



West Dunbartonshire COUNCIL

Local Development Plan 3

Call for Evidence

8th July to 30th September 2025

Introduction

The Local Development Plan Call for Evidence is an opportunity for you to provide information to the Council which will help to prepare the Local Development Plan. The Local Development Plan is the policy the Council uses (alongside the National Planning Framework) to decide what development will take place in West Dunbartonshire, where it will take place and where it will not. It sets out where we build homes, businesses, and infrastructure and the places we want to protect from development.

The information provided at this consultation, and the concurrent Tell Us About Your Place survey, will be included within an Evidence Report. Producing the Evidence Report is the first milestone in creating the new Local Development Plan. You can find out more about the Development Planning Process in the council's [Development Plan Scheme](#).

Responding to this consultation

The Call For Evidence survey is structured around topics which are based on the policies within [National Planning Framework 4](#), and places which are the Community Council Areas of West Dunbartonshire. We do not expect everyone will want to respond on every topic and you are welcome to focus on the issues most important to you.

Each topic contains a short section highlighting the links to other topics. This indicates where evidence from one topic will be relevant to another. While some topics will have connections to many or all other topic areas (e.g. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Biodiversity...) we have chosen to highlight topics which are likely to share evidence to avoid repetition or other topics that may also be of interest to you. Each topic also notes the relevant National Developments listed within NPF4.

The online version of the survey is the council's preferred method of response as it allows us to collate and assess responses more efficiently. The Council's online survey provides a space for you to give any information you feel is relevant to the Local Development Plan. The survey also allows you to upload files and data.

[Click here to complete the Call for Evidence Survey](#)

If you prefer, you can send responses to LDP@west-dunbarton.gov.uk using the response form on the [consultation page of the web site](#).

You can also contact this address if you wish to get in touch with the Council's Planning team in relation to the Local Development Plan

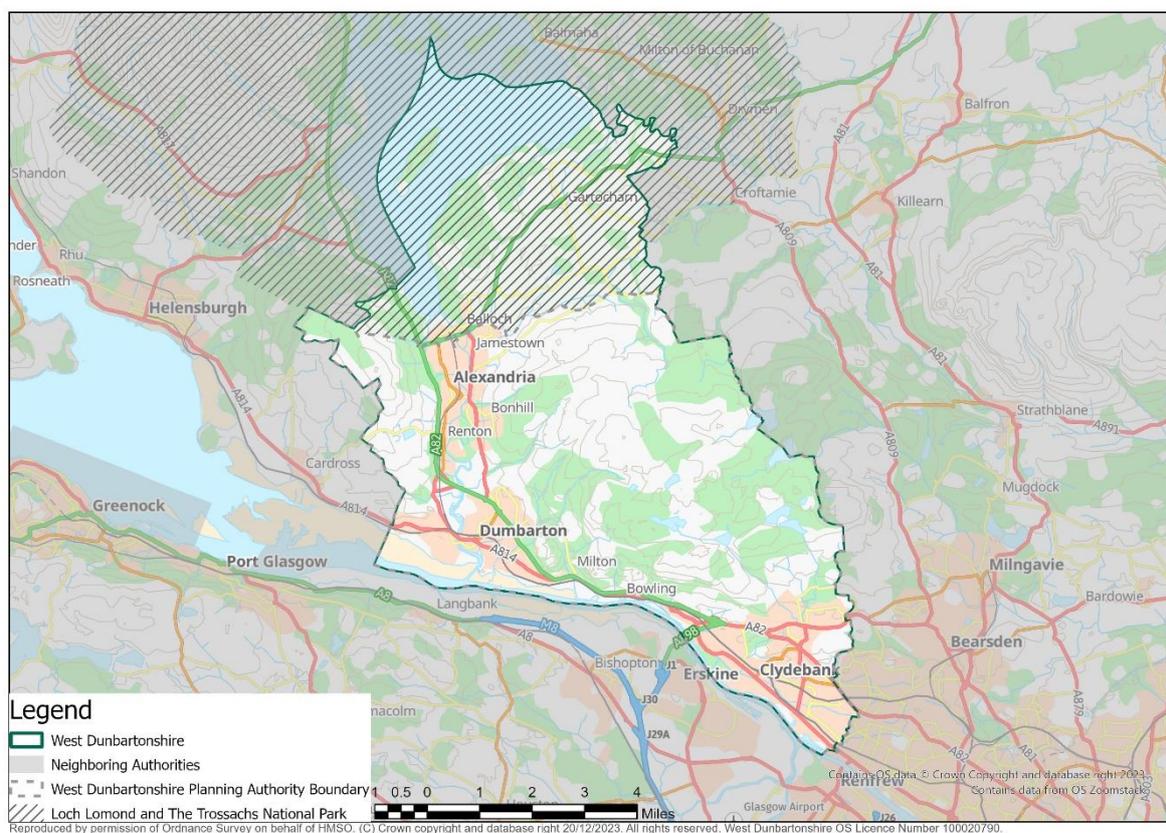
Physical copies of this document and response forms are also available to view at the council offices at 16 Church Street in Dumbarton and at public libraries. If you need to send the Council your response by post you can send it to:

Development Planning and Place Team
West Dunbartonshire Council
16 Church Street
Dumbarton
G82 1QL

Places

This consultation enables you to provide information on places within West Dunbartonshire. We would recommend you use the Call For Evidence survey if you wish to provide us with information you have collated about an area, such as evidence your community has gathered to produce a Local Place Plan. When providing information about a place, please specify the place it applies to, and the community council area it is within.

When providing information on places, consider whether the place is within the West Dunbartonshire planning area. West Dunbartonshire Council is not the Planning Authority for the part of the district within the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park. The map below shows the where West Dunbartonshire Council is the Planning Authority and where the National Park is the Planning Authority.



If you wish to tell us your views specific aspects of where you live work or visit, such as the streets, green spaces, or traffic and parking, we recommend you complete the [Tell Us About Your Place](#) survey, running alongside the Call For Evidence.

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Climate Mitigation and Adaptation

Tackling Climate Change has significant weight in the planning system. Tackling climate change means both mitigating the effects (i.e. lowering emissions avoid the most significant potential impacts of climate change) and adapting to the effects (i.e. ensuring we are prepared for and can recover from climate change effects that are already taking place).

Climate change links to all other topic areas however topics with direct evidential links include: Biodiversity; Natural Places; Forestry, Woodland and Trees; Coastal Development; Energy; Sustainable Transport; Flood Risk and Water Management; Infrastructure First; Heating and Cooling; and Blue and Green Infrastructure.

Current Evidence

Local Authority level emissions are available in the [UK Local Authority and Regional Greenhouse Gas emissions national statistics: 2005 to 2021](#). This data presents territorial emissions of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide. Territorial means the data relates to emissions from within UK borders and excludes the emissions from the production of goods that are imported are excluded from the figures. The data is also broken down into the territorial emissions of local authorities, providing emissions figures for West Dunbartonshire, and emissions that can be influenced by local authorities.

The plan will have regard to national policies, strategies and guidance including [Scotland Climate Change Plan](#), [Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Programme](#), Scotland's draft [Just Transition plan](#), and [Reporting from the UK Climate Change Committee](#).

At a regional level the Climate Ready Clyde [Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan](#) and [Risk and Opportunity Assessment for the Glasgow City Region](#) identifies risks and means to adapt to climate change at a regional level. The [Climate Ready Clyde Vulnerability Maps](#) identify the places most vulnerable to flooding and heat exacerbated by climate change.

The Tyndall Centre has produced Carbon Budgets for all UK local authorities, including a [West Dunbartonshire Carbon Budget](#). The Carbon Budget sets out how much greenhouse gas emissions the local authority is able to emit before it meets the UK governments legal requirement to be net zero by 2050 (and the commitments in the Paris Agreement). This provides an emissions pathway for the West Dunbartonshire area to be net zero by 2050. However, it should be noted that the Scottish Government has set a legally binding target to be net zero by 2045, and there is not currently a Carbon Budget available showing a pathway to that target.

The Council's [Climate Change Strategy](#) sets the trajectory for the Council to reach net zero emissions and the [Councils Climate Change Action Plan](#) lists actions taken by the council to implement the Climate Change Strategy. It also contains actions aimed at reducing the emissions from the local authority area as a whole.

Known Evidence Gaps

The Council does not have a full understanding of all the opportunities for greenhouse gas sequestration or storage. Known opportunities include existing tree planting projects and carbon rich soils.

Stakeholders

Climate change is a relevant issue to everyone, however in producing the plan key stakeholders are expected to be:

- 
- All services within West Dunbartonshire Council, in particular the Sustainability team
 - Glasgow City Region
 - Clydeplan
 - Glasgow and Clyde Valley Planning Authorities
 - Neighbouring Planning Authorities
 - All Key Agencies.

Biodiversity

The nature crisis has significant weight in the planning system, hand in hand with the climate crisis. Development is now expected to leave biodiversity in a better state than it is found. Local development plans are to facilitate the creation of nature networks and strengthen connections between habitats.

