

Why it's **good** that communities are **declining** to prepare **Local Place Plans**

(and why it's good that some are taking on the challenge)



Hello!



I am **Paul Ede**

Social Enterprise Manager with
PAS (Planning Aid Scotland).

All views my own



Great Place finalist
Claypits Local Nature Reserve
The Urbanism Awards 2023



OUR HAMMYHILL

21st, 22nd and 23rd April

Various locations

around the 'Hill'

Facebook - search for
"Hamiltonhill Community
Information Page"

Disclaimer - All views will be noted and may end up in the brochure

Where is it?
Bardowie Street Gospel Hall
(Next to the site of the old Hawthorn bar)
Bardowie Street
G22 5AB

Questions?
hamiltonhillcommunity@gmail.com

CREATING A COMMUNITY-LED
VISION FOR HAMILTONHILL:
OUR HAMMYHILL!



Blindspots

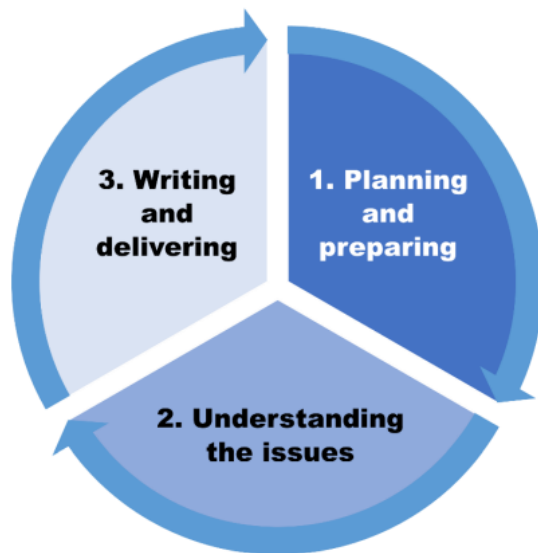
- Complicated relational and resource environment for community leaders.
- Complicated legal and policy framework for planners.
- Do policy makers really understand what they've asked communities to do?





PAS Guide for Community Delivery of Local Place Plans

This Guide is designed to support your community through the process of developing a Local Place Plan. It is based on a simple framework:



- Download from our website:
www.pas.org.uk
- This guide complements all our training

No.	Submission requirement	Circular paragraphs	Done?
1	A copy of the finalised Local Place Plan		<input type="checkbox"/>
	The LPP should contain the following elements		
2	A statement identifying the Community Body that has prepared the plan.	<i>Paras 12-17; 37; 40</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	Map of the Boundary of the Local Place Plan.	<i>Paras 37; 41</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	A statement of the Community Body's proposals.	<i>Paras 18-21; 41-45</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5	An additional Map identifying specific sites/locations detailed in the Community Bodies proposals.	<i>Paras 41-45</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6	A statement explaining how the Local Place Plan has regard to the Local Development, National Planning Framework and any applicable Locality Plans	<i>Paras 25-31; 68-69</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7	A statement explaining how the proposals in the LPP align with, or differ from, the relevant policies and development proposals in the plans in 6 above, and why it considers that the Local Development Plan should be amended in light of this.	<i>Paras 32-35; 70</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Evidence of compliance with the requirements of regulation 4		
8	A Copy of the pre-submission Information Notice evidencing of compliance with the required contents.	<i>Paras 54-58</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9	Records of when and to whom the Information Notice was sent (required local councillors and community councils).	<i>Paras 49-53</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Additional Information that needs to be submitted		
10	Documents confirmation the status of the Community Body, and a statement showing compliance with the definition of a Community Body (see Appendix 1 of part 1 of this Guide)	<i>Paras 61-65</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11	Evidence of Community support for the Local Place Plan	<i>Paras 71-73</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12	Copies of additional relevant documents as appropriate	<i>Paras 74-76</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Legal process requirements

For a community-led plan to be considered as a Local Place Plan and therefore, once registered, to be taken into account by the planning authority in preparing its Local Development Plan, the Community Body preparing the plan must fulfil a number of legal criteria.

[Planning Circular on Local Place Plans](#) (para. 10).

The primary legislation governing Local Place Plans can be found in [sections 14 and 15 and schedule 19](#) of the 2019 Planning (Scotland) Act. Further regulations governing Local Place Plans are laid out in the [\(Local Place Plans\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2021](#).

Summary

In preparing a Local Place Plan, a Community Body must²

have regard to—	
(i) the Local Development Plan for the land, or any part of the land, to which the Local Place Plan relates,	
(ii) the National Planning Framework,	
(iii) a Locality Plan published for the area to which a proposed Local Place Plan relates,	
set out reasons for considering that the Local Development Plan should be amended, and	
comply with any prescribed requirements as to—	
(iv) the form and content of the plan, and	
(v) steps which must be taken before preparing the plan.	

Paragraph reference numbers below are given for the relevant sections of the [Planning Circular 1, 2022 Local Place Plans](#).

