serve.

Development Management

70. Decisions on development proposals should have regard to the context provided by the network of centres identified in the development plan and the sequential approach outlined above. New development in a town centre should contribute to providing a range of uses and should be of a scale which is appropriate to that centre. The impact of new development on the character and amenity of town centres, local centres and high streets will be a material consideration in decision-making. The aim is to recognise and prioritise the importance of town centres and encourage a mix of developments which support their vibrancy, vitality and viability. This aim should also be taken into account in decisions concerning proposals to expand or change the use of existing development.

71. Where development proposals in edge of town centre, commercial centre or out-of-town locations are contrary to the development plan, it is for applicants to demonstrate that more central options have been thoroughly assessed and that the impact on existing town centres is acceptable. Where a new public building or office with a gross floorspace over 2,500m^2 is proposed outwith a town centre, and is contrary to the development plan, an assessment of the impact on the town centre should be carried out. Where a retail and leisure development with a gross floorspace over 2,500m^2 is proposed outwith a town centre, contrary to the development plan, a retail impact analysis should be undertaken. For smaller retail and leisure proposals which may have a significant impact on vitality and viability, planning authorities should advise when retail impact analysis is necessary.

72. This analysis should consider the relationship of the proposed development with the network of centres identified in the development plan. Where possible, authorities and developers should agree the data required and present information on areas of dispute in a succinct and comparable form. Planning authorities should consider the potential economic impact of development and take into account any possible displacement effect.

73. Out-of-centre locations should only be considered for uses which generate significant footfall[39] where:

- all town centre, edge of town centre and other commercial centre options have been assessed and discounted as unsuitable or unavailable;

39 As noted at paragraph 69, a flexible approach is required for community, education and healthcare facilities.

- the scale of development proposed is appropriate, and it has been shown that the proposal cannot reasonably be altered or reduced in scale to allow it to be accommodated at a sequentially preferable location;
- the proposal will help to meet qualitative or quantitative deficiencies; and
- there will be no significant adverse effect on the vitality and viability of existing town centres.

Promoting Rural Development

NPF Context

74. NPF3 sets out a vision for vibrant rural, coastal and island areas, with growing, sustainable communities supported by new opportunities for employment and education. The character of rural and island areas and the challenges they face vary greatly across the country, from pressurised areas of countryside around towns and cities to more remote and sparsely populated areas. Between these extremes are extensive intermediate areas under varying degrees of pressure and with different kinds of environmental assets meriting protection. Scotland's long coastline is an important resource both for development and for its particular environmental quality, especially in the areas of the three island councils.

Policy Principles

75. The planning system should:

- in all rural and island areas promote a pattern of development that is appropriate to the character of the particular rural area and the challenges it faces;
- encourage rural development that supports prosperous and sustainable communities and businesses whilst protecting and enhancing environmental quality; and
- support an integrated approach to coastal planning.

Key documents

- Getting the Best from Our Land – A Land Use Strategy for Scotland[40]
- National Marine Plan

Delivery

76. In the pressurised areas easily accessible from Scotland's cities and main towns, where ongoing development pressures are likely to continue, it is important to protect against an unsustainable growth in car-based commuting and the suburbanisation of the countryside, particularly where there are environmental assets such as sensitive landscapes or good quality agricultural land. Plans should make provision for most new urban development to take place within, or in planned extensions to, existing settlements.

77. In remote and fragile areas and island areas outwith defined small towns, the emphasis should be on maintaining and growing communities by encouraging development that provides suitable sustainable economic activity, while preserving important environmental assets such as landscape and wildlife habitats that underpin continuing tourism visits and quality of place.

78. In the areas of intermediate accessibility and pressure for development, plans should be tailored to local circumstances, seeking to provide a sustainable network of settlements and a

40 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/17091927/0

range of policies that provide for additional housing requirements, economic development, and the varying proposals that may come forward, while taking account of the overarching objectives and other elements of the plan.

79. Plans should set out a spatial strategy which:

- reflects the development pressures, environmental assets, and economic needs of the area, reflecting the overarching aim of supporting diversification and growth of the rural economy;
- promotes economic activity and diversification, including, where appropriate, sustainable development linked to tourism and leisure, forestry, farm and croft diversification and aquaculture, nature conservation, and renewable energy developments, while ensuring that the distinctive character of the area, the service function of small towns and natural and cultural heritage are protected and enhanced;
- makes provision for housing in rural areas in accordance with the spatial strategy, taking account of the different development needs of local communities;
- where appropriate, sets out policies and proposals for leisure accommodation, such as holiday units, caravans, and huts;
- addresses the resource implications of the proposed pattern of development, including facilitating access to local community services and support for public transport; and
- considers the services provided by the natural environment, safeguarding land which is highly suitable for particular uses such as food production or flood management.

80. Where it is necessary to use good quality land for development, the layout and design should minimise the amount of such land that is required. Development on prime agricultural land, or land of lesser quality that is locally important should not be permitted except where it is essential:

- as a component of the settlement strategy or necessary to meet an established need, for example for essential infrastructure, where no other suitable site is available; or
- for small-scale development directly linked to a rural business; or
- for the generation of energy from a renewable source or the extraction of minerals where this accords with other policy objectives and there is secure provision for restoration to return the land to its former status.

81. In accessible or pressured rural areas, where there is a danger of unsustainable growth in long-distance car-based commuting or suburbanisation of the countryside, a more restrictive approach to new housing development is appropriate, and plans and decision-making should generally:

- guide most new development to locations within or adjacent to settlements; and
- set out the circumstances in which new housing outwith settlements may be appropriate, avoiding use of occupancy restrictions.

82. In some most pressured areas, the designation of green belts may be appropriate.

83. In remote rural areas, where new development can often help to sustain fragile communities, plans and decision-making should generally:

- encourage sustainable development that will provide employment;
- support and sustain fragile and dispersed communities through provision for appropriate development, especially housing and community-owned energy;

- include provision for small-scale housing[41] and other development which supports sustainable economic growth in a range of locations, taking account of environmental protection policies and addressing issues of location, access, siting, design and environmental impact;
- where appropriate, allow the construction of single houses outwith settlements provided they are well sited and designed to fit with local landscape character, taking account of landscape protection and other plan policies;
- not impose occupancy restrictions on housing.

National Parks

84. National Parks are designated under the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000 because they are areas of national importance for their natural and cultural heritage. The four aims of national parks are to:

- conserve and enhance the natural and cultural heritage of the area;
- promote sustainable use of the natural resources of the area;
- promote understanding and enjoyment (including enjoyment in the form of recreation) of the special qualities of the area by the public; and
- promote sustainable economic and social development of the area's communities.

85. These aims are to be pursued collectively. However if there is a conflict between the first aim and any of the others then greater weight must be given to the first aim. Planning decisions should reflect this weighting. Paragraph 213 also applies to development outwith a National Park that affects the Park.

86. Development plans for National Parks are expected to be consistent with the National Park Plan, which sets out the management strategy for the Park. The authority preparing a development plan for a National Park, or which affects a National Park, is required to pay special attention to the desirability of consistency with the National Park Plan, having regard to the contents.

Coastal Planning

87. The planning system should support an integrated approach to coastal planning to ensure that development plans and regional marine plans are complementary. Terrestrial planning by planning authorities overlaps with marine planning in the intertidal zone. On the terrestrial side, mainland planning authorities should work closely with neighbouring authorities, taking account of the needs of port authorities and aquaculture, where appropriate. On the marine side, planning authorities will need to ensure integration with policies and activities arising from the National Marine Plan, Marine Planning Partnerships, Regional Marine Plans, and Integrated Coastal Zone Management, as well as aquaculture.

Development Plans

88. Plans should recognise that rising sea levels and more extreme weather events resulting from climate change will potentially have a significant impact on coastal and island areas, and that a precautionary approach to flood risk should be taken. They should confirm that new development requiring new defences against coastal erosion or coastal flooding will not be supported except where there is a clear justification for a departure from the general policy to

41 including clusters and groups; extensions to existing clusters and groups; replacement housing; plots for self build; holiday homes; new build or conversion linked to rural business.

avoid development in areas at risk. Where appropriate, development plans should identify areas at risk and areas where a managed realignment of the coast would be beneficial.

89. Plans should identify areas of largely developed coast that are a major focus of economic or recreational activity that are likely to be suitable for further development; areas subject to significant constraints; and largely unspoiled areas of the coast that are generally unsuitable for development. It should be explained that this broad division does not exclude important local variations, for example where there are areas of environmental importance within developed estuaries, or necessary developments within the largely unspoiled coast where there is a specific locational need, for example for defence purposes, tourism developments of special significance, or essential onshore developments connected with offshore energy projects or (where appropriate) aquaculture.

90. Plans should promote the developed coast as the focus of developments requiring a coastal location or which contribute to the economic regeneration or well-being of communities whose livelihood is dependent on marine or coastal activities. They should provide for the development requirements of uses requiring a coastal location, including ports and harbours, tourism and recreation, fish farming, land-based development associated with offshore energy projects and specific defence establishments.

91. Plans should safeguard unspoiled sections of coast which possess special environmental or cultural qualities, such as wild land. The economic value of these areas should be considered and maximised, provided that environmental impact issues can be satisfactorily addressed.

Supporting Business and Employment

NPF Context

92. NPF3 supports the many and varied opportunities for planning to support business and employment. These range from a focus on the role of cities as key drivers of our economy, to the continuing need for diversification of our rural economy to strengthen communities and retain young people in remote areas. Planning should address the development requirements of businesses and enable key opportunities for investment to be realised. It can support sustainable economic growth by providing a positive policy context for development that delivers economic benefits.

Policy Principles

93. The planning system should:

- promote business and industrial development that increases economic activity while safeguarding and enhancing the natural and built environments as national assets;
- allocate sites that meet the diverse needs of the different sectors and sizes of business which are important to the plan area in a way which is flexible enough to accommodate changing circumstances and allow the realisation of new opportunities; and
- give due weight to net economic benefit of proposed development.

Key Documents

- Government Economic Strategy[42]

42 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Economy/EconomicStrategy

- Tourism Development Framework for Scotland[43]
- A Guide to Development Viability[44]

Delivery

Development Planning

94. Plans should align with relevant local economic strategies. These will help planning authorities to meet the needs and opportunities of indigenous firms and inward investors, recognising the potential of key sectors for Scotland with particular opportunities for growth, including:

- energy;
- life sciences, universities and the creative industries;
- tourism and the food and drink sector;
- financial and business services.

95. Plans should encourage opportunities for home-working, live-work units, micro-businesses and community hubs.

96. Development plans should support opportunities for integrating efficient energy and waste innovations within business environments. Industry stakeholders should engage with planning authorities to help facilitate co-location, as set out in paragraph 179.

97. Strategic development plan policies should reflect a robust evidence base in relation to the existing principal economic characteristics of their areas, and any anticipated change in these.

98. Strategic development plans should identify an appropriate range of locations for significant business clusters. This could include sites identified in the National Renewables Infrastructure Plan[45], Enterprise Areas[46], business parks, science parks, large and medium-sized industrial sites and high amenity sites.

99. Strategic development plans and local development plans outwith SDP areas should identify any nationally important clusters of industries handling hazardous substances within their areas and safeguard them from development which, either on its own or in combination with other development, would compromise their continued operation or growth potential. This is in the context of the wider statutory requirements in the Town and Country Planning (Development Planning) (Scotland) Regulations 2009[47] to have regard to the need to maintain appropriate distances between sites with hazardous substances and areas where the public are likely to be present and areas of particular natural sensitivity or interest.

100. Development plans should be informed by the Tourism Development Framework for Scotland in order to maximise the sustainable growth of regional and local visitor economies. Strategic development plans should identify and safeguard any nationally or regionally important locations for tourism or recreation development within their areas.

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43 www.visitscotland.org/pdf/Tourism%20Development%20Framework%20-%20FINAL.pdf

44 www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/212607/0109620.pdf

45 www.scottish-enterprise.com/~/media/SE/Resources/Documents/Sectors/Energy/energy-renewables-reports/National-renewables-infrastructure-plan.ashx

46 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Economy/EconomicStrategy/Enterprise-Areas

47 These statutory requirements are due to be amended in 2015 as part of the implementation of Directive 2012/18/EU on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances.

101. Local development plans should allocate a range of sites for business, taking account of current market demand; location, size, quality and infrastructure requirements; whether sites are serviced or serviceable within five years; the potential for a mix of uses; their accessibility to transport networks by walking, cycling and public transport and their integration with and access to existing transport networks. The allocation of such sites should be informed by relevant economic strategies and business land audits in respect of land use classes 4, 5 and 6.

102. Business land audits should be undertaken regularly by local authorities to inform reviews of development plans, and updated more frequently if relevant. Business land audits should monitor the location, size, planning status, existing use, neighbouring land uses and any significant land use issues (e.g. underused, vacant, derelict) of sites within the existing business land supply.

103. New sites should be identified where existing sites no longer meet current needs and market expectations. Where existing business sites are underused, for example where there has been an increase in vacancy rates, reallocation to enable a wider range of viable business or alternative uses should be considered, taking careful account of the potential impacts on existing businesses on the site.

104. Local development plans should locate development which generates significant freight movements, such as manufacturing, processing, distribution and warehousing, on sites accessible to suitable railheads or harbours or the strategic road network. Through appraisal, care should be taken in locating such development to minimise any impact on congested, inner urban and residential areas.

105. Planning authorities should consider the potential to promote opportunities for tourism and recreation facilities in their development plans. This may include new developments or the enhancement of existing facilities.