Biodiversity links to all other topic areas however topics with direct evidential links include: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Natural Places; Soils; Forestry, Woodland and Trees; Green Belts; Coastal Development; Energy; Design, Quality and Place; Blue and Green Infrastructure; Flood Risk and Water Management.

Current Evidence

There is a wide variety of spatial data showing habitats available. Working with the Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network and other authorities in the Glasgow Clyde Valley Region Local Authorities and other neighbouring authorities the Council will develop a Nature Network using the following information. Designated protected sites for nature (see Natural Places Topic) are also important and will form the core areas of nature networks.

At the national level the following evidence is available:

- [National Habitat Map of Scotland](#)
- Ordnance Survey greenspace mastermap
- [Scottish Forestry Woodland Mapping](#)

At the regional level the following evidence is available:

- [NatureScot habitat modelling for the Central Scotland Green Network](#)
- Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network - [Species Rich Grassland habitat network modelling](#)
- [Clyde Climate Forest](#) - broadleaved woodland connectivity analysis and tree canopy cover analysis
- Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network [wetland habitat data](#).
- [Draft Clyde Marine Plan](#)
- [Glasgow and Clyde Valley Forestry and Woodland Strategy](#)

At a local level the following information is available:

- Biological records centre
- Open Space Audit
- Vacant and Derelict Land
- Detailed River Network (Ordnance Survey)
- Available data on Green Infrastructure

Known Evidence Gaps

The available evidence provides information on the spatial extent and types of habitats and species in the area, however there is limited information on the quality and condition of habitats. It is expected that this kind of evidence can be filled through engagement with West Dunbartonshire's Biodiversity Network and local expertise. The Councils Biodiversity Action Plan is out of date, however ongoing work on an up-to-date Biodiversity Action Plan will also be an important source of evidence.

The Scottish Government has consulted on a draft of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy. The Council will monitor progress on this strategy and consider the implications of the final version when it is available.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace
- Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network
- Glasgow and Clyde Valley Local Authorities
- Clydeplan
- Neighbouring Authorities
- West Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Network
 - Community Councils
 - Environmental Charities
 - Community Groups
 - Local greenspace volunteers
- NatureScot
- SEPA
- Scottish Forestry
- Forestry and Land Scotland

Natural places

Where Biodiversity aims to broadly uplift the diversity of habitats and species, Natural Places focusses on protecting those places and species of particular importance for nature at an international, national and local level. These places will likely form the core parts of nature networks. The Local development Plan will seek to protect these sites from inappropriate development and enable nature networks to better connect them.

This topic links with: Biodiversity; Soils; Forestry and Woodland; Coastal Development; Blue and Green Infrastructure; and Tourism.

Current Evidence

Naturescot holds maps and information on site features, importance, and condition on their [Open Data Portal](#) including:

- Ramsar Sites
- Special Areas of Conservation
- Special Protection Areas
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Marine Protected Areas

NatureScot has also produced Landscape Character Assessments and Coastal Character Assessments

The Council holds map data and information on:

- Local Nature Reserves
- Local Nature Conservation Sites
- Local Landscape Areas, including the [Kilpatrick Hills Local Landscape Area Statement of Importance](#)

Known Evidence Gaps

Information on the condition of Local Nature Reserves and Local Nature Conservation Sites may require updating. It is expected this evidence gap will be filled through work to update the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and through engagement with the West Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Network.

Documents outlining the importance of the Kilpatrick Hills Local Landscape Area, need to be reviewed in the context of policy intent and outcomes of National Planning Framework 4.

The Scottish Government's draft Scottish Biodiversity Strategy is a relevant consideration.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace
- Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network
- Glasgow and Clyde Valley Local Authorities
- Clydeplan
- Other neighbouring authorities
- West Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Network
 - Community Councils
 - Environmental Charities
 - Community Groups
 - Local greenspace volunteers
- NatureScot

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- SEPA
 - Scottish Forestry
 - Forestry and Land Scotland

Soils

Soils are a natural resource which provides a number of ecosystem services including food production, water filtering, flood management and carbon sequestration and storage. Inappropriate development which compacts, erodes, removes or seals soils can undermine those ecosystem services.

This topic links with: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Biodiversity; Natural Places; Forestry, Woodland and Trees; Energy; Blue and Green Infrastructure; and Flood Risk and Water Management.

Current Evidence

[Scotlands Soils](#) provides information on soil at a national level, including: National Soil map, topsoil carbon, Nitrate vulnerability, and soil carbon and peat maps. NatureScots [Peatland Action project](#) can provide information and resources with relation to the restoration of peatland soils and habitats.

Information on the agricultural quality of land is available from the [James Hutton Institute](#).

NatureScots [Open Data Portal](#) will provide information on any sites that have been designated (e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interests) due to their soils.

The Scottish Government's draft Scottish Biodiversity Strategy is a relevant consideration.

Known Evidence Gaps

The Scottish Government has consulted on a draft of the Scottish Biodiversity Strategy. The council will monitor progress on this strategy and consider the implications of the final version when it is available.

The Councils Biodiversity Action Plan is out of date, however ongoing work on an up-to-date Biodiversity Action Plan will also be an important source of evidence.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace
- Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network
- Glasgow and Clyde Valley Local Authorities
- Clydeplan
- Neighbouring Planning Authorities
- West Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Network
 - Community Councils
 - Environmental Charities
 - Community Groups
 - Local greenspace volunteers
- NatureScot
- SEPA
- Scottish Forestry
- Forestry and Land Scotland

Forestry, Woodland and Trees

Woodlands and trees are important for biodiversity, local amenity and climate change mitigation and adaptation. The Local Development Plan will identify and protect existing woodland as part of the nature network and identify areas of expansion and new network connections.

This topic links with: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Biodiversity; Natural Places; Soils; Heritage Assets and Places; and Blue and Green Infrastructure.

Current Evidence

The [Glasgow and Clyde Valley Forestry and Woodland Strategy](#), is a high level strategy aimed to guide management and expansion of woodland within the Glasgow City Region. This is based on data of the location and type of woodland across the region, as well as proposals for forestry. The underlying data for this strategy can inform the Councils nature network.

The Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network, through it's [Clyde Climate Forest Project](#) have produced broadleaved woodland connectivity analysis and tree canopy cover analysis, which is expected to form part of the evidence base of the Glasgow City Regions nature network.

The Council holds records of the [Tree Preservation Orders](#) within it's planning area, indicating the location of trees and woodlands that are important for reasons of amenity or historic significance.

The Scottish Environmental Protection Agency holds data on [Riparian Planting Opportunities](#).

Scotland's [Control of Woodland Removal policy](#) will be a consideration.

The Scottish Government's draft Scottish Biodiversity Strategy is a relevant consideration.

Known Evidence Gaps

The Forestry and Woodland Strategy is at a regional scale and examination of data at a local level is likely to be required. This will also provide an opportunity to update changes in woodland and forest cover since it was published, for example the extensive felling of forestry plantation in the Kilpatrick Hills and progress of the Clyde Climate Forest project.

The Councils Biodiversity Action Plan is out of date, however ongoing work on an up-to-date Biodiversity Action Plan will also be an important source of evidence.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace
- Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network
- Glasgow and Clyde Valley Local Authorities
- Clydeplan
- Other neighbouring authorities
- West Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Network
 - Community Councils
 - Environmental Charities
 - Community Groups
 - Local greenspace volunteers
- NatureScot
- SEPA
- Scottish Forestry
- Forestry and Land Scotland
- Landowners and managers with forestry interests

Historic Assets and Places

Local Development Plans should identify, protect and enhance valued historic assets and places. This is intended to protect and enhance historic environment assets and places, and to enable positive change as a catalyst for the regeneration of places.

This topic links with: Forestry, Woodland and Trees; Brownfield, Vacant, and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings; Design Quality and Place; City, Town, Local and Commercial Centres; Tourism; and Culture and Creativity

Current Evidence

Historic Environment Scotland holds accessible maps and information of designated sites on its [Designations Map Search](#) and [Historic Environment Portal](#) including locations of international, national, regional and local designations:

- Scheduled Monuments
- Category A, B and C listed Buildings
- Inventory gardens and designed landscapes
- Inventory battlefield sites
- World heritage sites
- Conservation areas
- Archaeological sites

Part of the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site is within West Dunbartonshire. The current management plan is dated 2014-2019 – [Antonine Wall Management Plan 2014-2019](#) with a new management plan currently in preparation by Historic Environment Scotland in partnership with the five Councils which the Antonine Wall passes through. It is anticipated that this will be adopted before the end of 2024, and will be able to inform the preparation of the Local Development Plan.

[Frontiers of the Roman Empire \(Antonine Wall\) World Heritage Site Planning Guidance](#) has been adopted by the Council and each of the partner authorities to support the delivery of the management plan.

Conservation Area Appraisals have been prepared for all of West Dunbartonshire's conservation areas.

- [Dumbarton Town Centre Conservation Area Appraisal - 2023/24](#)
- High Dalmuir Conservation Area Appraisal (2018)
- Knoxland Square Conservation Area Appraisal (2018)
- Old Kilpatrick Conservation Area Appraisal (2018)
- Kirktonhill Conservation Area Appraisal (2016)

Townscape and Streetscape guidance exists for Dumbarton and Alexandria. In some cases these are dated but will be reviewed for relevance.

- Alexandria Streetscape Design Guide (2007)
- Dumbarton Town Centre Public Realm Design Guide (2001)
- [Dumbarton Waterfront Path Planning Guidance \(2017\)](#)

Masterplans, charettes and strategies that address heritage issues include:

- Alexandria Town Centre Masterplan (2021). Although Alexandria is not a conservation area, there is considerable heritage interest, particularly a cluster of listed buildings to the north of the town centre.
- Clydebank Town Centre Development Framework (2021) Clydebank Can (2018) and Clydebank Town Centre Charrette (2015). Although Clydebank Town Centre is not a conservation area, the town centre strategies highlight the importance of the Forth and Clyde Canal, scheduled monument, as a heritage asset for the town as well as considering other historic assets within the town centre such as the A-Listed Co-op Building.
- Bowling Basin Charrette Report (2014). This report highlights the importance of the Forth and Clyde Canal, scheduled monument at this location.
- Dumbarton Visitor Gateway Strategy and Action plan (2020), Dumbarton Rock & Castle Charrette Report (2015), Dumbarton Town Centre & Waterfront – Revised Urban Strategy (2014) These reports all consider the value of the historic environment and heritage assets in Dumbarton Town Centre.

Relevant national policies, strategies and guidance include:

- [Historic Environment Policy for Scotland](#)
- [Managing Change in the Historic Environment Guidance Notes](#)
- [Historic Environment Scotland Circular](#)
- [Talking About Heritage](#)
- [ALGAO Peatland Restoration and the Historic Environment Guidance](#)

Relevant data sets include:

- [Historic Environment Scotland Heritage Portal](#)
- [Historic Environment Records](#)
- [Scotland's Historic Environment Audit](#)
- [Canmore](#)
- [Scran](#)
- [Pastmap](#)
- [Buildings at Risk Register](#)
- [National Library of Scotland Maps](#)
- Scottish Burgh Surveys
- Historic Land Use Assessment

The Council holds records of the Article 4 Directions within it's planning area, indicating areas where permitted development rights are removed to ensure protection of amenity or historic interest within historic areas.

Known Evidence Gaps

There are not currently any Historic Environment Strategies which apply to West Dunbartonshire.

No management plans have been prepared for the Conservation Areas. It is proposed that a management plan should be prepared for Dumbarton Conservation Area, depending on funding however it is unlikely that this will be complete before the Evidence Report. It may be available to inform the Proposed Plan.

West Dunbartonshire has not been subject to a Townscape Heritage Initiative. A funding application has been submitted to support a heritage project in Dumbarton Town Centre, if successful some outputs of this may be available to inform the Proposed Plan.

There are not currently any Buildings at Risk Strategies which apply to West Dunbartonshire.

Outputs of the “Tell us about your place” Place Standard Survey will be reviewed for relevance to Historic Assets and Places, including any buildings and other historic assets of particular significance to communities.

Any registered Local Place Plans will be reviewed with regards to relevance to Historic Assets and Places, such as buildings and other historic assets of particular significance to communities.

Stakeholders

- Historic Environment Scotland
- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- West Dunbartonshire Council Arts and Heritage
- Community Councils
- Local Historical Groups
 - Lennox Heritage Society
 - Dumbarton Stations Improvement Trust
 - Dumbarton Castle Society

Green belts

Local Development Plans establish Green Belts primarily to promote sustainable, compact urban growth with development directed to the right locations at appropriate density. Greenbelts can also be a tool to support nature networks, mitigate and adapt to climate change, and protect landscape character and natural settings. Green belts are an established part of West Dunbartonshire's Local Development Plan, being in the currently [adopted Local Development Plan and the proposed Local Development Plan 2](#).

The Green Belt topic links with: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Biodiversity; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; and Blue and Green Infrastructure.

Current Evidence

A review of Green Belt was undertaken as part of Local Development Plan 2, which may still contain relevant information. NatureScots [Landscape Character Assessment](#) provides descriptive data on the landscape character.

Evidence relating to other topics, including those listed above, will contribute to the evidence for forming Green Belt.

The council will consider existing settlement boundaries, existing land use within the green belt, including vacant and derelict land.

Known Evidence Gaps

The Council will review features that create visually identifiable boundaries, such as rivers, tree belts and field boundaries which define green belt.

Stakeholders

- Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network
- Glasgow and Clyde Valley Local Authorities
- Clydeplan
- Other neighbouring authorities
- West Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Network
 - Community Councils
 - Environmental Charities
 - Community Groups

Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings

Local Development Plans should set out the opportunities for the sustainable reuse of brownfield land including vacant and derelict land and empty buildings. This will encourage, promote and facilitate the reuse of brownfield, vacant and derelict land and empty buildings, and help reduce the need for greenfield development.

This topic links with: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Biodiversity; Soils; Historic Assets and Places; Zero Waste; Design, Quality and Place; Quality Homes; Business and Industry; City, Town, Local and Commercial Centres; and Retail.

Current Evidence

The [Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Survey](#) is updated annually. The 2023-24 Register will be available for the Evidence Report.

In partnership with Glasgow City Region and our partner authorities. Work is being undertaken to help identify opportunities to unlock sites at a regional scale. It is anticipated that this report will be available to inform the Evidence Report.

The [Buildings At Risk Register for Scotland](#) includes details of historic buildings at risk, in some cases this will be due to the building being unoccupied and/or in poor condition. A review of the Buildings at risk register would therefore identify opportunities for the sustainable reuse of empty buildings.

Known Evidence Gaps

The Vacant and Derelict Land Register only looks at sites of 0.1 hectares or greater.

There are not currently any Buildings at Risk Strategies which apply to West Dunbartonshire.

There is not currently any Brownfield Urban Capacity Study for West Dunbartonshire.

Any registered Local Place Plans will be reviewed with regards to relevance to Brownfield, vacant and derelict land and empty buildings.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development
- West Dunbartonshire Council Asset management
- West Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace
- West Dunbartonshire Council Environmental Health
- Glasgow City Region
- Landowners

Coastal development

While West Dunbartonshire would not typically be considered a coastal area, the tidal nature of the River Clyde and River Leven means the area is subject to marine and coastal process, such as erosion, coastal flooding, and sea level rise. There is also an industrial link the coast due to the history of ship building in the area, the former sites of which are important redevelopment opportunities for the area.

The Local Development Plan will need to ensure that these areas are resilient to the effects of climate change on these processes and that existing communities and proposed development are resilient to changes and potential risks.

There are linkages between this topic and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Biodiversity; Natural Places; Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings; Blue and Green Infrastructure; Flood Risk and Water Management; and Aquaculture.

Current Evidence

There are a number of data sources which will help to describe the physical characteristics of coastal areas in West Dunbartonshire and how they may change and the risks from climate change:

- Data from [Scottish Coastal Observatory](#)
- SEPA data on [Coastal Catchments, water environmental data and bathing water areas](#)
- SEPA data on [flood risk](#)
- NatureScot [Coastal Character Assessments](#)
- [Dynamic Coast](#) data on coastal erosion and sea level rise
- Historic maps showing shoreline changes.

The [National Marine Plan](#) and [Draft Clyde Marine Plan](#) are relevant to the Local Development Plan. There are also a number of relevant national strategies and developments:

- Sectoral Marine Plans
 - [Sectoral marine plan for offshore wind energy](#)
 - [Initial Plan Framework Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind for Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation](#) This has limited relevance to West Dunbartonshire, however should be recognised in the Evidence Report as part of the national picture.

The [Climate Ready Clyde Adaptation Strategy](#) includes a number of actions which address some of the climate change implications for our coastal areas.

Known Evidence Gaps

A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, taking into account all flooding, including coastal, needs to be prepared as part of the evidence base for the Local Development Plan.

West Dunbartonshire Council does not have a specific coastal adaptation plan. Coastal adaptation will need to be considered as part of adaptation actions of the Councils Climate Change Action Plan.

While the section of the Clyde flowing past West Dunbartonshire is tidal, and therefore coastal, the coastal change data available does not necessarily take account of the fact that the environment of West Dunbartonshire's coast is estuarine. This means there is an interaction between coastal and river processes which may not be fully accounted for. Discussions with stakeholders, including SEPA, NatureScot and Dynamic Coast will be necessary to understand these interactions and their implications.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development
- West Dunbartonshire Council Asset Management
- West Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace
- West Dunbartonshire Council Sustainability
- West Dunbartonshire Council Roads
- Marine Scotland
- NatureScot
- SEPA
- Dynamic Coast
- Clyde Marine Planning Partnership
- Residents, businesses and organisations subject to the effects of coastal change
- Communities, land owners and developers within the Clyde Mission National Development area.