Development Management

106. Efficient handling of planning applications should be a key priority, particularly where jobs and investment are involved. To assist with this, pre-application discussions are strongly encouraged to determine the information that should be submitted to support applications. Such information should be proportionate and relevant to the development and sufficient for the planning authority requirements on matters such as the number of jobs to be created, hours of working, transport requirements, environmental effects, noise levels and the layout and design of buildings. Decisions should be guided by the principles set out in paragraphs 28 to 35.

107. Proposals for development in the vicinity of major-accident hazard sites should take into account the potential impacts on the proposal and the major-accident hazard site of being located in proximity to one another. Decisions should be informed by the Health and Safety Executive's advice, based on the PADHI tool. Similar considerations apply in respect of development proposals near licensed explosive sites (including military explosive storage sites).

108. Proposals for business, industrial and service uses should take into account surrounding sensitive uses, areas of particular natural sensitivity or interest and local amenity, and make a positive contribution towards placemaking.

Enabling Delivery of New Homes

NPF Context

109. NPF3 aims to facilitate new housing development, particularly in areas within our cities network where there is continuing pressure for growth, and through innovative approaches to rural housing provision. House building makes an important contribution to the economy. Planning can help to address the challenges facing the housing sector by providing a positive and flexible approach to development. In particular, provision for new homes should be made in areas where economic investment is planned or there is a need for regeneration or to support population retention in rural and island areas.

Policy Principles

110. The planning system should:

- identify a generous supply of land for each housing market area within the plan area to support the achievement of the housing land requirement across all tenures, maintaining at least a 5-year supply of effective housing land at all times;
- enable provision of a range of attractive, well-designed, energy efficient, good quality housing, contributing to the creation of successful and sustainable places; and
- have a sharp focus on the delivery of allocated sites embedded in action programmes, informed by strong engagement with stakeholders.

Key Documents

- The Housing (Scotland) Act 2001[48] requires local authorities to prepare a local housing strategy supported by an assessment of housing need and demand
- Planning Advice Note 2/2010: Affordable Housing and Housing Land Audits[49]

Delivery

111. Local authorities should identify functional housing market areas, i.e. geographical areas where the demand for housing is relatively self-contained. These areas may significantly overlap and will rarely coincide with local authority boundaries. They can be dynamic and complex, and can contain different tiers of sub-market area, overlain by mobile demand, particularly in city regions.

112. Planning for housing should be undertaken through joint working by housing market partnerships, involving both housing and planning officials within local authorities, and cooperation between authorities where strategic planning responsibilities and/or housing market areas are shared, including national park authorities. Registered social landlords, developers, other specialist interests, and local communities should also be encouraged to engage with housing market partnerships. In rural or island areas where there is no functional housing market area, the development plan should set out the most appropriate approach for the area.

48 www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2001/10/contents

49 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/08/31111624/0

Development Planning

113. Plans should be informed by a robust housing need and demand assessment (HNDA), prepared in line with the Scottish Government's HNDA Guidance[50]. This assessment provides part of the evidence base to inform both local housing strategies and development plans (including the main issues report). It should produce results both at the level of the functional housing market area and at local authority level, and cover all tenures. Where the Scottish Government is satisfied that the HNDA is robust and credible, the approach used will not normally be considered further at a development plan examination.

114. The HNDA, development plan, and local housing strategy processes should be closely aligned, with joint working between housing and planning teams. Local authorities may wish to wait until the strategic development plan is approved in city regions, and the local development plan adopted elsewhere, before finalising the local housing strategy, to ensure that any modifications to the plans can be reflected in local housing strategies, and in local development plans in the city regions.

115. Plans should address the supply of land for all housing. They should set out the housing supply target (separated into affordable and market sector) for each functional housing market area, based on evidence from the HNDA. The housing supply target is a policy view of the number of homes the authority has agreed will be delivered in each housing market area over the periods of the development plan and local housing strategy, taking into account wider economic, social and environmental factors, issues of capacity, resource and deliverability, and other important requirements such as the aims of National Parks. The target should be reasonable, should properly reflect the HNDA estimate of housing demand in the market sector, and should be supported by compelling evidence. The authority's housing supply target should also be reflected in the local housing strategy.

116. Within the overall housing supply target[51], plans should indicate the number of new homes to be built over the plan period. This figure should be increased by a margin of 10 to 20% to establish the housing land requirement, in order to ensure that a generous supply of land for housing is provided. The exact extent of the margin will depend on local circumstances, but a robust explanation for it should be provided in the plan.

117. The housing land requirement can be met from a number of sources, most notably sites from the established supply which are effective or expected to become effective in the plan period, sites with planning permission, proposed new land allocations, and in some cases a proportion of windfall development. Any assessment of the expected contribution to the housing land requirement from windfall sites must be realistic and based on clear evidence of past completions and sound assumptions about likely future trends. In urban areas this should be informed by an urban capacity study.

118. Strategic development plans should set out the housing supply target and the housing land requirement for the plan area, each local authority area, and each functional housing market area. They should also state the amount and broad locations of land which should be allocated in local development plans to meet the housing land requirement up to year 12 from the expected year of plan approval, making sure that the requirement for each housing market area is met in full. Beyond year 12 and up to year 20, the strategic development plan should provide an indication of the possible scale and location of housing land, including by local development plan area.

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50 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/Housing/supply-demand/chma/hnda

51 Note: the housing supply target may in some cases include a contribution from other forms of delivery, for example a programme to bring empty properties back into use.

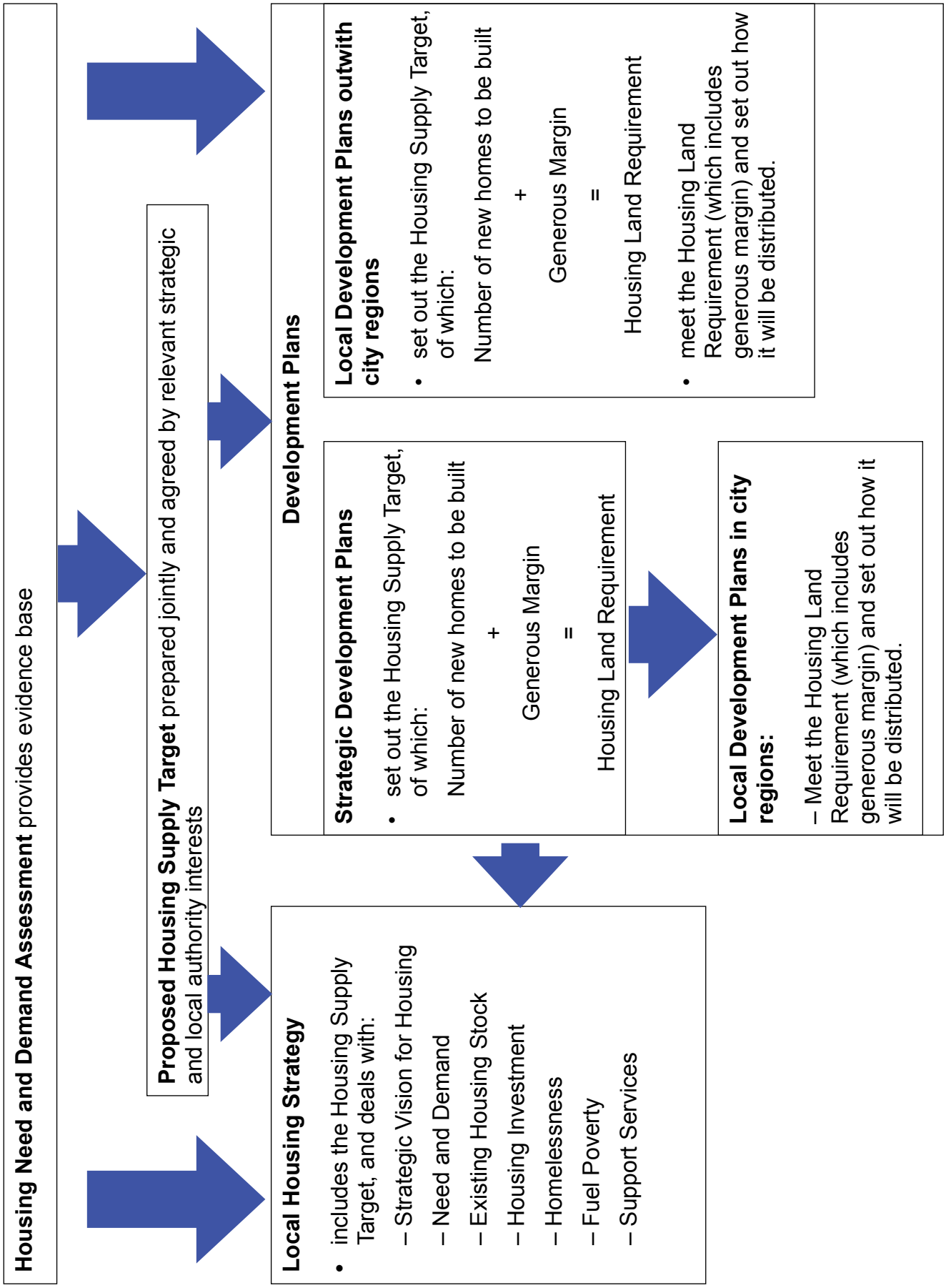
119. Local development plans in city regions should allocate a range of sites which are effective or expected to become effective in the plan period to meet the housing land requirement of the strategic development plan up to year 10 from the expected year of adoption. They should provide for a minimum of 5 years effective land supply at all times. In allocating sites, planning authorities should be confident that land can be brought forward for development within the plan period and that the range of sites allocated will enable the housing supply target to be met.

120. Outwith city regions, local development plans should set out the housing supply target (separated into affordable and market sector) and the housing land requirement for each housing market area in the plan area up to year 10 from the expected year of adoption. They should allocate a range of sites which are effective or expected to become effective in the plan period to meet the housing land requirement in full. They should provide a minimum of 5 years effective land supply at all times. Beyond year 10 and up to year 20, the local development plan should provide an indication of the possible scale and location of the housing land requirement.

121. In the National Parks, local development plans should draw on the evidence provided by the HNDAs of the constituent housing authorities. National Park authorities should aim to meet the housing land requirement in full in their area. However, they are not required to do so, and they should liaise closely with neighbouring planning authorities to ensure that any remaining part of the housing land requirement for the National Parks is met in immediately adjoining housing market areas, and that a 5-year supply of effective land is maintained.

122. Local development plans should allocate appropriate sites to support the creation of sustainable mixed communities and successful places and help to ensure the continued delivery of new housing.

Diagram 1: Housing Land, Development Planning and the Local Housing Strategy



Maintaining a 5-year Effective Land Supply

123. Planning authorities should actively manage the housing land supply. They should work with housing and infrastructure providers to prepare an annual housing land audit as a tool to critically review and monitor the availability of effective housing land, the progress of sites through the planning process, and housing completions, to ensure a generous supply of land for house building is maintained and there is always enough effective land for at least five years. A site is only considered effective where it can be demonstrated that within five years it will be free of constraints[52] and can be developed for housing. In remoter rural areas and island communities, where the housing land requirement and market activity are of a more limited scale, the housing land audit process may be adapted to suit local circumstances.

124. The development plan action programme, prepared in tandem with the plan, should set out the key actions necessary to bring each site forward for housing development and identify the lead partner. It is a key tool, and should be used alongside the housing land audit to help planning authorities manage the land supply.

125. Planning authorities, developers, service providers and other partners in housing provision should work together to ensure a continuing supply of effective land and to deliver housing, taking a flexible and realistic approach. Where a shortfall in the 5-year effective housing land supply emerges, development plan policies for the supply of housing land will not be considered up-to-date, and paragraphs 32-35 will be relevant.

Affordable Housing

126. Affordable housing is defined broadly as housing of a reasonable quality that is affordable to people on modest incomes. Affordable housing may be provided in the form of social rented accommodation, mid-market rented accommodation, shared ownership housing, shared equity housing, housing sold at a discount (including plots for self-build), and low cost housing without subsidy.

127. Where the housing supply target requires provision for affordable housing, strategic development plans should state how much of the total housing land requirement this represents.

128. Local development plans should clearly set out the scale and distribution of the affordable housing requirement for their area. Where the HNDA and local housing strategy process identify a shortage of affordable housing, the plan should set out the role that planning will take in addressing this. Planning authorities should consider whether it is appropriate to allocate some small sites specifically for affordable housing. Advice on the range of possible options for provision of affordable housing is set out in PAN 2/2010.

129. Plans should identify any expected developer contributions towards delivery of affordable housing. Where a contribution is required, this should generally be for a specified proportion of the serviced land within a development site to be made available for affordable housing. Planning authorities should consider the level of affordable housing contribution which is likely to be deliverable in the current economic climate, as part of a viable housing development. The level of affordable housing required as a contribution within a market site should generally be no more than 25% of the total number of houses. Consideration should also be given to the nature of the affordable housing required and the extent to which this can be met by proposals capable of development with little or no public subsidy. Where permission is sought for specialist housing, as described in paragraphs 132-134, a contribution to affordable housing may not always be required.

52 Planning Advice Note 2/2010: Affordable Housing and Housing Land Audits sets out more fully the measure of effective sites www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/08/31111624/5

130. Plans should consider how affordable housing requirements will be met over the period of the plan. Planning and housing officials should work together closely to ensure that the phasing of land allocations and the operation of affordable housing policies combine to deliver housing across the range of tenures. In rural areas, where significant unmet local need for affordable housing has been shown, it may be appropriate to introduce a 'rural exceptions' policy which allows planning permission to be granted for affordable housing on small sites that would not normally be used for housing, for example because they lie outwith the adjacent built-up area and are subject to policies of restraint.