Energy

Zero emissions and low carbon energy, including onshore and offshore wind, solar, pumped hydro storage, hydrogen, electricity storage, and transmission infrastructure, are all defined as essential infrastructure in National Planning Framework 4. They are necessary to mitigate the effects of climate change by decarbonising the energy system.

Linkages to this topic are: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, Biodiversity, Soils, Infrastructure First, Heating and Cooling, and Community Wealth Building.

Current Evidence

Regarding the electricity network, data is available from [National Grid Energy System Operator](#) (ESO), [Scottish and Southern Energy Networks Distribution Network Operator](#) (DNO) and [Scottish Power Energy Networks Distribution Network Operator](#) open data portals. Two DNOs operate in West Dunbartonshire, however the majority of the West Dunbartonshire planning area is covered by Scottish Power Energy Networks. The open data portals provide data on the current infrastructure and capacity of that infrastructure.

DNOs produce Distribution Energy Future Scenarios (DFES) ([SSEN's DFES](#) and [SPEN's DFES](#)), which forecast how the demands on the electricity network are expected to change over the next 30 years. DNOs also produce Network Development Plans ([SSEN's NDP](#) and [SPEN's NDP](#)) which sets out the network capacity and information on key projects to upgrade network infrastructure. The DNO's both produce a set of tools to help local authorities plan for local energy within their area, which may provide useful insights.

Customer demand data for gas is available from [Scottish Gas Networks Open Data Portal](#).

The Local Development plan should identify opportunities for low and zero carbon energy generation. A [database of known projects](#) at various stages in the planning and development process is produced by the UK Government Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and covers a wide range of projects. Scottish renewables produce a [report presenting a pipeline of onshore wind](#) projects in Scotland. These data sets provide information on known projects.

There are various national and regional strategies that the council will need to consider in it's Local Development Plan, including:

- [Clyde Mission: energy Masterplan](#)
- [Onshore wind policy statement 2022](#)
- [Hydrogen Developments in the Hydrogen Action Plan](#)
- [Sectoral Marine Plans for Offshore Wind energy](#)
- [Initial Plan Framework Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind for Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas Decarbonisation](#) (this is of limited relevance to West Dunbartonshire)
- [Scotland's Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan, when published](#)

Locally, the [Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy](#) (LHEES) and Delivery Plan, will also inform the plan. The LHEES currently in draft form but the final version should be ready to inform the Evidence Report.

The following National Developments are relevant to this topic:

- National Development 2, Pumped Hydro Storage: this national development, applying to all of Scotland, supports pumped hydro and associated infrastructure storage for the purpose s of generating electricity.

- National Development 3, Strategic Renewable Electricity Generation and Transmission Infrastructure: this national development, applying to all of Scotland, supports the development of renewable electricity generation and electricity transmission.

Known Evidence Gaps

The proposed Local Development Plan 2 and the council's [Renewable Energy Local Development Plan Planning Guidance \(2016\)](#) show a Spatial Framework for wind energy. This spatial framework was based on a [Landscape Capacity Study for Wind Turbine Development in Glasgow and the Clyde Valley](#) prepared for the Glasgow Clyde Valley Strategic Development Plan Authority in 2014. National Planning Framework 4 makes no reference to Spatial Frameworks for wind energy which was included in the now superseded Scottish Planning Policy. The Spatial Framework and landscape capacity study will need to be reviewed to align with the policy intent and outcomes of NPF4, which takes a more permissive approach to renewable energy.

While the databases of known projects give an indication of where there may be opportunities for renewable energy, this is not a complete view of renewable energy opportunities within the area, as there may be others which have not been pursued. Engagement with stakeholders (including other Council services, landowners, developers, and communities interested in renewable energy), and a review of the suitability of certain types of land (such as the green belt) for renewable energy will be required.

Stakeholders

- National Grid Energy Systems Operator
- Distribution Network Operators (SSEN and SPEN)
- Scottish Gas Networks
- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development
- West Dunbartonshire Council Asset Management
- West Dunbartonshire Council Sustainability
- Communities interested in renewable energy
- Communities near existing energy infrastructure
- Developers of renewable energy

Zero waste

Development should be consistent (as far as possible) with the waste hierarchy, contributing towards the circular economy, where waste is: prevented by reducing the demand for raw materials; raw materials are prepared for reuse where they cannot be prevented; recycled; other value is recovered from the waste (such as energy); or it is disposed of (the least favourable option).

This topic links to: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land, and Empty Buildings; Infrastructure First; and Minerals.

Current Evidence

[Waste data](#) from SEPA, including:

- Household waste
- Commercial and industrial waste
- Recyclate quality
- Waste Sites and Capacity

The [West Dunbartonshire Council Waste Strategy 2023 – 2028](#) contains information on the strategic objectives and deliverables for waste management within West Dunbartonshire. This includes moving towards a circular economy. It also includes the council's future needs in terms of waste infrastructure to meet statutory requirements.

The Local Development Plan will also need to reflect the [national waste management plan](#), [national waste and recycling targets](#), [circular economy strategy for Scotland](#), the [circular economy and waste route map to 2030 consultation](#), and the [independent review of incineration within the waste hierarchy](#).

The following National Developments are relevant to this topic:

- National Development 4, Circular Economy Materials Management Facilities: this national development, applying to all of Scotland, supports the development of facilities to achieve the circular economy, including facilities for managing secondary materials and recycling facilities.

Known Evidence Gaps

The local development plan covers a ten year period. This means that it is beyond the time period of the Council's waste management strategy and the circular economy and waste route map.

The changing policy landscape in waste (such as the deposit return scheme) introduces uncertainties in the amount and type of waste the Council will manage.

There are unknown effects on the preference in National Planning Framework 4 towards reusing and retrofitting existing buildings (to avoid the loss of embodied carbon) on construction and demolition waste. Less construction and demolition waste would possibly mean an increased use of raw materials being used for aggregate and other building materials.

The expansion of renewable energy technologies (wind turbines, solar panels and batteries) will have an impact on waste streams when these technologies are decommissioned. It is not known if there is sufficient capacities to deal with decommissioning of these technologies when their use is expanded.



Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Waste
- SEPA
- Zero Waste Scotland
- Waste management businesses and operators

Sustainable transport

Local Development Plans should prioritise locations for future development that can be accessed by sustainable modes of transport and promote a place-based approach to consider how to reduce car-dominance. This is intended to encourage, promote and facilitate developments that prioritise walking, wheeling, cycling and public transport for everyday travel and reduce the need to travel unsustainably.

This topic links with: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Design quality and Place; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; and Infrastructure First.

Current Evidence

At a national level the [National Transport Strategy 2](#) and the [Strategic Transport Projects Review 2](#) will be considerations for the Plan. At a regional level Strathclyde Partnership for Transport's [A Call to Action: The regional Transport Strategy for the West of Scotland, 2023-2038](#) is relevant.

Various other national plans, strategies and guidance are also relevant:

- [Active Travel Vision](#)
- [Active Travel Framework](#)
- [National Walking Strategy](#)
- [Cycling Action Plan for Scotland](#)
- [Cycling by Design](#)
- [Cycling Framework for Active Travel](#)
- [A routemap to 20% reduction in car kms](#)
- [Rail Service Decarbonisation Action Plan](#)
- [Scotland's Road Safety Framework 2030](#)
- [Hydrogen Action Plan](#)
- [Switched on Scotland Roadmap](#)

Land-use and Transport Integration in Scotland (LATIS) is a service managed and delivered by Transport Scotland, which has a database of transport, land-use and demographic data which is linked to a multi-modal transport and land-use modelling suite.

Transport Scotland's [Scottish Transport Statistics](#) provides information on the use of transport in Scotland.

[Connecting West Dunbartonshire](#) sets out the local vision and actions for sustainable transport in West Dunbartonshire.

The following National Developments are relevant to this topic:

- National Development 6, Urban Mass/Rapid Transit Networks: this national development, applying to Glasgow City Region, supports low carbon mass/rapid transport development.
- National Development 7, Central Scotland Green Network: this national development, applying within the [Central Scotland Green Network](#) supports the creation of multifunctional green space, the creation of sustainable drainage, use of land for community growing or allotments, and routes for active travel and recreation.
- National Development 8, National Walking, Cycling and Wheeling Network: this national development, applying to all of Scotland, supports new and upgraded facilities for walking wheeling and cycling.

Known Evidence Gaps

It is expected that local development plans should be informed by an appropriate and effective transport appraisal, which has not yet been prepared. Plans should be informed by evidence of the area's transport infrastructure capacity, and an appraisal of the spatial strategy on the transport network.

The Council is currently preparing an Active Travel Strategy, consultation for which has been completed.

Stakeholders

- Transport Scotland
- Strathclyde Partnership for Transport
- West Dunbartonshire Council Roads Service
- Neighbouring Roads Authorities
- Glasgow City Region
- Clydeplan
- Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network
- Public transport service providers and infrastructure operators

Design, Quality and Place

Local Development Plans should be place-based and created in line with the Place Principle. The spatial strategy should be underpinned by the six qualities of successful places. This is intended to encourage, promote and facilitate well designed development that makes successful places by taking a design-led approach and applying the Place Principle.

This topic links to: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Biodiversity; Historic Assets and Places; Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings; Sustainable transport; Local Living and 20 minute Neighbourhoods; Quality Homes; Infrastructure First; Blue and Green Infrastructure; and Health and Safety.

Current Evidence

The following [design charrettes and studies](#) have taken place across West Dunbartonshire. These will be reviewed so as to inform the spatial strategy and design guidance:

- Clydebank Town Centre Charrette
- Clydebank Can
- Clydebank Town Centre Development Framework
- Dumbarton Rock and Castle Charrette
- Alexandria Masterplan
- Bowling Charrette

Where relevant reports from the Place and Design Panel will be reviewed to inform the design approach on key sites.

[Creating Places: A national Policy statement on architecture and place for Scotland](#) is relevant to the Plan.

[The Vale in Focus Report](#), which captures a Place Standard engagement exercise in the Vale of Leven will also be reviewed.

Known Evidence Gaps

Communities are in the process of preparing Local Place Plans. There may be Local Place Plans prepared in time to be considered in the Evidence Report, however it is expected that the majority will be prepared in time to be considered for the proposed plan.

Stakeholders

- Community Councils
- Community groups preparing Local Place Plans
- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- Landowners and Developers.

Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods

The Local Development Plan should support local living, including 20 minute neighbourhoods within settlements, through the spatial strategy, associated site briefs and masterplans. This is intended to encourage, promote and facilitate the application of the Place Principle and create connected and compact neighbourhoods where people can meet the majority of their daily needs within a reasonable distance of their home, preferably by walking, wheeling or cycling or using sustainable transport options.

This topic links with: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Green Belts; Sustainable Transport; Place, Quality and Design; Quality Homes; Infrastructure First; Blue and Green Infrastructure; Play, Recreation, and Sport; Health and Safety; Community Wealth Building; Business and Industry; City, Town and Commercial Centres; and Retail.

Current Evidence

The Council has developed a 20 Minute neighbourhood accessibility mapping tool. This tool includes the locations of shops, public transport, healthcare facilities, education, sport and leisure facilities, arts and cultural activities, and places that support lifelong learning and social interaction. An update of this may be required and focussed analysis in these terms would be beneficial.

Design charrettes listed under the Place, Quality and Design Topic will be highly relevant to this topic.

[Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation](#) provides a high level indication of locations where certain services or facilities are lacking.

[Scottish Water - Find My Nearest Tap](#) notes the location of water refill locations.

Known Evidence Gaps

The council has not yet prepared a statement of the planning authority's policies and proposals as to the provision of public conveniences or water refill locations.

The Opens Space Audit and Play Sufficiency Assessment, once prepared, will provide the locations of opens spaces and provision of play, recreation and sport.

Communities are in the process of preparing Local Place Plans. There may be Local Place Plans prepared in time to be considered at the evidence report, however it is expected that the majority will be prepared in time to be considered for the proposed plan.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- West Dunbartonshire Council Asset Management
- West Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace
- Community Councils
- Community Groups

Quality Homes

The Local Development Plan will identify a Local Housing Land Requirement to meet the needs and demands of the area including people with disabilities, housing adaptability, and the needs of Gypsy/Travellers and Travelling Showpeople communities. The plan will need to establish a pipeline of deliverable housing land.

Annex E of National Planning Framework 4 states that the Minimum All Tenure Housing Land Requirement for West Dunbartonshire is 2100 over the course of ten years. The Local Housing Land Requirement in the plan is expected to exceed this figure and the evidence Report will set out an indicative Local Housing Land Requirement using available evidence.

This topic links with: Greenbelt; Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings; Sustainable Transport; Design, Quality, and Place; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; Rural Homes; Infrastructure First; Health and Safety; and City, Town, Local and Commercial Centres.

Current Evidence

The most recent Housing Needs and Demand Assessment for the Glasgow and Clyde Valley region, produced in 2022, provides information on the context of the regions housing market, key housing market drivers, a profile of the housing stock, an estimate of future housing need and demand, and specialist provision (accessible and adaptable housing, wheelchair housing, supported housing, non-permanent housing, etc...).

The Council's annual Housing Land Audits will provide information on availability of land for housing and past completions.

The Council's [Local Housing Strategy](#) presents the Council's aims for Housing from 2022 to 2027 and information related to the areas housing stock, tenures, homelessness, and local specialist provision.

The Council's [Strategic Housing Investment Plan](#) sets out the funding priorities for affordable housing in West Dunbartonshire from 2024 to 2029.

The Council's [Empty Homes Strategy](#) sets out the approach in West Dunbartonshire to bringing empty homes back into use.

The Council's [Self Build List](#) provides information on people seeking land for self-build housing.

The following National Developments are relevant to this topic:

- National Development 13, Clyde Mission: this national development, applying up to 500m from the edge of the River Clyde, supports the development of mixed use development of brownfield land including: business, residential, industrial, marine, blue and green infrastructure, and supporting infrastructure.

Known Evidence Gaps

Further evidence is needed to identify the need for land to accommodate Gypsy/Travellers and Travelling Show people communities in West Dunbartonshire. This will be addressed through engagement with local Gypsie and Traveller communities and West Dunbartonshire's Housing team.

Further information will be needed on ineffective housing stock, including second homes.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Housing
- Social housing providers

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- Private housing providers
 - Landowners and developers
 - Representative bodies of housing providers and landowners
 - Housing and specific interest groups
 - Gypsie and Traveller communities
 - Tenants' organisations

Rural homes

The Local Development Plan needs to set out tailored approaches to housing in rural areas to address locally specific housing needs.

This topic links with: Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings; Sustainable Transport; Design, Quality, and Place; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; Infrastructure First; Health and Safety, and City, Town, Local and Commercial Centres.

Current Evidence

The Scottish Government 6-folk Urban Rural Classification identifies the rural areas and remote rural areas in the Council's planning area.

The most recent Housing Needs and Demand Assessment for the Glasgow and Clyde Valley region, produced in 2022, provides information on the context of the regions housing market, key housing market drivers, a profile of the housing stock, an estimate of future housing need and demand, and specialist provision (accessible and adaptable housing, wheelchair housing, supported housing, non-permanent housing, etc...).

The Council's annual Housing Land Audits will provide information on availability of land for housing and past completions.

The Council's [Local Housing Strategy](#) presents the Council's aims for Housing from 2022 to 2027 and information related to the areas housing stock, tenures, homelessness, and local specialist provision.

The Council's [Strategic Housing Investment Plan](#) sets out the funding priorities for affordable housing in West Dunbartonshire from 2024 to 2029.

The Council's [Empty Homes Strategy](#) sets out the approach in West Dunbartonshire to bringing empty homes back into use.

The Council's [Self Build List](#) provides information on people seeking land for self-build housing.

Known Evidence Gaps

Further evidence is needed to identify the need for land to accommodate Gypsy/Travellers and Travelling Showpeople communities in West Dunbartonshire. This will be addressed through engagement with local Gypsie and Traveller communities and West Dunbartonshire's Housing team.

Further information will be needed on ineffective housing stock, including second homes.

The Council currently holds no information on desirability of land for the purposes of resettlement

The Council currently holds no information on extent to which there are rural areas in which there has been a substantial decline in population

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Housing
- Social housing providers
- Private housing providers
- Landowners
- Representative bodies of housing providers and landowners; and
- Housing and specific interest groups.
- Gypsie and Traveller communities
- Tenants' organisations

Infrastructure first

Infrastructure is integral to placemaking and needs to be considered hand in hand with any new development. The Local Development Plan will need to plan infrastructure that meets the needs of communities. Both current communities and communities which grow with new development. The Plan will need to be informed by evidence on the capacity and condition of existing infrastructure, and an understanding of future needs.

The Local development Plan will need to be consistent with the Infrastructure Investment Hierarchy:

1. Determine future need;
2. Maximise the useful life of existing assets;
3. Repurpose and co-locate assets and facilities;
4. Replace create or build new assets.

This topic links to a wide range of others including: Coastal Development; Energy; Zero Waste; Sustainable Transport; Heat and Cooling; Blue and Green Infrastructure; Play Recreation and Sport; Flood Risk and Water Management; Health and Safety; and Digital Infrastructure.

Current Evidence

All evidence in topics listed above will contribute to this topic area. In addition evidence is needed on education provision and water infrastructure.

Evidence on water supply and waste water management infrastructure is available from the [Scottish Water Development Service Portal](#)

The Council's Education Service holds information on the uptake of school places through a school census including data on the numbers of Roman Catholic and Non-Denominational pupils. The service also has an established methodology for projecting the number of expected pupils, and estimating the number of pupils expected from new developments.

Known Evidence Gaps

Evidence gaps of linked topic areas will also apply to this topic area.