131. Any detailed policies on how the affordable housing requirement is expected to be delivered, including any differences in approach for urban and rural areas, should be set out in supplementary guidance. Where it is considered that housing built to meet an identified need for affordable housing should remain available to meet such needs in perpetuity, supplementary guidance should set out the measures to achieve this. Any specific requirements on design may also be addressed in supplementary guidance.

Specialist Housing Provision and Other Specific Needs

132. As part of the HNDA, local authorities are required to consider the need for specialist provision that covers accessible and adapted housing, wheelchair housing and supported accommodation, including care homes and sheltered housing. This supports independent living for elderly people and those with a disability. Where a need is identified, planning authorities should prepare policies to support the delivery of appropriate housing and consider allocating specific sites.

133. HNDAs will also evidence need for sites for Gypsy/Travellers and Travelling Showpeople. Development plans and local housing strategies should address any need identified, taking into account their mobile lifestyles. In city regions, the strategic development plan should have a role in addressing cross-boundary considerations. If there is a need, local development plans should identify suitable sites for these communities. They should also consider whether policies are required for small privately-owned sites for Gypsy/Travellers, and for handling applications for permanent sites for Travelling Showpeople (where account should be taken of the need for storage and maintenance of equipment as well as accommodation). These communities should be appropriately involved in identifying sites for their use.

134. Local development plans should address any need for houses in multiple occupation (HMO). More information is provided in Circular 2/2012 Houses in Multiple Occupation[53]. Planning authorities should also consider the housing requirements of service personnel and sites for people seeking self-build plots. Where authorities believe it appropriate to allocate suitable sites for self-build plots, the sites may contribute to meeting the housing land requirement.

53 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/06/4191

Valuing the Historic Environment

NPF and wider policy context

135. NPF3 recognises the contribution made by our cultural heritage to our economy, cultural identity and quality of life. Planning has an important role to play in maintaining and enhancing the distinctive and high-quality, irreplaceable historic places which enrich our lives, contribute to our sense of identity and are an important resource for our tourism and leisure industry.

136. The historic environment is a key cultural and economic asset and a source of inspiration that should be seen as integral to creating successful places. Culture-led regeneration can have a profound impact on the well-being of a community in terms of the physical look and feel of a place and can also attract visitors, which in turn can bolster the local economy and sense of pride or ownership.

Policy Principles

137. The planning system should:

- promote the care and protection of the designated and non-designated historic environment (including individual assets, related settings and the wider cultural landscape) and its contribution to sense of place, cultural identity, social well-being, economic growth, civic participation and lifelong learning; and
- enable positive change in the historic environment which is informed by a clear understanding of the importance of the heritage assets affected and ensure their future use. Change should be sensitively managed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the fabric and setting of the asset, and ensure that its special characteristics are protected, conserved or enhanced.

Key Documents

- Scottish Historic Environment Policy[54]
- Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland[55]
- Managing Change in the Historic Environment – Historic Scotland's guidance note series[56]
- Planning Advice Note 2/2011: Planning and Archaeology[57]
- Planning Advice Note 71: Conservation Area Management[58]
- Scottish Historic Environment Databases[59]

54 www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/index/heritage/policy/shep.htm
55 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/03/8522
56 www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/managingchange
57 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/08/04132003/0
58 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2004/12/20450/49052
59 http://smrforum-scotland.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/SHED-Strategy-Final-April-2014.pdf

Delivery

Development Planning

138. Strategic development plans should protect and promote their significant historic environment assets. They should take account of the capacity of settlements and surrounding areas to accommodate development without damage to their historic significance.

139. Local development plans and supplementary guidance should provide a framework for protecting and, where appropriate, enhancing all elements of the historic environment. Local planning authorities should designate and review existing and potential conservation areas and identify existing and proposed Article 4 Directions. This should be supported by Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans.

Development Management

140. The siting and design of development should take account of all aspects of the historic environment. In support of this, planning authorities should have access to a Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) and/or a Historic Environment Record (HER) that contains necessary information about known historic environment features and finds in their area.

Listed Buildings

141. Change to a listed building should be managed to protect its special interest while enabling it to remain in active use. Where planning permission and listed building consent are sought for development to, or affecting, a listed building, special regard must be given to the importance of preserving and enhancing the building, its setting and any features of special architectural or historic interest. The layout, design, materials, scale, siting and use of any development which will affect a listed building or its setting should be appropriate to the character and appearance of the building and setting. Listed buildings should be protected from demolition or other work that would adversely affect it or its setting.

142. Enabling development may be acceptable where it can be clearly shown to be the only means of preventing the loss of the asset and securing its long-term future. Any development should be the minimum necessary to achieve these aims. The resultant development should be designed and sited carefully to preserve or enhance the character and setting of the historic asset.

Conservation Areas

143. Proposals for development within conservation areas and proposals outwith which will impact on its appearance, character or setting, should preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area. Proposals that do not harm the character or appearance of the conservation area should be treated as preserving its character or appearance. Where the demolition of an unlisted building is proposed through Conservation Area Consent, consideration should be given to the contribution the building makes to the character and appearance of the conservation area. Where a building makes a positive contribution the presumption should be to retain it.

144. Proposed works to trees in conservation areas require prior notice to the planning authority and statutory Tree Preservation Orders[60] can increase the protection given to such trees. Conservation Area Appraisals should inform development management decisions.

60 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/01/28152314/0

Scheduled Monuments

145. Where there is potential for a proposed development to have an adverse effect on a scheduled monument or on the integrity of its setting, permission should only be granted where there are exceptional circumstances. Where a proposal would have a direct impact on a scheduled monument, the written consent of Scottish Ministers via a separate process is required in addition to any other consents required for the development.

Historic Marine Protected Areas

146. Where planning control extends offshore, planning authorities should ensure that development will not significantly hinder the preservation objectives of Historic Marine Protected Areas.

World Heritage Sites

147. World Heritage Sites are of international importance. Where a development proposal has the potential to affect a World Heritage Site, or its setting, the planning authority must protect and preserve its Outstanding Universal Value.

Gardens and Designed Landscapes

148. Planning authorities should protect and, where appropriate, seek to enhance gardens and designed landscapes included in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes and designed landscapes of regional and local importance.

Battlefields

149. Planning authorities should seek to protect, conserve and, where appropriate, enhance the key landscape characteristics and special qualities of sites in the Inventory of Historic Battlefields.

Archaeology and Other Historic Environment Assets

150. Planning authorities should protect archaeological sites and monuments as an important, finite and non-renewable resource and preserve them in situ wherever possible. Where in situ preservation is not possible, planning authorities should, through the use of conditions or a legal obligation, ensure that developers undertake appropriate excavation, recording, analysis, publication and archiving before and/or during development. If archaeological discoveries are made, they should be reported to the planning authority to enable discussion on appropriate measures, such as inspection and recording.

151. There is also a range of non-designated historic assets and areas of historical interest, including historic landscapes, other gardens and designed landscapes, woodlands and routes such as drove roads which do not have statutory protection. These resources are, however, an important part of Scotland's heritage and planning authorities should protect and preserve significant resources as far as possible, in situ wherever feasible.

A Low Carbon Place

Delivering Heat and Electricity

NPF Context

152. NPF3 is clear that planning must facilitate the transition to a low carbon economy, and help to deliver the aims of the Scottish Government's Report on Proposals and Policies[61]. Our spatial strategy facilitates the development of generation technologies that will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the energy sector. Scotland has significant renewable energy resources, both onshore and offshore. Spatial priorities range from extending heat networks in our cities and towns to realising the potential for renewable energy generation in our coastal and island areas.

153. Terrestrial and marine planning facilitate development of renewable energy technologies, link generation with consumers and guide new infrastructure to appropriate locations. Efficient supply of low carbon and low cost heat and generation of heat and electricity from renewable energy sources are vital to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and can create significant opportunities for communities. Renewable energy also presents a significant opportunity for associated development, investment and growth of the supply chain, particularly for ports and harbours identified in the National Renewables Infrastructure Plan[62]. Communities can also gain new opportunities from increased local ownership and associated benefits.

Policy Principles

154. The planning system should:

- support the transformational change to a low carbon economy, consistent with national objectives and targets[63], including deriving:
  - 30% of overall energy demand from renewable sources by 2020;
  - 11% of heat demand from renewable sources by 2020; and
  - the equivalent of 100% of electricity demand from renewable sources by 2020;
- support the development of a diverse range of electricity generation from renewable energy technologies – including the expansion of renewable energy generation capacity – and the development of heat networks;
- guide development to appropriate locations and advise on the issues that will be taken into account when specific proposals are being assessed;
- help to reduce emissions and energy use in new buildings and from new infrastructure by enabling development at appropriate locations that contributes to:
  - Energy efficiency;
  - Heat recovery;
  - Efficient energy supply and storage;

61 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/climatechange/scotlands-action/lowcarbon/meetingthetargets

62 www.scottish-enterprise.com/~/media/SE/Resources/Documents/Sectors/Energy/energy-renewables-reports/National-renewables-infrastructure-plan.ashx

63 Further targets may be set in due course, for example district heating targets have been proposed.

- Electricity and heat from renewable sources; and
- Electricity and heat from non-renewable sources where greenhouse gas emissions can be significantly reduced.

Key Documents

- Electricity Generation Policy Statement[64]
- 2020 Routemap for Renewable Energy in Scotland[65]
- Towards Decarbonising Heat: Maximising the opportunities for Scotland, Draft Heat Generation Policy Statement[66]
- Low Carbon Scotland: Meeting Our Emissions Reductions Targets 2013 - 2027[67]

Delivery

Development Planning

155. Development plans should seek to ensure an area's full potential for electricity and heat from renewable sources is achieved, in line with national climate change targets, giving due regard to relevant environmental, community and cumulative impact considerations.

156. Strategic development plans should support national priorities for the construction or improvement of strategic energy infrastructure, including generation, storage, transmission and distribution networks. They should address cross-boundary issues, promoting an approach to electricity and heat that supports the transition to a low carbon economy.

157. Local development plans should support new build developments, infrastructure or retrofit projects which deliver energy efficiency and the recovery of energy that would otherwise be wasted both in the specific development and surrounding area. They should set out the factors to be taken into account in considering proposals for energy developments. These will depend on the scale of the proposal and its relationship to the surrounding area and are likely to include the considerations set out at paragraph 169.

Heat

158. Local development plans should use heat mapping to identify the potential for co-locating developments with a high heat demand with sources of heat supply. Heat supply sources include harvestable woodlands, sawmills producing biomass, biogas production sites and developments producing unused excess heat, as well as geothermal systems, heat recoverable from mine waters, aquifers, other bodies of water and heat storage systems. Heat demand sites for particular consideration include high density developments, communities off the gas grid, fuel poor areas and anchor developments such as hospitals, schools, leisure centres and heat intensive industry.

159. Local development plans should support the development of heat networks in as many locations as possible, even where they are initially reliant on carbon-based fuels if there is potential to convert them to run on renewable or low carbon sources of heat in the future. Local development plans should identify where heat networks, heat storage and energy centres exist or would be appropriate and include policies to support their implementation. Policies should support

64 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Business-Industry/Energy/EGPSMain

65 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/08/04110353/0

66 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/03/2778

67 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/climatechange/scotlands-action/lowcarbon/meetingthetargets

safeguarding of piperuns within developments for later connection and pipework to the curtilage of development. Policies should also give consideration to the provision of energy centres within new development. Where a district network exists, or is planned, or in areas identified as appropriate for district heating, policies may include a requirement for new development to include infrastructure for connection, providing the option to use heat from the network.

160. Where heat networks are not viable, microgeneration and heat recovery technologies associated with individual properties should be encouraged.

Onshore Wind

161. Planning authorities should set out in the development plan a spatial framework identifying those areas that are likely to be most appropriate for onshore wind farms as a guide for developers and communities, following the approach set out below in Table 1. Development plans should indicate the minimum scale[68] of onshore wind development that their spatial framework is intended to apply to. Development plans should also set out the criteria that will be considered in deciding all applications for wind farms of different scales – including extensions and re-powering – taking account of the considerations set out at paragraph 169.

162. Both strategic and local development planning authorities, working together where required, should identify where there is strategic capacity for wind farms, and areas with the greatest potential for wind development, considering cross-boundary constraints and opportunities. Strategic development planning authorities are expected to take the lead in dealing with cross-boundary constraints and opportunities and will coordinate activity with constituent planning authorities.

163. The approach to spatial framework preparation set out in the SPP should be followed in order to deliver consistency nationally and additional constraints should not be applied at this stage. The spatial framework is complemented by a more detailed and exacting development management process where the merits of an individual proposal will be carefully considered against the full range of environmental, community, and cumulative impacts (see paragraph 169).

164. Individual properties and those settlements not identified within the development plan will be protected by the safeguards set out in the local development plan policy criteria for determining wind farms and the development management considerations accounted for when determining individual applications.

165. Grid capacity should not be used as a reason to constrain the areas identified for wind farm development or decisions on individual applications for wind farms. It is for wind farm developers to discuss connections to the grid with the relevant transmission network operator. Consideration should be given to underground grid connections where possible.

166. Proposals for onshore wind turbine developments should continue to be determined while spatial frameworks and local policies are being prepared and updated. Moratoria on onshore wind development are not appropriate.