Engagement with Scottish Water will be necessary to understand any current and expected future capacity issues in the water supply and waste water network and the programme for improvements.

Stakeholders

- Stakeholders within linked topics
- West Dunbartonshire Council Education
- West Dunbartonshire Council Roads
- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development
- West Dunbartonshire Council Asset management
- West Dunbartonshire Council Greenspace
- Scottish Water
- Community Councils
- Land Owners and Developers
- Health and Social Care Partnership

Heat and cooling

The Local Development Plan should support the decarbonisation of heat and cooling demand and ensure places and buildings in West Dunbartonshire are more adapted to extremes in temperature. This will contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation within the area.

This topic area links with: Climate Change Mitigation an Adaptation; Energy; Infrastructure First; and Blue and Green Infrastructure.

Current Evidence

The [Draft LHEES](#) has been published by the council for consultation and the final version will be available to support the preparation of the proposed development plan. LHEES and their accompanying Delivery Plans are the core drivers of a locally led, place-based approach to decarbonising heat and addressing fuel poverty. LHEES identifies the changes required to building stock to achieving net zero, identifies strategic heat decarbonisation zones (which includes potential areas for heat networks), and prioritise areas for delivery.

West Dunbartonshire has an operational heat network at Queens Quay.

The Councils [Climate Change Strategy](#) and [Action Plan](#) includes actions relating to the LHEES, heat networks, heat vulnerability, retrofitting of local social housing stock, and adaptation to urban heating.

The Councils [Local Housing Improvement Plan](#) includes actions relating retrofitting homes for greater energy efficiency.

[The Clyde Mission Energy Masterplan](#) undertook regional scale energy master planning, specifically in relation to the Clyde Mission National Development which covers land within 500m of the Clyde.

The Scottish Government [Heat In Buildings Strategy](#) will be a consideration.

The [Scotland Heat Map](#) is also an available piece of evidence, however LHEES will provide a more comprehensive picture of heat and energy opportunities at a local level.

Information from utility companies are available in data portals, tools, and strategies of those companies, including from electricity Distribution Network Operators [SSEN](#) and [SPEN](#), and information on water and wastewater infrastructure from [Scottish Water](#).

Known Evidence Gaps

The evidence available for this topic area is reasonably comprehensive. One currently missing element is the LHEES Delivery Plan, which will set out how the aims of the LHEES will be achieved. Engagement will also be needed with electricity Distribution Network Operators with regards to energy network capacities, improvements and how these align with the LHEES and its Delivery Plan.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Sustainability
- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- West Dunbartonshire Council Housing
- Scottish Water
- Distribution Network Operators
- Scottish Governments Heat Network Support Unit

Blue and Green Infrastructure

Blue and Green Infrastructure are the multifunctional features and spaces which provide benefits to the natural environment and the health and wellbeing of people. They provide, recreation, amenity, and aesthetic value while also providing habitat for wildlife, protection from or reduction of flooding, or cooling during extreme heat. The local development plan should seek to protect and enhance green and blue spaces and connect them together.

This topic links with: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Biodiversity; Natural Places; Forestry, Woodlands and Trees; Sustainable Transport; Design Quality and Place; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; Infrastructure First; Heating and Cooling; Play, Recreation and Sport; Flood Risk and Water Management; and Health and Safety.

Current Evidence

The Council has begun producing an Open Space Strategy. The Development Planning and Place team have undertaken an audit of open spaces across West Dunbartonshire to assess their accessibility, functionality, condition, and biodiversity. Public engagement and engagement with groups interested in open spaces will also contribute to the Strategy.

The Council holds maps and lists of [Core Paths](#) within the area.

The Council's [Food Growing Strategy](#) sets out aims and actions for the provision of allotments and community gardens in West Dunbartonshire

[The Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network Blueprint](#) provides a strategic overview of access networks and habitat networks in the Glasgow and Clyde Valley region. Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership also provided a number of strategies and studies looking at specific areas of West Dunbartonshire, including Green Network Strategies for [Yoker](#) and [Clydebank](#) and a Green Network Study of the [Strathleven Corridor](#).

[The Climate Ready Clyde Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan](#) sets regional priorities for Blue and Green infrastructure.

[Water-Resilient Places: A Policy Framework for Surface Water Management and Blue-Green Infrastructure](#) is the relevant national policy for surface water flooding; an issue blue green infrastructure is expected to address.

The following National Developments are relevant to this topic:

- National Development 5, Urban Sustainable, Blue and Green Surface Water Management Solutions: this national development, applying to Glasgow and their wider water catchments (i.e the Clyde and it's tributaries), supports the development of Spaces, infrastructure, works, structures, buildings, pipelines, and nature-based approaches, for surface water management and drainage systems.
- National Development 7, Central Scotland Green Network: this national development, applying within the Central Scotland Green Network supports the creation of multifunctional green space, the creation of sustainable drainage, use of land for community growing or allotments, and routes for active travel and recreation.
- National Development 8, National Walking, Cycling and Wheeling Network: this national development, applying to all of Scotland, supports new and upgraded facilities for walking wheeling and cycling.

- National Development 13, Clyde Mission: this national development, applying up to 500m from the edge of the River Clyde, supports the development of mixed use development of brownfield land including: business, residential, industrial, marine, blue and green infrastructure, and supporting infrastructure.

Known Evidence Gaps

A comprehensive review of the areas blue and green infrastructure has not yet been undertaken. The open space audit will be a starting point but will need to be augmented by other information.

Work will continue on the Open Space Strategy. A review of other blue and green infrastructure, not covered by the Open Space Audit will need to be considered.

The Glasgow Clyde Valley partnership studies and strategies will need to be reviewed and updated to account for any new evidence and the intent and outcomes of National Planning Framework 4.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Green Space
- West Dunbartonshire Council Sustainability
- West Dunbartonshire Council Roads,
- West Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Network
 - Community Councils
 - Environmental Charities
 - Community Groups
 - Local greenspace volunteers
- Glasgow Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership
- Clydeplan
- SEPA
- Naturescot
- Scottish Canals
- Neighbouring Authorities

Play, Recreation and Sport

The Local Development Plan will identify sites for sports, play and recreation for people of all ages, providing opportunities to improve physical and mental health.

This topic links to Design Quality and Place, Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods, Infrastructure First, Blue and Green Infrastructure, and Health and Safety.

Current Evidence

As part of producing an Open Space Strategy the planning service has undertaken an audit on open spaces throughout West Dunbartonshire assessing the accessibility, maintenance and condition, function, contribution to place, and biodiversity of open spaces.

Regarding play spaces, information is available on the location, quantity, accessibility, and condition of play spaces managed by the Council. Location information is available for play spaces not maintained by the council.

The results of prior consultations on opens spaces and play spaces are also available.

Information on leisure facilities are available [through West Dunbartonshire Leisure Strategies and Delivery Plans](#).

The Scottish Government [Active Scotland Delivery Plan](#), which aims to make people more physically active throughout Scotland will be a relevant consideration.

Data from the [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation](#), which monitors health inequalities, will be a relevant consideration.

The following National Developments are relevant to this topic:

- National Development 7, Central Scotland Green Network: this national development, applying within the Central Scotland Green Network supports the creation of multifunctional green space, the creation of sustainable drainage, use of land for community growing or allotments, and routes for active travel and recreation

Known Evidence Gaps

The Open Space Strategy and play sufficiency Assessment are not yet in place however the evidence above and engagement with stakeholders will contribute to them.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Green Space
- West Dunbartonshire Leisure Trust
- Children and young people.
- West Dunbartonshire's community groups and green space volunteers.
- Community Councils

Flood Risk and Water Management

The local development plan should improve the resilience of communities to flood risks from all sources and the future impacts of climate change. Flood risk and Water Management should move towards the use of nature-based solutions which provide multiple benefits to people and nature.

This topic is closely linked to Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Biodiversity; Soils; Coastal Development; Design, Quality, and Place; Infrastructure First; Blue and Green Infrastructure; and Health and Safety.

Current Evidence

[SEPA provide data](#) on River and coastal catchments, wetland data, water environment classification data, data on flood risk from all sources, climate change allowances, flood risk management plans, flood risk management maps, information on past flooding events, and other elements to flood risk.

The [Local flood Risk Management Plan for the Clyde and Loch Lomond Local Plan District](#) and the [Flood Risk Management Strategy](#) provide information on the vulnerability to flooding and approach addressing flood risks in the Clyde and Loch Lomond catchments.

[Position Statements](#), [Standing Advice](#) and [Land Use Vulnerability Guidance](#) from SEPA will be relevant considerations.

Information available [on flood defences](#) will be relevant.

Information on flood events and [alleviation schemes](#) held by the council will be relevant.

The following National Developments are relevant to this topic:

- National Development 5, Urban Sustainable, Blue and Green Surface Water Management Solutions: this national development, applying to Glasgow and its wider water catchments (i.e the Clyde and its tributaries), supports the development of Spaces, infrastructure, works, structures, buildings, pipelines, and nature-based approaches, for surface water management and drainage systems.
- National Development 7, Central Scotland Green Network: this national development, applying within the [Central Scotland Green Network](#) supports the creation of multifunctional green space, the creation of sustainable drainage, use of land for community growing or allotments, and routes for active travel and recreation.
- National Development 13, Clyde Mission: this national development, applying up to 500m from the edge of the River Clyde, supports the development of mixed use development of brownfield land including: business, residential, industrial, marine, blue and green infrastructure, and supporting infrastructure

Known Evidence Gaps

The Council will need to produce a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment to support the Plan. It is expected that this will be possible using the evidence above and through working with SEPA.

Stakeholders

- SEPA
- Dynamic Coast
- West Dunbartonshire Council Roads
- West Dunbartonshire Council Sustainability
- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration

- 
- Communities affected by flooding.
 - Glasgow, Clyde Valley and Neighbouring planning authorities
 - Clydeplan

Health and Safety

The Local Development Plan should seek to tackle health inequalities particularly in places which are experiencing the most disadvantage. They should identify the health and social care services and infrastructure needed in the area, including potential for co-location of complementary services, in partnership with Health Boards and Health and Social Care Partnerships.

The Plan should create healthier places, for example, through opportunities for exercise, healthier lifestyles, land for community food growing and allotments, and awareness of locations of concern for suicide.

Spatial strategies should 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.

This topic has links to: Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation; Sustainable Transport; Design Quality and Place; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; Quality Homes; Infrastructure First; Heat and Cooling; Blue and Green Infrastructure; Flood Risk and Water management; Play, Recreation and Sport.

Current Evidence

Significant work in this regard has been undertaken through the [Shaping Places for Wellbeing](#) project in Clydebank. This information will be reviewed and where possible, similar data for the wider authority will also be sought.

Locations of major-hazard sites and major accident hazard pipelines are mapped in the council's Geographic Information System.

Any additional, recently granted Hazardous Substances Consents will be available through the planning register.

A variety of strategies and guidance documents will inform the plan:

- [Place and Wellbeing: Integrating Land Use Planning and Public Health in Scotland](#)
- [Place and Wellbeing Outcomes](#)
- [A Healthier Future; Scotland's diet and healthy weight delivery plan](#)
- [Diet and healthy Weight: Out of Home Action Plan](#)
- [Mental Health Strategy 2017-2027](#)
- [Suicide Prevention Action Plan](#)
- [National guidance on action to address suicides at locations of concern](#)
- [Cleaner Air for Scotland 2](#)

A variety of data sets will inform the health and safety elements of the plan:

- [Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation](#)
- Public Health Scotland: [Measuring health inequalities](#)
- [Scottish Household Survey](#)
- [Air Quality in Scotland](#)
- [Scotland's Noise Website](#)
- [Scottish Health Survey and Dashboard](#)
- [The Out of Home Environment](#)
- [Health and Safety Executive's Planning Advice Web App](#)
- Data on areas affected by coal mining and development high risk areas

- Planning Register

Known Evidence Gaps

Information on locations of concern for suicide will need to be sourced from relevant partners, such as the Health and Social Care Partnership.

The locations of many of these services are currently mapped within the 20 Minute neighbourhood tool, but an update may be required. Details of provision, capacities and future proposals for GPs, dentists, and pharmacies will require to be sought from partners, such as the Health and Social Care Partnership.

As part of the plan making process a health inequalities impact assessment will need to be undertaken.

Stakeholders

- SEPA
- Health and Safety Executive
- NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde
- Health and Social Care Partnership
- Police Scotland
- West Dunbartonshire Council Environmental Health
- West Dunbartonshire Council Community Safety
- The Coal Authority
- Shaping Places for Wellbeing.

Digital infrastructure

The Local Development Plan should support delivery of digital infrastructure, particularly in areas with gaps in connectivity or barriers to digital connectivity.

This topic links to Infrastructure First.

Current Evidence

Data on the availability and speed of fixed broadband connections and mobile coverage is available from [Ofcom](#).

Other sources are also available to verify this information, such as speed test services for [fixed broadband](#) and [mobile networks](#).

Information on the barriers to digital access and connectivity is available through the [Broadband Access Indicator](#), which forms part of the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation.

There are a variety of national strategies and initiatives (at Scottish and UK level) to improve digital connectivity including: [How Scotland will thrive in a digital world](#), [Project Gigabit](#), [Shared Rural Network](#) and the [UK Wireless Infrastructure Strategy](#).

The following National Developments are relevant to this topic:

- National Development 12, Digital Fibre Network: this national development, applying to all of Scotland, supports development of new or upgraded broadband cabling and mobile networks.

Known Evidence Gaps

The council has limited evidence of how digital infrastructure is being expanded at a local level. The development of digital telecommunications infrastructure is subject to permitted development rights. While developers of digital communications networks are required to submit prior notification or have prior approval of any works, the Council is currently not aware of the future plans for telecoms upgrades at a local level.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development.
- Internet and mobile network providers.
- Communities with limited access to digital infrastructure.

Community Wealth Building

Local Development Plans should aim to contribute to building community wealth and should be aligned with any strategy for community wealth building for the area. Community Wealth Building is a people centred approach to local economic development which directs wealth back into the local economy, benefitting local people. The Local Development Plan should identify community assets, set out opportunities to tackle economic disadvantage and inequality, and seek to provide benefits for local communities.

This topic links to: Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings; Energy; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; Business and Industry.

Current Evidence

Information that identifies areas of disadvantage in West Dunbartonshire, such as the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation, and the [Clydebank Shaping Places for Wellbeing Project](#).

Strategies relevant to Community Wealth Building include:

- [Community Empowerment Strategy and Action Plan](#)
- [Economic Development Strategy](#)
- [West Dunbartonshire Council Strategic Plan 2022-2027](#)

Any community led plans, such as local place plans, will also be relevant.

Known Evidence Gaps

Direct engagement with communities will be necessary to understand their aims and ambitions for their areas and how they view community wealth building.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Asset Management
- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development
- West Dunbartonshire Council Communities
- West Dunbartonshire Community Planning Partnership
- Community Councils
- West Dunbartonshire CVS
- Shaping Places for Wellbeing

Business and industry

Local Development Plans should allocate sufficient land for business and industry, ensuring that there is a suitable range of sites that meet current market demand and are of the right location, size and quality in terms of accessibility and services.

This topic links to: Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land, and Empty Buildings; Sustainable Transport; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhood; Infrastructure First; Health and Safety; Digital Infrastructure; Community Wealth Building; City, Town and Local and Commercial Centres; and Rural Development.

Current Evidence

The plan should support the ambitions of the Council's [Economic Development Strategy](#)

At a regional level the various strategies, actions and initiatives of the Glasgow City Region should be taken into account:

- [Glasgow City Region Economic Strategy](#)
- [Glasgow City Region Economic Strategy Action Plan](#)
- Various other initiatives from City Region will also be considered:
 - City Deal
 - Innovation Zones
 - Regional Demand for Labs Study
 - Investment Zones

The following National Developments are relevant to this topic:

- National Development 13, Clyde Mission: this national development, applying up to 500m from the edge of the River Clyde, supports the development of mixed use development of brownfield land including: business, residential, industrial, marine, blue and green infrastructure, and supporting infrastructure.

Known Evidence Gaps

A study commissioned by the Glasgow City Region and supported by local authorities is underway and will be published to support the Evidence Report. All outputs of this study will be reviewed for relevance:

- Output A: Employment Land Demand Study
- Output B: City Deal Gateway Review
- Output C: Employment Land Energy Efficiency
- Output D: Vacant & Derelict Land Supply

Stakeholders

- Glasgow City Region
- Clydeplan
- Scottish Futures Trust
- Scottish Property Federation
- Scottish Enterprise
- West Dunbartonshire Council Asset Management
- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development
- Landowners
- Businesses

- Developers
- Dunbartonshire Chamber of Commerce

Town, Local and Commercial Centres

The Local Development Plan should support diverse and vibrant town centres. National Planning Framework 4 supports mixed use town centres that include community uses, businesses and homes, making these attractive and healthy places people want to spend time. Town centres should be the first locations considered for uses that attract high levels of footfall, including retail, leisure, health care, education, and public buildings. Local centres should be identified and enable Local Living.

This topic is linked to: Historic Places and Assets; Brownfield, Vacant and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings; Sustainable Transport; Design Quality and Place; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; Quality Homes; Health and safety; Community Wealth Building; Business and Industry; Retail; and Culture and Creativity.

Current Evidence

Town Centre Surveys are undertaken each year, describing the types of activity in town centres and level of vacancies.

The currently adopted [Local Development Plan](#) sets out the a network of centres, including town and local centres. The Proposed Local Development Plan 2 also shows town centres (though not local centres) and is the councils most up to date spatial strategy. Proposed Local Development Plan 2 contains information on the availability and capacity of sites in town centres.