68 For example, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs and Cairngorms National Parks refer to developments of more than one turbine and over 30 metres in height as large-scale commercial wind turbines.

Table 1: Spatial Frameworks

<table>
<tr><td colspan="3">Group 1: Areas where wind farms will not be acceptable:

National Parks and National Scenic Areas.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Group 2: Areas of significant protection:

Recognising the need for significant protection, in these areas wind farms may be appropriate in some circumstances. Further consideration will be required to demonstrate that any significant effects on the qualities of these areas can be substantially overcome by siting, design or other mitigation.</td></tr>
<tr><td>National and international designations:

• World Heritage Sites;
• Natura 2000 and Ramsar sites;
• Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
• National Nature Reserves;
• Sites identified in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes;
• Sites identified in the Inventory of Historic Battlefields.</td><td>Other nationally important mapped environmental interests:

• areas of wild land as shown on the 2014 SNH map of wild land areas;
• carbon rich soils, deep peat and priority peatland habitat.</td><td>Community separation for consideration of visual impact:

• an area not exceeding 2km around cities, towns and villages identified on the local development plan with an identified settlement envelope or edge. The extent of the area will be determined by the planning authority based on landform and other features which restrict views out from the settlement.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="3">Group 3: Areas with potential for wind farm development:

Beyond groups 1 and 2, wind farms are likely to be acceptable, subject to detailed consideration against identified policy criteria.</td></tr>
</table>

Other Renewable Electricity Generating Technologies and Storage

167. Development plans should identify areas capable of accommodating renewable electricity projects in addition to wind generation, including hydro-electricity generation related to river or tidal flows or energy storage projects of a range of scales.

168. Development plans should identify areas which are weakly connected or unconnected to the national electricity network and facilitate development of decentralised and mobile energy storage installations. Energy storage schemes help to support development of renewable energy and maintain stability of the electricity network in areas where reinforcement is needed to manage congestion. Strategic development planning authorities are expected to take the lead in dealing with cross-boundary constraints and opportunities and will coordinate activity between constituent planning authorities.

Development Management

169. Proposals for energy infrastructure developments should always take account of spatial frameworks for wind farms and heat maps where these are relevant. Considerations will vary relative to the scale of the proposal and area characteristics but are likely to include:

- net economic impact, including local and community socio-economic benefits such as employment, associated business and supply chain opportunities;
- the scale of contribution to renewable energy generation targets;
- effect on greenhouse gas emissions;
- cumulative impacts – planning authorities should be clear about likely cumulative impacts arising from all of the considerations below, recognising that in some areas the cumulative impact of existing and consented energy development may limit the capacity for further development;
- impacts on communities and individual dwellings, including visual impact, residential amenity, noise and shadow flicker;
- landscape and visual impacts, including effects on wild land;
- effects on the natural heritage, including birds;
- impacts on carbon rich soils, using the carbon calculator;
- public access, including impact on long distance walking and cycling routes and scenic routes identified in the NPF;
- impacts on the historic environment, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings and their settings;
- impacts on tourism and recreation;
- impacts on aviation and defence interests and seismological recording;
- impacts on telecommunications and broadcasting installations, particularly ensuring that transmission links are not compromised;
- impacts on road traffic;
- impacts on adjacent trunk roads;
- effects on hydrology, the water environment and flood risk;
- the need for conditions relating to the decommissioning of developments, including ancillary infrastructure, and site restoration;

- opportunities for energy storage; and
- the need for a robust planning obligation to ensure that operators achieve site restoration.

170. Areas identified for wind farms should be suitable for use in perpetuity. Consents may be time-limited but wind farms should nevertheless be sited and designed to ensure impacts are minimised and to protect an acceptable level of amenity for adjacent communities.

171. Proposals for energy generation from non-renewable sources may be acceptable where carbon capture and storage or other emissions reduction infrastructure is either already in place or committed within the development's lifetime and proposals must ensure protection of good environmental standards.

172. Where new energy generation or storage proposals are being considered, the potential to connect those projects to off-grid areas should be considered.

Community Benefit

173. Where a proposal is acceptable in land use terms, and consent is being granted, local authorities may wish to engage in negotiations to secure community benefit in line with the Scottish Government Good Practice Principles for Community Benefits from Onshore Renewable Energy Developments[69].

Existing Wind Farm Sites

174. Proposals to repower existing wind farms which are already in suitable sites where environmental and other impacts have been shown to be capable of mitigation can help to maintain or enhance installed capacity, underpinning renewable energy generation targets. The current use of the site as a wind farm will be a material consideration in any such proposals.

Planning for Zero Waste

NPF and Wider Context

175. NPF3 recognises that waste is a resource and an opportunity, rather than a burden. Scotland has a Zero Waste Policy, which means wasting as little as possible and recognising that every item and material we use, either natural or manufactured, is a resource which has value for our economy. Planning plays a vital role in supporting the provision of facilities and infrastructure for future business development, investment and employment.

Policy Principles

176. The planning system should:

- promote developments that minimise the unnecessary use of primary materials and promote efficient use of secondary materials;
- support the emergence of a diverse range of new technologies and investment opportunities to secure economic value from secondary resources, including reuse, refurbishment, remanufacturing and reprocessing;
- support achievement of Scotland's zero waste targets: recycling 70% of household waste and sending no more than 5% of Scotland's annual waste arisings to landfill by 2025; and
- help deliver infrastructure at appropriate locations, prioritising development in line with the waste hierarchy: waste prevention, reuse, recycling, energy recovery and waste disposal.

69 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/11/8279

Key Documents

- EU revised Waste Framework Directive[70] (2008/98/EC)
- Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012[71]: a statutory framework to maximise the quantity and quality of materials available for recycling and minimise the need for residual waste infrastructure;
- Zero Waste Plan[72] and accompanying regulations and supporting documents;
- Safeguarding Scotland's Resources: A blueprint for a more resource efficient and circular economy;
- Circular 6/2013 Development Planning[73];
- SEPA waste data sources: including Waste Data Digests[74] and Waste Infrastructure Maps[75];
- SEPA Thermal Treatment of Waste Guidelines 2013[76];
- Waste capacity tables[77] (formerly Zero Waste Plan Annex B capacity tables)

Delivery

177. Planning authorities and SEPA should work collaboratively to achieve zero waste objectives, having regard to the Zero Waste Plan, through development plans and development management. A revised version of PAN 63: Planning and Waste Management will be published in due course.

Development Planning

178. Plans should give effect to the aims of the Zero Waste Plan and promote the waste hierarchy.

179. For new developments, including industrial, commercial, and residential, plans should promote resource efficiency and the minimisation of waste during construction and operation.

180. Plans should enable investment opportunities in a range of technologies and industries to maximise the value of secondary resources and waste to the economy, including composting facilities, transfer stations, materials recycling facilities, anaerobic digestion, mechanical, biological and thermal treatment plants. In line with the waste hierarchy, particular attention should be given to encouraging opportunities for reuse, refurbishment, remanufacturing and reprocessing of high value materials and products. Industry and business should engage with planning authorities to help identify sites which would enable co-location with end users of outputs where appropriate.

181. Planning authorities should have regard to the annual update of required capacity for source segregated and unsorted waste, mindful of the need to achieve the all-Scotland operational capacity. However, this should not be regarded as a cap and planning authorities should generally facilitate growth in sustainable resource management.

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70 http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/framework/revision.htm
71 www.legislation.gov.uk/sdsi/2012/9780111016657/contents
72 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/waste-and-pollution/Waste-1/wastestrategy
73 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/12/9924/0
74 www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_data/waste_data_digest.aspx
75 www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_infrastructure_maps.aspx
76 www.sepa.org.uk/waste/waste_regulation/energy_from_waste.aspx
77 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/waste-and-pollution/Waste-1/wastestrategy/annexb

182. The planning system should support the provision of a network of infrastructure to allow Scotland's waste and secondary resources to be managed in one of the nearest appropriate installations, by means of the most appropriate methods and technologies, in order to protect the environment and public health. While a significant shortfall of waste management infrastructure exists, emphasis should be placed on need over proximity. The achievement of a sustainable strategy may involve waste crossing planning boundaries. However, as the national network of installations becomes more fully developed, there will be scope for giving greater weight to proximity in identifying suitable locations for new waste facilities.

183. Any sites identified specifically for energy from waste facilities should enable links to be made to potential users of renewable heat and energy. Such schemes are particularly suitable in locations where there are premises nearby with a long-term demand for heat. Paragraphs 158 to 160 set out policy on heat networks and mapping.

184. Plans should safeguard existing waste management installations and ensure that the allocation of land on adjacent sites does not compromise waste handling operations, which may operate 24 hours a day and partly outside buildings.

185. Strategic development plans and local development plans outwith city regions should set out spatial strategies which make provision for new infrastructure, indicating clearly that it can generally be accommodated on land designated for employment, industrial or storage and distribution uses.

186. Local development plans should identify appropriate locations for new infrastructure, allocating specific sites where possible, and should provide a policy framework which facilitates delivery. Suitable sites will include those which have been identified for employment, industry or storage and distribution. Updated Scottish Government planning advice on identifying sites and assessing their suitability will be provided in due course.

187. Local development plans should identify where masterplans or development briefs will be required to guide the development of waste installations for major sites.

Development Management

188. In determining applications for new installations, authorities should take full account of the policy set out at paragraph 176. Planning authorities should determine whether proposed developments would constitute appropriate uses of the land, leaving the regulation of permitted installations to SEPA.

189. SEPA's Thermal Treatment of Waste Guidelines 2013 and addendum sets out policy on thermal treatment plants.

190. All new development including residential, commercial and industrial properties should include provision for waste separation and collection to meet the requirements of the Waste (Scotland) Regulations.

191. Planning authorities should consider the need for buffer zones between dwellings or other sensitive receptors and some waste management facilities. As a guide, appropriate buffer distances may be:

- 100m between sensitive receptors and recycling facilities, small-scale thermal treatment or leachate treatment plant;
- 250m between sensitive receptors and operations such as outdoor composting, anaerobic digestion, mixed waste processing, thermal treatment or landfill gas plant; and
- greater between sensitive receptors and landfill sites.

192. Planning authorities should:

- consider requiring the preparation of site waste management plans for construction sites;
- secure decommissioning or restoration (including landfill) to agreed standards as a condition of planning permission for waste management facilities; and
- ensure that landfill consents are subject to an appropriate financial bond unless the operator can demonstrate that their programme of restoration, including the necessary financing, phasing and aftercare of sites, is sufficient.

A Natural, Resilient Place

Valuing the Natural Environment

NPF Context

193. The natural environment forms the foundation of the spatial strategy set out in NPF3. The environment is a valued national asset offering a wide range of opportunities for enjoyment, recreation and sustainable economic activity. Planning plays an important role in protecting, enhancing and promoting access to our key environmental resources, whilst supporting their sustainable use.

Policy Principles

194. The planning system should:

- facilitate positive change while maintaining and enhancing distinctive landscape character;
- conserve and enhance protected sites and species, taking account of the need to maintain healthy ecosystems and work with the natural processes which provide important services to communities;
- promote protection and improvement of the water environment, including rivers, lochs, estuaries, wetlands, coastal waters and groundwater, in a sustainable and co-ordinated way;
- seek to protect soils from damage such as erosion or compaction;
- protect and enhance ancient semi-natural woodland as an important and irreplaceable resource, together with other native or long-established woods, hedgerows and individual trees with high nature conservation or landscape value;
- seek benefits for biodiversity from new development where possible, including the restoration of degraded habitats and the avoidance of further fragmentation or isolation of habitats; and
- support opportunities for enjoying and learning about the natural environment.

Key Documents

- Getting the Best from Our Land – A Land Use Strategy for Scotland[78]
- The 2020 Challenge for Scotland's Biodiversity[79]
- European Landscape Convention[80]
- Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004[81]
- The Conservation (Natural Habitats etc) Regulations[82]
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981[83]

78 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Countryside/Landusestrategy
79 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/06/5538
80 www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/heritage/landscape/default_en.asp
81 www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2004/6/contents
82 www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/1994/2716/contents/made
83 www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1981/69

- EU Birds Directive – 2009/147/EC[84]
- EU Habitats Directive – 92/43/EEC[85]
- Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance[86]
- National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000[87]
- River Basin Management Plans[88]

Delivery

195. Planning authorities, and all public bodies, have a duty under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 to further the conservation of biodiversity. This duty must be reflected in development plans and development management decisions. They also have a duty under the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003 to protect and improve Scotland's water environment. The Scottish Government expects public bodies to apply the Principles for Sustainable Land Use, as set out in the Land Use Strategy, when taking significant decisions affecting the use of land.

Development Plans

196. International, national and locally designated areas and sites should be identified and afforded the appropriate level of protection in development plans. Reasons for local designation should be clearly explained and their function and continuing relevance considered when preparing plans. Buffer zones should not be established around areas designated for their natural heritage importance. Plans should set out the factors which will be taken into account in development management. The level of protection given to local designations should not be as high as that given to international or national designations.

197. Planning authorities are encouraged to limit non-statutory local designations to areas designated for their local landscape or nature conservation value:

- the purpose of areas of local landscape value should be to:
  - safeguard and enhance the character and quality of a landscape which is important or particularly valued locally or regionally; or
  - promote understanding and awareness of the distinctive character and special qualities of local landscapes; or
  - safeguard and promote important local settings for outdoor recreation and tourism.
- local nature conservation sites should seek to accommodate the following factors:
  - species diversity, species or habitat rarity, naturalness and extent of habitat;
  - contribution to national and local biodiversity objectives;
  - potential contribution to the protection or enhancement of connectivity between habitats or the development of green networks; and
  - potential to facilitate enjoyment and understanding of natural heritage.

84 ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/birdsdirective/index_en.htm
85 ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm
86 www.ramsar.org/cda/en/ramsar-home/main/ramsar/1_4000_0
87 www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2000/10/contents
88 www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx

198. Local nature conservation sites designated for their geodiversity should be selected for their value for scientific study and education, their historical significance and cultural and aesthetic value, and for their potential to promote public awareness and enjoyment.

199. Plans should address the potential effects of development on the natural environment, including proposals for major-accident hazard sites and the cumulative effects of incremental changes. They should consider the natural and cultural components together, and promote opportunities for the enhancement of degraded landscapes, particularly where this helps to restore or strengthen the natural processes which underpin the well-being and resilience of communities.

200. Wild land character is displayed in some of Scotland's remoter upland, mountain and coastal areas, which are very sensitive to any form of intrusive human activity and have little or no capacity to accept new development. Plans should identify and safeguard the character of areas of wild land as identified on the 2014 SNH map of wild land areas.

201. Plans should identify woodlands of high nature conservation value and include policies for protecting them and enhancing their condition and resilience to climate change. Forestry Commission Scotland's Native Woodland Survey of Scotland[89] provides information and guidance. Planning authorities should consider preparing forestry and woodland strategies as supplementary guidance to inform the development of forestry and woodland in their area, including the expansion of woodland of a range of types to provide multiple benefits. Scottish Government advice on planning for forestry and woodlands is set out in The Right Tree in the Right Place[90].

Development Management

202. The siting and design of development should take account of local landscape character. Development management decisions should take account of potential effects on landscapes and the natural and water environment, including cumulative effects. Developers should seek to minimise adverse impacts through careful planning and design, considering the services that the natural environment is providing and maximising the potential for enhancement.

203. Planning permission should be refused where the nature or scale of proposed development would have an unacceptable impact on the natural environment. Direct or indirect effects on statutorily protected sites will be an important consideration, but designation does not impose an automatic prohibition on development.

204. Planning authorities should apply the precautionary principle where the impacts of a proposed development on nationally or internationally significant landscape or natural heritage resources are uncertain but there is sound evidence indicating that significant irreversible damage could occur. The precautionary principle should not be used to impede development without justification. If there is any likelihood that significant irreversible damage could occur, modifications to the proposal to eliminate the risk of such damage should be considered. If there is uncertainty, the potential for research, surveys or assessments to remove or reduce uncertainty should be considered.

205. Where peat and other carbon rich soils are present, applicants should assess the likely effects of development on carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions. Where peatland is drained or otherwise disturbed, there is liable to be a release of CO_2 to the atmosphere. Developments should aim to minimise this release.

89 www.forestry.gov.uk/nwss

90 www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/fcfc129.pdf/$file/fcfc129.pdf

206. Where non-native species are present on site, or where planting is planned as part of a development, developers should take into account the provisions of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 relating to non-native species.

International Designations

Natura 2000 Sites

207. Sites designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) make up the Natura 2000 network of protected areas. Any development plan or proposal likely to have a significant effect on these sites which is not directly connected with or necessary to their conservation management must be subject to an "appropriate assessment" of the implications for the conservation objectives. Such plans or proposals may only be approved if the competent authority has ascertained by means of an "appropriate assessment" that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the site.

208. A derogation is available for authorities to approve plans or projects which could adversely affect the integrity of a Natura site if:

- there are no alternative solutions;
- there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature; and
- compensatory measures are provided to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura network is protected.

209. If an authority wishes to use this derogation, Scottish Ministers must be notified. For sites hosting a priority habitat or species (as defined in Article 1 of the Habitats Directive), prior consultation with the European Commission via Scottish Ministers is required unless either the proposal is necessary for public health or safety reasons or it will have beneficial consequences of primary importance to the environment.

210. Authorities should afford the same level of protection to proposed SACs and SPAs (i.e. sites which have been approved by Scottish Ministers for formal consultation but which have not yet been designated) as they do to sites which have been designated.

Ramsar Sites

211. All Ramsar sites are also Natura 2000 sites and/or Sites of Special Scientific Interest and are protected under the relevant statutory regimes.

National Designations

212. Development that affects a National Park, National Scenic Area, Site of Special Scientific Interest or a National Nature Reserve should only be permitted where:

- the objectives of designation and the overall integrity of the area will not be compromised; or
- any significant adverse effects on the qualities for which the area has been designated are clearly outweighed by social, environmental or economic benefits of national importance.

213. Planning decisions for development within National Parks must be consistent with paragraphs 84-85.

Protected Species

214. The presence (or potential presence) of a legally protected species is an important consideration in decisions on planning applications. If there is evidence to suggest that a protected species is present on site or may be affected by a proposed development, steps must be taken to establish their presence. The level of protection afforded by legislation must be factored into the planning and design of the development and any impacts must be fully considered prior to the determination of the application. Certain activities – for example those involving European Protected Species as specified in the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 and wild birds, protected animals and plants under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 – may only be undertaken under licence. Following the introduction of the Wildlife and Natural Environment (Scotland) Act 2011, Scottish Natural Heritage is now responsible for the majority of wildlife licensing in Scotland.

Areas of Wild Land

215. In areas of wild land (see paragraph 200), development may be appropriate in some circumstances. Further consideration will be required to demonstrate that any significant effects on the qualities of these areas can be substantially overcome by siting, design or other mitigation.

Woodland

216. Ancient semi-natural woodland is an irreplaceable resource and, along with other woodlands, hedgerows and individual trees, especially veteran trees of high nature conservation and landscape value, should be protected from adverse impacts resulting from development. Tree Preservation Orders[91] can be used to protect individual trees and groups of trees considered important for amenity or their cultural or historic interest.

217. Where appropriate, planning authorities should seek opportunities to create new woodland and plant native trees in association with development. If a development would result in the severing or impairment of connectivity between important woodland habitats, workable mitigation measures should be identified and implemented, preferably linked to a wider green network (see also the section on green infrastructure).

218. The Scottish Government's Control of Woodland Removal Policy[92] includes a presumption in favour of protecting woodland. Removal should only be permitted where it would achieve significant and clearly defined additional public benefits. Where woodland is removed in association with development, developers will generally be expected to provide compensatory planting. The criteria for determining the acceptability of woodland removal and further information on the implementation of the policy is explained in the Control of Woodland Removal Policy, and this should be taken into account when preparing development plans and determining planning applications.

91 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/01/28152314/0

92 www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/fcfc125.pdf/%24FILE/fcfc125.pdf

Maximising the Benefits of Green Infrastructure

NPF Context

219. NPF3 aims to significantly enhance green infrastructure networks, particularly in and around our cities and towns. Green infrastructure and improved access to open space can help to build stronger, healthier communities. It is an essential part of our long-term environmental performance and climate resilience. Improving the quality of our places and spaces through integrated green infrastructure networks can also encourage investment and development.

Policy Principles

220. Planning should protect, enhance and promote green infrastructure, including open space and green networks, as an integral component of successful placemaking.

221. The planning system should:

- consider green infrastructure as an integral element of places from the outset of the planning process;
- assess current and future needs and opportunities for green infrastructure to provide multiple benefits;
- facilitate the provision and long-term, integrated management of green infrastructure and prevent fragmentation; and
- provide for easy and safe access to and within green infrastructure, including core paths and other important routes, within the context of statutory access rights under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003.

Key Documents

- Green Infrastructure: Design and Placemaking[93]
- Getting the Best from Our Land – A Land Use Strategy for Scotland[94]
- Planning Advice Note 65: Planning and Open Space[95]
- Reaching Higher – Scotland's National Strategy for Sport[96]
- The Play Strategy for Scotland and Action Plan[97]
- Let's Get Scotland Walking: The National Walking Strategy[98]

Delivery

Development Planning

222. Development plans should be based on a holistic, integrated and cross-sectoral approach to green infrastructure. They should be informed by relevant, up-to-date audits, strategies and action plans covering green infrastructure's multiple functions, for example open space, playing fields, pitches, outdoor access, core paths, active travel strategies, the historic environment, biodiversity, forestry and woodland, river basins, flood management, coastal zones and the marine environment.

93 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/11/04140525/0
94 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/03/17091927/0
95 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/05/30100623/0
96 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/ArtsCultureSport/Sport/NationalStrategies/Sport-21
97 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/10/9424
98 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/06/5743

Plans should promote consistency with these and reflect their priorities and spatial implications.

223. Strategic development plans should safeguard existing strategic or regionally important assets and identify strategic priorities for green infrastructure addressing cross-boundary needs and opportunities.

224. Local development plans should identify and protect open space identified in the open space audit and strategy as valued and functional or capable of being brought into use to meet local needs.

225. Local development plans should seek to enhance existing and promote the creation of new green infrastructure, which may include retrofitting. They should do this through a design-led approach, applying standards which facilitate appropriate provision, addressing deficits or surpluses within the local context. The standards delivered through a design-led approach should result in a proposal that is appropriate to place, including connections to other green infrastructure assets. Supplementary guidance or master plans may be used to achieve this.

226. Local development plans should identify sites for new indoor or outdoor sports, recreation or play facilities where a need has been identified in a local facility strategy, playing field strategy or similar document. They should provide for good quality, accessible facilities in sufficient quantity to satisfy current and likely future community demand. Outdoor sports facilities should be safeguarded from development except where:

- the proposed development is ancillary to the principal use of the site as an outdoor sports facility;
- the proposed development involves only a minor part of the outdoor sports facility and would not affect its use and potential for sport and training;
- the outdoor sports facility which would be lost would be replaced either by a new facility of comparable or greater benefit for sport in a location that is convenient for users, or by the upgrading of an existing outdoor sports facility to provide a facility of better quality on the same site or at another location that is convenient for users and maintains or improves the overall playing capacity in the area; or
- the relevant strategy (see paragraph 224) and consultation with **sport**scotland show that there is a clear excess of provision to meet current and anticipated demand in the area, and that the site would be developed without detriment to the overall quality of provision.

227. Local development plans should safeguard existing and potential allotment sites to ensure that local authorities meet their statutory duty to provide allotments where there is proven demand. Plans should also encourage opportunities for a range of community growing spaces.

228. Local development plans should safeguard access rights and core paths, and encourage new and enhanced opportunities for access linked to wider networks.

229. Local development plans should encourage the temporary use of unused or underused land as green infrastructure while making clear that this will not prevent any future development potential which has been identified from being realised. This type of greening may provide the advance structure planting to create the landscape framework for any future development.

Development Management

230. Development of land allocated as green infrastructure for an unrelated purpose should have a strong justification. This should be based on evidence from relevant audits and strategies that the proposal will not result in a deficit of that type of provision within the local area and that alternative sites have been considered. Poor maintenance and neglect should not be used as a justification for development for other purposes.

231. Development proposals that would result in or exacerbate a deficit of green infrastructure should include provision to remedy that deficit with accessible infrastructure of an appropriate type, quantity and quality.

232. In the design of green infrastructure, consideration should be given to the qualities of successful places. Green infrastructure should be treated as an integral element in how the proposal responds to local circumstances, including being well-integrated into the overall design layout and multi-functional. Arrangements for the long-term management and maintenance of green infrastructure, and associated water features, including common facilities, should be incorporated into any planning permission.

233. Proposals that affect regional and country parks must have regard to their statutory purpose of providing recreational access to the countryside close to centres of population, and should take account of their wider objectives as set out in their management plans and strategies.

Promoting Responsible Extraction of Resources

NPF Context

234. Minerals make an important contribution to the economy, providing materials for construction, energy supply and other uses, and supporting employment. NPF3 notes that minerals will be required as construction materials to support our ambition for diversification of the energy mix. Planning should safeguard mineral resources and facilitate their responsible use. Our spatial strategy underlines the need to address restoration of past minerals extraction sites in and around the Central Belt.

Policy Principles

235. The planning system should:

- recognise the national benefit of indigenous coal, oil and gas production in maintaining a diverse energy mix and improving energy security;
- safeguard workable resources and ensure that an adequate and steady supply is available to meet the needs of the construction, energy and other sectors;
- minimise the impacts of extraction on local communities, the environment and the built and natural heritage; and
- secure the sustainable restoration of sites to beneficial afteruse after working has ceased.

Key Documents

- Electricity Generation Policy Statement[99]
- Management of Extractive Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2010[100]
- PAN 50: Controlling the Environmental Effects of Surface Mineral Workings[101]
- Planning Advice Note 64: Reclamation of Surface Mineral Workings[102]
- Circular 2/2003: Safeguarding of Aerodromes, Technical Sites and Military Explosive Storage Areas[103]
- Circular 34/1996: Environment Act 1995 Section 96[104]

Delivery

Development Planning

236. Strategic development plans should ensure that adequate supplies of construction aggregates can be made available from within the plan area to meet the likely development needs of the city region over the plan period.

237. Local development plans should safeguard all workable mineral resources which are of economic or conservation value and ensure that these are not sterilised by other development. Plans should set out the factors that specific proposals will need to address, including:

- disturbance, disruption and noise, blasting and vibration, and potential pollution of land, air and water;
- impacts on local communities, individual houses, sensitive receptors and economic sectors important to the local economy;
- benefits to the local and national economy;
- cumulative impact with other mineral and landfill sites in the area;
- effects on natural heritage, habitats and the historic environment;
- landscape and visual impacts, including cumulative effects;
- transport impacts; and
- restoration and aftercare (including any benefits in terms of the remediation of existing areas of dereliction or instability).