Information on town centres is currently available in a number of [supporting planning documents](#) including:

- Alexandria Town Centre Masterplan;
- Clydebank Charrette Report;
- Dumbarton Rock and Castle Charrette Report; and
- Dumbarton town Centre and Waterfront Revised Urban Strategy

Projects related to individual towns and town centres will also provide evidence, including the [Clydebank Town Board](#) and [Levelling Up Projects in Dumbarton](#).

Evidence on the prevalence of payday lending, betting offices and hot food takeaways in town centres has been produced as part of a review of the Council's Pay Day Lending and Betting Shop Planning Guidance.

The Council's [Economic Development Strategy](#) sets out the Council's approach to making West Dunbartonshire a prosperous place.

Known Evidence Gaps

The current and proposed Local Development Plans, while providing some useful background pre-date National Planning Framework 4 and will need to be reviewed against policy intent and outcomes of National Planning Framework 4.

The Council does not undertake surveys of local or commercial centres, so additional information may need to be collected on the uses and vacancy levels of these locations.

The Council may need to collect evidence on the need for drive-through development.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development

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- West Dunbartonshire Council Asset Management
 - Local Businesses
 - Dunbartonshire Chamber of Commerce
 - Glasgow City Region
 - Clydeplan

Retail

The Local Development Plan should consider the need for further retail provision in the area in terms of quality, quantity and achieving the aims of Local Living through support of healthy food and drink outlets.

This topic links to Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; Community Wealth Building; City, Town, Local and Commercial Centres; and tourism.

Current Evidence

Town centre surveys provide information on the levels of retail within town centres.

West Dunbartonshire's 20 Minute neighbourhood tool can provide information on the location and accessibility of food and convenience retail, however may require updating.

A retail assessment was undertaken to support the Clydebank Town Centre Framework.

[Understanding Scotland's Places](#) provides high level information on access to shops.

The [Out of Home Environment](#) provides high level information on the types of food eaten out of the home across Scotland and the impact this has on diets.

The [Food Environment Assessment Tool](#) provides high level information on the type of food outlets available in an area.

Known Evidence Gaps

Further information will need to be collected on retail outside of town centres.

A study commissioned by the Glasgow City Region and supported by local authorities is underway and will be published to support the Evidence Report. This study also includes the demand for comparison retail.

Sources of information providing high level outputs will need to be validated at a local level.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Regeneration
- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development
- West Dunbartonshire Council Asset Management
- Local Businesses
- Dunbartonshire Chamber of Commerce
- Glasgow City Region
- Clydeplan

Rural development

The Local Development Plan should be based on an understanding of the rural areas of West Dunbartonshire which include its existing settlement pattern, environmental features, community priorities, and economic needs.

This topic is linked to: Natural Places; Soils; Forestry Woodlands and Trees; Historic Assets and Places; Green belt; Sustainable Transport; Rural Homes; and Tourism.

Current Evidence

All evidence in the topics linked above is relevant to this topic area

The Scottish Government 6-fold Urban Rural Classification identifies the rural areas and remote rural areas in the Council's planning area.

NatureScot's landscape Character assessments provide a description of the landscape and settlement pattern of the area.

The [Kilpatrick Hills Local Landscape Area Statement of Importance](#) and Landscape Assessment of Green Belt will help to describe the rural areas of the district, however these pre-date National Planning Framework 4 and will likely need reviewed and updated.

Statistics from Scotland's Census population estimates will provide information on the rural urban split of the population in West Dunbartonshire.

Known Evidence Gaps

The evidence gaps for the linked topic areas are also relevant to this topic area.

Stakeholders

- Dumbartonshire Chamber of Commerce
- Landowners
- Forestry and Land Scotland
- Scottish Forestry
- NatureScot
- Residents and businesses of rural areas

Tourism

The Local Development Plan should support growth and long-term resilience of the tourism sector. The spatial strategy should identify suitable locations which reflect opportunities for tourism development by taking full account of the needs of communities, visitors, the industry and the environment. Areas of pressure where existing tourism provision is having adverse impacts on the environment or the quality of life and health and wellbeing of local communities, and where further development is not appropriate.

This topic links to: Natural Places; Historic Assets and Places; Community Wealth Building; City, Town, Local and Commercial Centres; Retail; Rural Development; and Culture and Creativity.

Current Evidence

Supporting sustainable tourism is part of the Council's [Economic Development Strategy](#).

[Dumbarton Visitor Gateway Partnership](#) sets an approach for tourism within Dumbarton, which includes the Council, Historic Environment Scotland and the Scottish Maritime Museum

Various national strategies related to tourism will be relevant, including [Scotland Outlook 2030 Strategy: Responsible Tourism for a Sustainable Future](#) and [Scottish Connections Framework](#).

[Visit Scotland Scottish Tourism Statistics and Research](#) provides insights into the tourism sector in the region.

The Council will have records related to planning permissions and licencing of short-term lets within West Dunbartonshire.

Known Evidence Gaps

The Council does not currently have recorded information on areas of pressure where tourism is having an adverse impact on the environment or quality of life and health and wellbeing of residents. It is expected that there is greater pressure within the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority area, where the Council is not the Planning Authority. This evidence gap will need to be filled through engagement with communities.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Licencing
- West Dunbartonshire Council Economic Development
- Visit Scotland
- Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority
- Community Councils and other community groups

Culture and Creativity

The Local development Plan Should recognise and support opportunities for jobs and investment in the creative sector, culture, heritage and the arts. This is intended to encourage, promote and facilitate development which reflects our diverse culture and creativity, and to support our culture and creative industries.

This topic links to: Historic Assets and Places; Local Living and 20 Minute Neighbourhoods; City, Town, Local and Commercial centres; Tourism.

Current Evidence

The [West Dunbartonshire Council Strategic Plan 2022-2027 \(west-dunbarton.gov.uk\)](https://www.west-dunbarton.gov.uk) includes this commitment: “Our Libraries, Arts & Heritage, Parks and Adult Learning Programmes will promote wellbeing by providing free and accessible community facilities, exhibitions and parks and outdoor activities and offering a range of learning opportunities.”

Some cultural offering (such as libraries) within the area is captured within the Council’s 20 minute neighbourhood tool.

Nationally, Creative Scotland’s [Creativity Learning Plan](#) contains policies and plans for supporting creativity in Scotland.

Known Evidence Gaps

The council has limited information on opportunities for jobs and investment in the creative sector, culture, heritage and the arts.

The Council will need to collate information relating to museums, galleries, theatres, cinemas, music venues, studios, recording spaces and space for art/craft activities.

Stakeholders

- West Dunbartonshire Council Arts & Heritage
- West Dunbartonshire CVS
- Theatres Trust
- West Dunbartonshire Leisure Trust
- West Dunbartonshire Licencing

Aquaculture

The Local Development Plan should guide aquaculture development in a way that is consistent with National and Regional Marine Plans. While aquaculture is not an industry present within West Dunbartonshire it will be covered within the Evidence Report.

This topic links to: Biodiversity; Natural Places; Coastal Development; and Business and Industry.

Current Evidence

[Scotland's National Marine Plan](#), specifically Chapter 7 (Aquaculture) will be relevant to the Local Development Plan. The Marine Plan is accompanied by a suite of [GIS Data](#).

The Draft [Clyde Regional Marine Plans](#) will be relevant to the Local Development Plan.

National and Regional marine plans will provide information on environmental constraints relating to aquaculture.

[Information and locations of Aquaculture Marine Fish Farms](#) is available from SEPA

[Guidance on location of marine fish farms](#) is available from Marine Scotland.

[Monitoring information](#) associated with the aquaculture sector is available from Scotland's Aquaculture.

Known Evidence Gaps

The Council does not currently have any information on projected growth or demand in the Aquaculture industry.

Stakeholders

- Marine Scotland
- SEPA
- NatureScot
- Clyde Marine Planning Partnership

Minerals

The Local development Plan should support a landbank of construction aggregate for at least 10 years. Important workable resources should be safeguarded with steps taken to ensure they are not sterilised by other development.

This topic is linked to Biodiversity; Natural Places; Zero Waste, and Health and Safety.

Current Evidence

The [Proposed Local Development Plan 2](#) shows the location of current mineral extraction sites.

The [latest aggregate survey from 2019](#) provides an understanding of national and regional sales, inter-regional flows, transportation, consumption and permitted reserves of primary aggregates.

The Council will hold records of permitted mineral reserves through planning applications.

High level information on [mineral resources](#) is available from the Natural Environment Research Council

More detailed information on [mineral resources](#) is available from the British Geological Survey.

Known Evidence Gaps

The national aggregate survey does not receive responses from all producers of aggregate and some information may need to be gathered from local quarry operators. This may present an issue as some of this information may be commercially sensitive.

Work with the Clydeplan, Glasgow and Clyde Valley local authorities, other neighbouring authorities and industry may be necessary to fully understand the market areas for building materials and plan appropriate land banks.

Stakeholders

- Glasgow City Region Local Authorities
- Clydeplan
- Neighbouring local authorities
- Mineral Products Association
- Local quarry operators