238. Plans should support the maintenance of a landbank of permitted reserves for construction aggregates of at least 10 years at all times in all market areas through the identification of areas of search. Such areas can be promoted by developers or landowners as part of the plan preparation process or by planning authorities where they wish to guide development to particular areas. As an alternative, a criteria-based approach may be taken, particularly where a sufficient landbank already exists or substantial unconstrained deposits are available.

99 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/06/5757
100 www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2010/60/contents/made
101 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/1996/10/17729/23424
102 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2003/01/16122/16256
103 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2003/01/16204/17030
104 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/1996/11/circular-34-1996-root/circular-34-1996-guidance

239. Local development plans should identify areas of search where surface coal extraction is most likely to be acceptable during the plan period and set out the preferred programme for the development of other safeguarded areas beyond the plan period, with particular emphasis on protecting local communities from significant cumulative impacts. Where possible, plans should secure extraction prior to permanent development above workable coal reserves.

240. For areas covered by a Petroleum Exploration and Development Licence (PEDL), local development plans should also:

- identify licence areas;
- encourage operators to be as clear as possible about the minimum and maximum extent of operations (e.g. number of wells and duration) at the exploration phase whilst recognising that the factors to be addressed by applications should be relevant and proportionate to the appropriate exploration, appraisal and production phases of operations;
- confirm that applicants should engage with local communities, residents and other stakeholders at each stage of operations, beginning in advance of any application for planning permission and in advance of any operations;
- ensure that when developing proposals, applicants should consider, where possible, transport of the end product by pipeline, rail or water rather than road; and
- provide a consistent approach to extraction where licences extend across local authority boundaries.

241. Policies should protect areas of peatland and only permit commercial extraction in areas suffering historic, significant damage through human activity and where the conservation value is low and restoration is impossible.

Development Management

242. Operators should provide sufficient information to enable a full assessment to be made of the likely effects of development together with appropriate control, mitigation and monitoring measures. This should include the provision of an adequate buffer zone between sites and settlements, taking account of the specific circumstances of individual proposals, including size, duration, location, method of working, topography, the characteristics of the various environmental effects likely to arise and the mitigation that can be provided.

243. Borrow pits should only be permitted if there are significant environmental or economic benefits compared to obtaining material from local quarries; they are time-limited; tied to a particular project and appropriate reclamation measures are in place.

244. Consent should only be granted for surface coal extraction proposals which are either environmentally acceptable (or can be made so by planning conditions) or provide local or community benefits which clearly outweigh the likely impacts of extraction. Site boundaries within 500 metres of the edge of settlements will only be environmentally acceptable where local circumstances, such as the removal of dereliction, small-scale prior extraction or the stabilisation of mining legacy, justify a lesser distance. Non-engineering works and mitigation measures within 500 metres may be acceptable.

245. To assist planning authorities with their consideration of impacts on local communities, neighbouring uses and the environment, applicants should undertake a risk assessment for all proposals for shale gas and coal bed methane extraction. The assessment can, where appropriate, be undertaken as part of any environmental impact assessment and should also be developed in consultation with statutory consultees and local communities so that it informs the design of the proposal. The assessment should clearly identify those onsite activities (i.e. emission of pollutants, the creation and disposal of waste) that pose a potential risk using a source–pathway–receptor model and explain how measures, including those under environmental and other legislation, will be used to monitor, manage and mitigate any identified risks to health, amenity and the environment. The evidence from, and outcome of, the assessment should lead to buffer zones being proposed in the application which will protect all sensitive receptors from unacceptable risks. When considering applications, planning authorities and statutory consultees must assess the distances proposed by the applicant. Where proposed distances are considered inadequate the Scottish Government expects planning permission to be refused.

246. Conditions should be drafted in a way which ensures that hydraulic fracturing does not take place where permission for such operations is not sought and that any subsequent application to do so is subject to appropriate consultation. If such operations are subsequently proposed, they should, as a matter of planning policy, be regarded as a substantial change in the description of the development for which planning permission is sought or a material variation to the existing planning permission. Where PEDL and Underground Coal licences are granted for the same or overlapping areas, consideration should be given to the most efficient sequencing of extraction.

247. The Scottish Government is currently exploring a range of options relating to the effective regulation of surface coal mining. This is likely to result in further guidance on effective restoration measures in due course. In the meantime, planning authorities should, through planning conditions and legal agreements, continue to ensure that a high standard of restoration and aftercare is managed effectively and that such work is undertaken at the earliest opportunity. A range of financial guarantee options is currently available and planning authorities should consider the most effective solution on a site-by-site basis. All solutions should provide assurance and clarity over the amount and period of the guarantee and in particular, where it is a bond, the risks covered (including operator failure) and the triggers for calling in a bond, including payment terms. In the aggregates sector, an operator may be able to demonstrate adequate provision under an industry-funded guarantee scheme.

248. Planning authorities should ensure that rigorous procedures are in place to monitor consents, including restoration arrangements, at appropriate intervals, and ensure that appropriate action is taken when necessary. The review of mineral permissions every 15 years should be used to apply up-to-date operating and environmental standards although requests from operators to postpone reviews should be considered favourably if existing conditions are already achieving acceptable standards. Conditions should not impose undue restrictions on consents at quarries for building or roofing stone to reflect the likely intermittent or low rate of working at such sites.

Supporting Aquaculture

NPF Context

249. Aquaculture makes a significant contribution to the Scottish economy, particularly for coastal and island communities. Planning can help facilitate sustainable aquaculture whilst protecting and maintaining the ecosystem upon which it depends. Planning can play a role in supporting the sectoral growth targets to grow marine finfish (including farmed Atlantic salmon) production sustainably to 210,000 tonnes; and shellfish, particularly mussels, sustainably to 13,000 tonnes with due regard to the marine environment by 2020.

Policy Principles

250. The planning system should:

- play a supporting role in the sustainable growth of the finfish and shellfish sectors to ensure that the aquaculture industry is diverse, competitive and economically viable;
- guide development to coastal locations that best suit industry needs with due regard to the marine environment;
- maintain a presumption against further marine finfish farm developments on the north and east coasts to safeguard migratory fish species.

Key Documents

- National Marine Plan

Delivery

Development Planning

251. Local development plans should make positive provision for aquaculture developments. Plans, or supplementary guidance, should take account of Marine Scotland's locational policies when identifying areas potentially suitable for new development and sensitive areas which are unlikely to be appropriate for such development. They should also set out the issues that will be considered when assessing specific proposals, which could include:

- impacts on, and benefits for, local communities;
- economic benefits of the sustainable development of the aquaculture industry;
- landscape, seascape and visual impact;
- biological carrying capacity;
- effects on coastal and marine species (including wild salmonids) and habitats;
- impacts on the historic environment and the sea or loch bed;
- interaction with other users of the marine environment (including commercial fisheries, Ministry of Defence, navigational routes, ports and harbours, anchorages, tourism, recreational and leisure activities); and
- cumulative effects on all of the above factors.

Development Management

252. Applications should be supported, where necessary, by sufficient information to demonstrate:

- operational arrangements (including noise, light, access, waste and odour) are satisfactory and sufficient mitigation plans are in place; and
- the siting and design of cages, lines and associated facilities are appropriate for the location. This should be done through the provision of information on the extent of the site; the type, number and physical scale of structures; the distribution of the structures across the planning area; on-shore facilities; and ancillary equipment.

253. Any land-based facilities required for the proposal should, where possible, be considered at the same time. The planning system should not duplicate other control regimes such as controlled activities regulation licences from SEPA or fish health, sea lice and containment regulation by Marine Scotland.

Managing Flood Risk and Drainage

NPF Context

254. NPF3 supports a catchment-scale approach to sustainable flood risk management. The spatial strategy aims to build the resilience of our cities and towns, encourage sustainable land management in our rural areas, and to address the long-term vulnerability of parts of our coasts and islands. Flooding can impact on people and businesses. Climate change will increase the risk of flooding in some parts of the country. Planning can play an important part in reducing the vulnerability of existing and future development to flooding.

Policy Principles

255. The planning system should promote:

- a precautionary approach to flood risk from all sources, including coastal, water course (fluvial), surface water (pluvial), groundwater, reservoirs and drainage systems (sewers and culverts), taking account of the predicted effects of climate change;
- flood avoidance: by safeguarding flood storage and conveying capacity, and locating development away from functional flood plains and medium to high risk areas;
- flood reduction: assessing flood risk and, where appropriate, undertaking natural and structural flood management measures, including flood protection, restoring natural features and characteristics, enhancing flood storage capacity, avoiding the construction of new culverts and opening existing culverts where possible; and
- avoidance of increased surface water flooding through requirements for Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) and minimising the area of impermeable surface.

256. To achieve this the planning system should prevent development which would have a significant probability of being affected by flooding or would increase the probability of flooding elsewhere. Piecemeal reduction of the functional floodplain should be avoided given the cumulative effects of reducing storage capacity.

257. Alterations and small-scale extensions to existing buildings are outwith the scope of this policy, provided that they would not have a significant effect on the storage capacity of the functional floodplain or local flooding problems.

Key Documents

- Flood Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009[105]
- Updated Planning Advice Note on Flooding
- Delivering Sustainable Flood Risk Management[106] (Scottish Government, 2011).
- Surface Water Management Planning Guidance[107] (Scottish Government, 2013).

Delivery

258. Planning authorities should have regard to the probability of flooding from all sources and take flood risk into account when preparing development plans and determining planning applications. The calculated probability of flooding should be regarded as a best estimate and not a precise forecast. Authorities should avoid giving any indication that a grant of planning permission implies the absence of flood risk.

259. Developers should take into account flood risk and the ability of future occupiers to insure development before committing themselves to a site or project, as applicants and occupiers have ultimate responsibility for safeguarding their property.

Development Planning

260. Plans should use strategic flood risk assessment (SFRA) to inform choices about the location of development and policies for flood risk management. They should have regard to the flood maps prepared by Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), and take account of finalised and approved Flood Risk Management Strategies and Plans and River Basin Management Plans.

261. Strategic and local development plans should address any significant cross boundary flooding issues. This may include identifying major areas of the flood plain and storage capacity which should be protected from inappropriate development, major flood protection scheme requirements or proposals, and relevant drainage capacity issues.

262. Local development plans should protect land with the potential to contribute to managing flood risk, for instance through natural flood management, managed coastal realignment, washland or green infrastructure creation, or as part of a scheme to manage flood risk.

263. Local development plans should use the following flood risk framework to guide development. This sets out three categories of coastal and watercourse flood risk, together with guidance on surface water flooding, and the appropriate planning approach for each (the annual probabilities referred to in the framework relate to the land at the time a plan is being prepared or a planning application is made):

- **Little or No Risk** – annual probability of coastal or watercourse flooding is less than 0.1% (1:1000 years)
  - No constraints due to coastal or watercourse flooding.

105 www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2009/6/contents

106 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/06/15150211/0

107 http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2013/02/7909/0

- **Low to Medium Risk** – annual probability of coastal or watercourse flooding is between 0.1% and 0.5% (1:1000 to 1:200 years)
  - Suitable for most development. A flood risk assessment may be required at the upper end of the probability range (i.e. close to 0.5%), and for essential infrastructure and the most vulnerable uses. Water resistant materials and construction may be required.
  - Generally not suitable for civil infrastructure. Where civil infrastructure must be located in these areas or is being substantially extended, it should be designed to be capable of remaining operational and accessible during extreme flood events.
- **Medium to High Risk** – annual probability of coastal or watercourse flooding is greater than 0.5% (1:200 years)
  - May be suitable for:
    - residential, institutional, commercial and industrial development within built-up areas provided flood protection measures to the appropriate standard already exist and are maintained, are under construction, or are a planned measure in a current flood risk management plan;
    - essential infrastructure within built-up areas, designed and constructed to remain operational during floods and not impede water flow;
    - some recreational, sport, amenity and nature conservation uses, provided appropriate evacuation procedures are in place; and
    - job-related accommodation, e.g. for caretakers or operational staff.
  - Generally not suitable for:
    - civil infrastructure and the most vulnerable uses;
    - additional development in undeveloped and sparsely developed areas, unless a location is essential for operational reasons, e.g. for navigation and water-based recreation, agriculture, transport or utilities infrastructure (which should be designed and constructed to be operational during floods and not impede water flow), and an alternative, lower risk location is not available; and
    - new caravan and camping sites.
  - Where built development is permitted, measures to protect against or manage flood risk will be required and any loss of flood storage capacity mitigated to achieve a neutral or better outcome.
  - Water-resistant materials and construction should be used where appropriate. Elevated buildings on structures such as stilts are unlikely to be acceptable.

Surface Water Flooding

- Infrastructure and buildings should generally be designed to be free from surface water flooding in rainfall events where the annual probability of occurrence is greater than 0.5% (1:200 years).
- Surface water drainage measures should have a neutral or better effect on the risk of flooding both on and off the site, taking account of rain falling on the site and run-off from adjacent areas.

Development Management

264. It is not possible to plan for development solely according to the calculated probability of flooding. In applying the risk framework to proposed development, the following should therefore be taken into account:

- the characteristics of the site;
- the design and use of the proposed development;
- the size of the area likely to flood;
- depth of flood water, likely flow rate and path, and rate of rise and duration;
- the vulnerability and risk of wave action for coastal sites;
- committed and existing flood protection methods: extent, standard and maintenance regime;
- the effects of climate change, including an allowance for freeboard;
- surface water run-off from adjoining land;
- culverted watercourses, drains and field drainage;
- cumulative effects, especially the loss of storage capacity;
- cross-boundary effects and the need for consultation with adjacent authorities;
- effects of flood on access including by emergency services; and
- effects of flood on proposed open spaces including gardens.

265. Land raising should only be considered in exceptional circumstances, where it is shown to have a neutral or better impact on flood risk outside the raised area. Compensatory storage may be required.

266. The flood risk framework set out above should be applied to development management decisions. Flood Risk Assessments (FRA) should be required for development in the medium to high category of flood risk, and may be required in the low to medium category in the circumstances described in the framework above, or where other factors indicate heightened risk. FRA will generally be required for applications within areas identified at high or medium likelihood of flooding/flood risk in SEPA's flood maps.

267. Drainage Assessments, proportionate to the development proposal and covering both surface and foul water, will be required for areas where drainage is already constrained or otherwise problematic, or if there would be off-site effects.

268. Proposed arrangements for SuDS should be adequate for the development and appropriate long-term maintenance arrangements should be put in place.

A Connected Place

Promoting Sustainable Transport and Active Travel

NPF Context

269. The spatial strategy set out in NPF3 is complemented by an ongoing programme of investment in transport infrastructure. The economy relies on efficient transport connections, within Scotland and to international markets. Planning can play an important role in improving connectivity and promoting more sustainable patterns of transport and travel as part of the transition to a low carbon economy.

Policy Principles

270. The planning system should support patterns of development which:

- optimise the use of existing infrastructure;
- reduce the need to travel;
- provide safe and convenient opportunities for walking and cycling for both active travel and recreation, and facilitate travel by public transport;
- enable the integration of transport modes; and
- facilitate freight movement by rail or water.

271. Development plans and development management decisions should take account of the implications of development proposals on traffic, patterns of travel and road safety.

Key Documents

- National Transport Strategy[108]
- Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009[109]
- Low Carbon Scotland: Meeting the Emissions Reduction Targets 2013-2027[110]
- Infrastructure Investment Plan[111]
- Strategic Transport Projects Review[112]
- Transport Assessment Guidance[113]
- Development Planning and Management Transport Appraisal Guidance (DPMTAG)[114]
- PAN 66: Best Practice in Handling Applications Affecting Trunk Roads[115]

108 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2006/12/04104414/0

109 www.legislation.gov.uk/asp/2009/12/contents

110 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/climatechange/scotlands-action/lowcarbon/meetingthetargets

111 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/12/05141922/0

112 www.transportscotland.gov.uk/strategic-transport-projects-review

113 www.transportscotland.gov.uk/system/files/documents/tsc-basic-pages/Planning_Reform_-_DPMTAG_-_Development_Management__DPMTAG_Ref__17__-_Transport_Assessment_Guidance_FINAL_-_June_2012.pdf

114 www.transportscotland.gov.uk/development-planning-and-management-transport-appraisal-guidance-dpmtag

115 www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/47021/0026434.pdf

- Design Manual for Roads and Bridges[116]
- Designing Streets[117]
- Roads for All[118]
- Cycling Action Plan in Scotland[119] (CAPS)
- Let's Get Scotland Walking: The National Walking Strategy[120]
- A More Active Scotland – Building a Legacy from the Commonwealth Games[121]
- Switched On Scotland: A Roadmap to Widespread Adoption of Plug-in Vehicles[122]
- Tourism Development Framework for Scotland[123]

Delivery

Development Planning

272. Development plans should take account of the relationship between land use and transport and particularly the capacity of the existing transport network, environmental and operational constraints, and proposed or committed transport projects.

273. The spatial strategies set out in plans should support development in locations that allow walkable access to local amenities and are also accessible by cycling and public transport. Plans should identify active travel networks and promote opportunities for travel by more sustainable modes in the following order of priority: walking, cycling, public transport, cars. The aim is to promote development which maximises the extent to which its travel demands are met first through walking, then cycling, then public transport and finally through use of private cars. Plans should facilitate integration between transport modes.

274. In preparing development plans, planning authorities are expected to appraise the impact of the spatial strategy and its reasonable alternatives on the transport network, in line with Transport Scotland's DPMTAG guidance. This should include consideration of previously allocated sites, transport opportunities and constraints, current capacity and committed improvements to the transport network. Planning authorities should ensure that a transport appraisal is undertaken at a scale and level of detail proportionate to the nature of the issues and proposals being considered, including funding requirements. Appraisals should be carried out in time to inform the spatial strategy and the strategic environmental assessment. Where there are potential issues for the strategic transport network, the appraisal should be discussed with Transport Scotland at the earliest opportunity.

116 www.dft.gov.uk/ha/standards/dmrb/index.htm
117 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2010/03/22120652/0
118 http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/guides/j256264-00.htm
116 www.transportscotland.gov.uk/strategy-and-research/publications-and-consultations/cycling-action-plan-2013
120 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/06/5743
121 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/02/8239/0
122 www.transportscotland.gov.uk/report/j272736-00.htm
123 www.visitscotland.org/pdf/Tourism%20Development%20Framework%20-%20FINAL.pdf

275. Development plans should identify any required new transport infrastructure or public transport services, including cycle and pedestrian routes, trunk road and rail infrastructure. The deliverability of this infrastructure, and by whom it will be delivered, should be key considerations in identifying the preferred and alternative land use strategies. Plans and associated documents, such as supplementary guidance and the action programme, should indicate how new infrastructure or services are to be delivered and phased, and how and by whom any developer contributions will be made. These should be prepared in consultation with all of the parties responsible for approving and delivering the infrastructure. Development plans should support the provision of infrastructure necessary to support positive changes in transport technologies, such as charging points for electric vehicles.

276. Where public transport services required to serve a new development cannot be provided commercially, a contribution from the developer towards an agreed level of service may be appropriate. The development plan action programme should set out how this will be delivered, and the planning authority should coordinate discussions with the public transport provider, developer, Transport Scotland where appropriate, and relevant regional transport partnerships at an early stage in the process. In rural areas the plan should be realistic about the likely viability of public transport services and innovative solutions such as demand-responsive public transport and small-scale park and ride facilities at nodes on rural bus corridors should be considered.

277. Disused railway lines with a reasonable prospect of being reused as rail, tram, bus rapid transit or active travel routes should be safeguarded in development plans. The strategic case for a new station should emerge from a complete and robust multimodal transport appraisal in line with Scottish Transport Appraisal Guidance. Any appraisal should include consideration of making best use of current rail services; and should demonstrate that the needs of local communities, workers or visitors are sufficient to generate a high level of demand, and that there would be no adverse impact on the operation of the rail service franchise. Funding partners must be identified. Agreement should be reached with Transport Scotland and Network Rail before rail proposals are included in a development plan or planning application and it should be noted that further technical assessment and design work will be required before any proposed new station can be confirmed as viable.

278. While new junctions on trunk roads are not normally acceptable, the case for a new junction will be considered where the planning authority considers that significant economic growth or regeneration benefits can be demonstrated. New junctions will only be considered if they are designed in accordance with DMRB and where there would be no adverse impact on road safety or operational performance.

279. Significant travel-generating uses should be sited at locations which are well served by public transport, subject to parking restraint policies, and supported by measures to promote the availability of high-quality public transport services. New development areas should be served by public transport providing access to a range of destinations. Development plans should indicate when a travel plan will be required to accompany a proposal for a development which will generate significant travel.

280. Along with sound choices on the location of new development, appropriate street layout and design are key are to achieving the policy principles at paragraph 270. The design of all new development should follow the placemaking approach set out in this SPP and the principles of Designing Streets, to ensure the creation of places which are distinctive, welcoming, adaptable, resource efficient, safe and pleasant and easy to move around and beyond.

281. National maximum parking standards for certain types and scales of development have been set to promote consistency (see Annex B: Parking Policies and Standards). Where an area is well served by sustainable transport modes, planning authorities may set more restrictive standards, and where public transport provision is limited, planning authorities may set less restrictive standards. Local authorities should also take account of relevant town centre strategies when considering appropriate parking provision (see paragraphs 64-65 and Annex A: Town Centre Health Checks and Strategies).

282. When preparing development plans, planning authorities should consider the need for improved and additional freight transfer facilities. Strategic freight sites should be safeguarded in development plans. Existing roadside facilities and provision for lorry parking should be safeguarded and, where required, development plans should make additional provision for the overnight parking of lorries at appropriate locations on routes with a high volume of lorry traffic. Where appropriate, development plans should also identify suitable locations for new or expanded rail freight interchanges to support increased movement of freight by rail. Facilities allowing the transfer of freight from road to rail or water should also be considered.

283. Planning authorities and port operators should work together to address the planning and transport needs of ports and opportunities for rail access should be safeguarded in development plans. Planning authorities should ensure that there is appropriate road access to ferry terminals for cars and freight, and support the provision of bus and train interchange facilities.

284. Planning authorities, airport operators and other stakeholders should work together to prepare airport masterplans and address other planning and transport issues relating to airports. Relevant issues include public safety zone safeguarding, surface transport access for supplies, air freight, staff and passengers, related on- and off-site development such as transport interchanges, offices, hotels, car parks, warehousing and distribution services, and other development benefiting from good access to the airport.

285. Canals, which are scheduled monuments, should be safeguarded as assets which can contribute to sustainable economic growth through sensitive development and regeneration. Consideration should be given to planning for new uses for canals, where appropriate.

Development Management

286. Where a new development or a change of use is likely to generate a significant increase in the number of trips, a transport assessment should be carried out. This should identify any potential cumulative effects which need to be addressed.

287. Planning permission should not be granted for significant travel-generating uses at locations which would increase reliance on the car and where:

- direct links to local facilities via walking and cycling networks are not available or cannot be made available;
- access to local facilities via public transport networks would involve walking more than 400m; or
- the transport assessment does not identify satisfactory ways of meeting sustainable transport requirements.

Guidance is available in Transport Assessment and Implementation: A Guide[124]

124 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2005/08/1792325/23264

288. Buildings and facilities should be accessible by foot and bicycle and have appropriate operational and servicing access for large vehicles. Cycle routes, cycle parking and storage should be safeguarded and enhanced wherever possible.

289. Consideration should be given to how proposed development will contribute to fulfilling the objectives of Switched On Scotland – A Roadmap to Widespread Adoption of Plug-in Vehicles. Electric vehicle charge points should always be considered as part of any new development and provided where appropriate.

290. Development proposals that have the potential to affect the performance or safety of the strategic transport network need to be fully assessed to determine their impact. Where existing infrastructure has the capacity to accommodate a development without adverse impacts on safety or unacceptable impacts on operational performance, further investment in the network is not likely to be required. Where such investment is required, the cost of the mitigation measures required to ensure the continued safe and effective operation of the network will have to be met by the developer.

291. Consideration should be given to appropriate planning restrictions on construction and operation related transport modes when granting planning permission, especially where bulk material movements are expected, for example freight from extraction operations.

Supporting Digital Connectivity

NPF Context

292. NPF3 highlights the importance of our digital infrastructure, across towns and cities, and in particular our more remote rural and island areas. Our economy and social networks depend heavily on high-quality digital infrastructure. To facilitate investment across Scotland, planning has an important role to play in strengthening digital communications capacity and coverage across Scotland.

Policy Principles

293. The planning system should support:

- development which helps deliver the Scottish Government's commitment to world-class digital connectivity;
- the need for networks to evolve and respond to technology improvements and new services;
- inclusion of digital infrastructure in new homes and business premises; and
- infrastructure provision which is sited and designed to keep environmental impacts to a minimum.

Key Documents

- Scotland's Digital Future[125] and associated Infrastructure Action Plan[126]
- Scotland's Cities: Delivering for Scotland[127]
- A National Telehealth and Telecare Delivery Plan for Scotland to 2015[128]

125 www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/981/0114237.pdf
126 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/01/1487
127 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2012/01/05104741/0
128 www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0041/00411586.pdf

- Planning Advice Note 62, Radio Telecommunications provides advice on siting and design[129]
- Circular 2/2003: Safeguarding of Aerodromes, Technical Sites and Military Explosives Storage Areas[130]

Delivery

Development Planning

294. Local development plans should reflect the infrastructure roll-out plans of digital communications operators, community groups and others, such as the Scottish Government, the UK Government and local authorities.

295. Local development plans should provide a consistent basis for decision-making by setting out the criteria which will be applied when determining planning applications for communications equipment. They should ensure that the following options are considered when selecting sites and designing base stations:

- mast or site sharing;
- installation on buildings or other existing structures;
- installing the smallest suitable equipment, commensurate with technological requirements;
- concealing or disguising masts, antennas, equipment housing and cable runs using design and camouflage techniques where appropriate; and
- installation of ground-based masts.

296. Local development plans should set out the matters to be addressed in planning applications for specific developments, including:

- an explanation of how the proposed equipment fits into the wider network;
- a description of the siting options (primarily for new sites) and design options which satisfy operational requirements, alternatives considered, and the reasons for the chosen solution;
- details of the design, including height, materials and all components of the proposal;
- details of any proposed landscaping and screen planting, where appropriate;
- an assessment of the cumulative effects of the proposed development in combination with existing equipment in the area;
- a declaration that the equipment and installation is designed to be in full compliance with the appropriate ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure to radiofrequency radiation[131]; and
- an assessment of visual impact, if relevant.

297. Policies should encourage developers to explore opportunities for the provision of digital infrastructure to new homes and business premises as an integral part of development. This should be done in consultation with service providers so that appropriate, universal and future-proofed infrastructure is installed and utilised.

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129 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2001/09/pan62/pan62-

130 www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2003/01/16204/17030

131 The radiofrequency public exposure guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection, as expressed in EU Council recommendation 1999/519/ EC on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields.

Development Management

298. Consideration should be given to how proposals for infrastructure to deliver new services or infrastructure to improve existing services will contribute to fulfilling the objectives for digital connectivity set out in the Scottish Government's World Class 2020 document. For developments that will deliver entirely new connectivity – for example, mobile connectivity in a "not spot" – consideration should be given to the benefits of this connectivity for communities and the local economy.

299. All components of equipment should be considered together and designed and positioned as sensitively as possible, though technical requirements and constraints may limit the possibilities. Developments should not physically obstruct aerodrome operations, technical sites or existing transmitter/receiver facilities. The cumulative visual effects of equipment should be taken into account.

300. Planning authorities should not question the need for the service to be provided nor seek to prevent competition between operators. The planning system should not be used to secure objectives that are more properly achieved under other legislation. Emissions of radiofrequency radiation are controlled and regulated under other legislation and it is therefore not necessary for planning authorities to treat radiofrequency radiation as a material consideration.

Annex A – Town Centre Health Checks and Strategies

Town centre health checks should cover a range of indicators, such as:

Activities

- retailer representation and intentions (multiples and independents);
- employment;
- cultural and social activity;
- community activity;
- leisure and tourism facilities;
- resident population; and
- evening/night-time economy.

Physical environment

- space in use for the range of town centre functions and how it has changed;
- physical structure of the centre, condition and appearance including constraints and opportunities and assets;
- historic environment; and
- public realm and green infrastructure.

Property

- vacancy rates, particularly at street level in prime retail areas;
- vacant sites;
- committed developments;
- commercial yield; and
- prime rental values.

Accessibility

- pedestrian footfall;
- accessibility;
- cycling facilities and ease of movement;
- public transport infrastructure and facilities;
- parking offer; and
- signage and ease of navigation.

Community

- attitudes, perceptions and aspirations.

Town centre strategies should:

- be prepared collaboratively with community planning partners, businesses and the local community;
- recognise the changing roles of town centres and networks, and the effect of trends in consumer activity;
- establish an agreed long-term vision for the town centre;
- seek to maintain and improve accessibility to and within the town centre;
- seek to reduce the centre's environmental footprint, through, for example, the development or extension of sustainable urban drainage or district heating networks;
- identify how green infrastructure can enhance air quality, open space, landscape/settings, reduce urban heat island effects, increase capacity of drainage systems, and attenuate noise;
- indicate the potential for change through redevelopment, renewal, alternative uses and diversification based on an analysis of the role and function of the centre;
- promote opportunities for new development, using master planning and design, while seeking to safeguard and enhance built and natural heritage;
- consider constraints such as fragmented site ownership, unit size and funding availability, and recognise the rapidly changing nature of retail formats;
- identify actions, tools and delivery mechanisms to overcome these constraints, for example improved management, Town Teams, Business Improvement Districts or the use of compulsory purchase powers[132]; and
- include monitoring against the baseline provided by the health check to assess the extent to which it has delivered improvements.

More detailed advice on town centre health checks and strategies can be found in the Town Centre Masterplanning Toolkit.

132 www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/archive/National-Planning-Policy/themes/ComPur

Annex B – Parking Policies and Standards

Parking Restraint Policy – National Maximum Parking Standards for New Development

In order to achieve consistency in the levels of parking provision for specific types and scales of development, the following national standards have been set:

- retail (food) (Use Class 1) 1000m^2 and above – up to 1 space per 14m^2;
- retail (non-food) (Use Class 1) 1000m^2 and above – up to 1 space per 20m^2;
- business (Use Class 4) 2500m^2 and above – up to 1 space per 30m^2;
- cinemas (Use Class 11a) 1000m^2 and above – up to 1 space per 5 seats;
- conference facilities 1000m^2 and above – up to 1 space per 5 seats;
- stadia 1500 seats and above – up to 1 space per 15 seats;
- leisure (other than cinemas and stadia) 1000m^2 and above – up to 1 space per 22m^2; and
- higher and further education (non-residential elements) 2500m^2 and above – up to 1 space per 2 staff plus 1 space per 15 students.

Local standards should support the viability of town centres. Developers of individual sites within town centres may be required to contribute to the overall parking requirement for the centre in lieu of individual parking provision.

Parking for Disabled People – Minimum Provision Standards for New Development

Specific provision should be made for parking for disabled people in addition to general provision. In retail, recreation and leisure developments, the minimum number of car parking spaces for disabled people should be:

- 3 spaces or 6% (whichever is greater) in car parks with up to 200 spaces; or
- 4 spaces plus 4% in car parks with more than 200 spaces.

Employers have a duty under employment law to consider the disabilities of their employees and visitors to their premises. The minimum number of car parking spaces for disabled people at places of employment should be:

- 1 space per disabled employee plus 2 spaces or 5% (whichever is greater) in car parks with up to 200 spaces; or
- 6 spaces plus 2% in car parks with more than 200 spaces.

Glossary

Affordable housing	Housing of a reasonable quality that is affordable to people on modest incomes.
Anchor development (in the context of heat demand)	A large scale development which has a constant high demand for heat.
Article 4 Direction	Article 4 of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Order 1992 gives the Scottish Government and planning authorities the power to remove permitted development rights by issuing a direction.
Biodiversity	The variability in living organisms and the ecological complexes of which they are part. This includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems (UN Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992).
Brownfield land	Land which has previously been developed. The term may cover vacant or derelict land, land occupied by redundant or unused building and developed land within the settlement boundary where further intensification of use is considered acceptable.
Civil infrastructure (in the context of flood risk)	Hospitals, fire stations, emergency depots, schools, care homes, ground-based electrical and telecommunications equipment.
Climate change adaptation	The adjustment in economic, social or natural systems in response to actual or expected climatic change, to limit harmful consequences and exploit beneficial opportunities.
Climate change mitigation	Reducing the amount of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and reducing activities which emit greenhouse gases to help slow down or make less severe the impacts of future climate change.
Community	A body of people. A community can be based on location (for example people who live or work in or use an area) or common interest (for example the business community, sports or heritage groups).
Cumulative impact	Impact in combination with other development. That includes existing developments of the kind proposed, those which have permission, and valid applications which have not been determined. The weight attached to undetermined applications should reflect their position in the application process.
Cumulative effects (in the context of the strategic transport network)	The effect on the operational performance of transport networks of a number of developments in combination, recognising that the effects of a group of sites, or development over an area may need different mitigation when considered together than when considered individually.

Ecosystems services	The benefits people obtain from ecosystems; these include provisioning services such as food, water, timber and fibre; regulating services that affect climate, floods, disease, waste and water quality; cultural services with recreational, aesthetic, and spiritual benefits; and supporting services such as soil formation, photosynthesis and nutrient cycling.
Effective housing land supply	The part of the established housing land supply which is free or expected to be free of development constraints in the period under consideration and will therefore be available for the construction of housing.
Energy Centre	A stand alone building or part of an existing or proposed building where heat or combined heat and electricity generating plant can be installed to service a district network.
Essential infrastructure (in a flood risk area for operational reasons)	Defined in SEPA guidance on vulnerability as 'essential transport infrastructure and essential utility infrastructure which may have to be located in a flood risk area for operational reasons. This includes electricity generating stations, power stations and grid and primary sub stations, water treatments works and sewage treatment works and wind turbines'.
Flood	The temporary covering by water from any source of land not normally covered by water, but not including the overflow of a sewage system.
Flood plain	The generally flat areas adjacent to a watercourse or the sea where water flows in time of flood or would flow but for the presence of flood prevention measures. The limits of a flood plain are defined by the peak water level of an appropriate return period event. See also 'Functional flood plain'.
Flood risk	The combination of the probability of a flood and the potential adverse consequences associated with a flood, for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.
Freeboard allowance	A height added to the predicted level of a flood to take account of the height of waves or turbulence and uncertainty in estimating the probability of the flooding.
Functional flood plain	The areas of land where water flows in times of flood which should be safeguarded from further development because of their function as flood water storage areas. For planning purposes the functional floodplain will generally have a greater than 0.5% (1:200) probability of flooding in any year. See also 'Washland'.
Green infrastructure	Includes the 'green' and 'blue' (water environment) features of the natural and built environments that can provide benefits without being connected. Green features include parks, woodlands, trees, play spaces, allotments, community growing spaces, outdoor sports facilities, churchyards and cemeteries, swales, hedges, verges and gardens. Blue features include rivers, lochs, wetlands, canals, other water courses, ponds, coastal and marine areas including beaches, porous paving and sustainable urban drainage systems.

Green networks	Connected areas of green infrastructure and open space that together form an integrated and multi-functional network.
Hazardous substances	Substances and quantities as currently specified in and requiring consent under the Town and Country Planning (Hazardous Substances) (Scotland) Regulations 1993 as amended (due to be replaced in 2015 as part of the implementation of Directive 2012/18/EU).
Historic environment	Scotland's historic environment is the physical evidence for human activity that connects people with place, linked with the associations we can see, feel and understand.
Historic Marine Protected Areas	Areas designated in Scottish territorial waters (0-12 miles) under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 for the purpose of preserving marine historic assets of national importance.
Housing supply target	The total number of homes that will be delivered.
Hut	A simple building used intermittently as recreational accommodation (ie. not a principal residence); having an internal floor area of no more than 30m^2; constructed from low impact materials; generally not connected to mains water, electricity or sewerage; and built in such a way that it is removable with little or no trace at the end of its life. Huts may be built singly or in groups.
Major-accident hazard site	Site with or requiring hazardous substances consent.
Most vulnerable uses (in the context of flood risk and drainage)	Basement dwellings, isolated dwellings in sparsely populated areas, dwelling houses behind informal embankments, residential institutions such as residential care homes/prisons, nurseries, children's homes and educational establishments, caravans, mobile homes and park homes intended for permanent residential use, sites used for holiday or short-let caravans and camping, installations requiring hazardous substance consent.
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	An area considered to be of national importance for its nature conservation interests.
National Scenic Area (NSA)	An area which is nationally important for its scenic quality.
Open space	Space within and on the edge of settlements comprising green infrastructure and/or civic areas such as squares, market places and other paved or hard landscaped areas with a civic function. Detailed typologies of open space are included in PAN65.

Outdoor sports facilities	Uses where **sport**scotland is a statutory consultee under the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 2013, which establishes 'outdoor sports facilities' as land used as: (a) an outdoor playing field extending to not less than 0.2ha used for any sport played on a pitch; (b) an outdoor athletics track; (c) a golf course; (d) an outdoor tennis court, other than those within a private dwelling, hotel or other tourist accommodation; and (e) an outdoor bowling green.
Outstanding Universal Value (OUV)	The Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention, provided by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) states that OUV means cultural and/or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity. The Statement of OUV is the key reference for the future effective protection and management of the World Heritage Site.
PADHI	Planning Advice for Development near Hazardous Installations, issued by the Health and Safety Executive.
Prime agricultural land	Agricultural land identified as being Class 1, 2 or 3.1 in the land capability classification for agriculture developed by Macaulay Land Use Research Institute (now the James Hutton Institute).
Place	The environment in which we live; the people that inhabit these spaces; and the quality of life that comes from the interaction of people and their surroundings. Architecture, public space and landscape are central to this.
Pluvial flooding	Flooding as a result of rainfall runoff flowing or ponding over the ground before it enters a natural (e.g. watercourse) or artificial (e.g. sewer) drainage system or when it cannot enter a drainage system (e.g. because the system is already full to capacity or the drainage inlets have a limited capacity).
Ramsar sites	Wetlands designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance.
Scheduled monument	Archaeological sites, buildings or structures of national or international importance. The purpose of scheduling is to secure the long-term legal protection of the monument in the national interest, in situ and as far as possible in its existing state and within an appropriate setting.
Sensitive receptor	Aspect of the environment likely to be significantly affected by a development, which may include for example, population, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, landscape and the inter-relationship between these factors. In the context of planning for Zero Waste, sensitive receptors may include aerodromes and military air weapon ranges.

Setting	Is more than the immediate surroundings of a site or building, and may be related to the function or use of a place, or how it was intended to fit into the landscape of townscape, the view from it or how it is seen from areas round about, or areas that are important to the protection of the place, site or building.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	An area which is designated for the special interest of its flora, fauna, geology or geomorphological features.
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Provides an overview of flood risk in the area proposed for development. An assessment involves the collection, analysis and presentation of all existing available and readily derivable information on flood risk from all sources. SFRA applies a risk-based approach to identifying land for development and can help inform development plan flood risk policy and supplementary guidance.
Strategic Transport Nework	Includes the trunk road and rail networks. Its primary purpose is to provide the safe and efficient movement of strategic long-distance traffic between major centres, although in rural areas it also performs important local functions.
Sustainable Development	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. The Brundtland Definition. Our Common Future, The World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987.
Sustainable Economic Growth	Building a dynamic and growing economy that will provide prosperity and opportunities for all, while ensuring that future generations can enjoy a better quality of life too.
Washland	An alternative term for the functional flood plain which carries the connotation that it floods very frequently.
Watercourse	All means of conveying water except a water main or sewer.
Windfall Sites	Sites which become available for development unexpectedly during the life of the development plan and so are not identified individually in the plan.

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