Form and Content of the Local Place Plan³

Community Body	Identity of the Community Body who prepared the Local Place Plan	Paras 12-17; 37; 40
Map of Boundary of Local Place Plan	A map that shows the land to which the Local Place Plan relates. This must be sufficiently detailed so as to enable the boundaries of the Local Place Plan area to be identified.	Paras 37; 41
Statement of the Community Body's proposals	A statement of the Community Body's proposals as to the development or use of land within the Local Place Plan area. These must relate to the use and development of land.	Paras 18-21; 41-45
Additional map identifying sites of specific proposals	Where the statement contains a proposal as to the development or use of land which relates to a specific area of land or particular building, or the Local Place Plan identifies land or building that the community body considers to be of particular significance to the local area, the Local Place Plan must also contain a map or maps which identify the location of the land or building.	Paras 41-45

² See Schedule 19 para 1 and 2 of the 2019 Planning (Scotland) Act which lays out how community bodies should prepare and submit local place plans

³ See Regulation 3 of the 2021 Regulations



Capacity Building and Mentoring



Local Committee Area	Community Body benefitting from training	No.
1. Cowdenbeath Area	No attendance	0
2. City of Dunfermline Area	Kingseat Community Council	1
3. Glenrothes Area	Markinch Heritage Group	1
4. Kirkcaldy Area	Love Oor Lang Toun (Kirkcaldy)	1
5. Levenmouth Area	Largo Communities Together	1
6. <u>North East Fife Area</u>	Balmerino Community Council Cupar Development Trust & Sustainable Cupar Kingsbarns Community Council Letham Village Hall Newport, Wormit and Forgan Community Council Pittenweem Community Council St Andrews Community Council	8
7. South & West Fife Area	Inverkeithing Community Council & Inverkeithing Trust Rosyth Community Council	3
Total		15



Centre for Best Practice

A suite of training
modules

Advice Service – volunteer
review of the policy
arguments behind your LPP
proposals

Introductory session	
1	Introduction to Local Place Plans
Getting Started	
2	Pathways into your LPP: converting a CAP to an LPP
3	Getting started: introduction to project managing a Local Place Plan
Undertaking Engagement	
4	Engaging with your community: facilitation skills
5	Working together: dealing with conflict
6	Engaging with your community: using the Place Standard
7	Engaging with your community: planning your engagement strategy
8	Engaging with your community: running online events
9	Tools and techniques: how to develop a climate ready Local Place Plan
Dealing with data	
10	Dealing with data: data analysis
Prioritisation	
11	Dealing with data: prioritisation
Preparing the plan	
12	Preparing the plan: making policy connections to NPF4 (3 sessions)
13	Preparing the plan: writing
14	Preparing the plan: map making



1

A taster from our Intro to Local Place Plans



What is a **Community Action Plan?**

- Community led
- A list of initiatives for change
- Wide ranging
- Shaping service delivery – influencing council departments – advocacy
- Enabling working together at the grassroots.
- Supported by and supporting Community Planning and CLD teams



What is a **Community Action Plan?**

- CAPs are more than just a plan: they can help communities understand what they want to be like in the future and help to develop a positive community identity. They can help develop local connections and collaborations and develop community capacity and improve social capital. They can support community aspirations on the big challenges for a future Scotland, such as responding to the global climate emergency and tackling inequalities. They are an opportunity for real, community-based change.

BUCKHAVEN LINKS!



- Foreshore Green Accessible Corridor
- Braes Natural Recreational Corridor
- Town and Coastal Path
- Potential Closure of Path
- Primary play / sports equipment area within public open space
- Key Landmark Building / Feature
- Key Focus for Street Improvements
- Fife Coastal Route



What is a Local Place Plan?

- “A community-led plans that set out *proposals* for the development and use of land.”
- Set out community proposals for regulating and shaping the development and use of land *with reasoning*.
- Influence the *planning department*: must be taken into account during the process of forming an LDP.
- Becomes a material consideration in planning applications.
- Context of NPF4 and LDP policies.
- About the *where* of policy.



Differences between CAPs and LPPs

	CAP	LPP
Is a material consideration in the planning system		✓
Is consulted for LDP formation or planning application assessment	“may”	“must”
Requires certain process elements by law		✓
Includes a spatial vision for your area		✓
Output: list of policy proposals		✓
Output: delivery plan.	✓	
Can address issues beyond use and development of land	✓	



● Land and Development Quiz

- litter management and dog fouling
- improvements in the town centre
- conservation of built environment
- proposals for a car-pool or community bus
- potholes, street cleaning
- strategies to help local groups collaborate
- add value and detail to existing LDP policies
- issues around health service provision

Land and Development Quiz

- | | |
|---|-------|
| ○ litter management and dog fouling | ○ CAP |
| ○ improvements in the town centre | ○ LPP |
| ○ conservation of built environment | ○ LPP |
| ○ proposals for a car-pool or community bus | ○ CAP |
| ○ potholes, street cleaning | ○ CAP |
| ○ strategies to help local groups collaborate | ○ CAP |
| ○ add value and detail to existing LDP policies | ○ LPP |
| ○ issues around health service provision | ○ CAP |



Only do an LPP if you need to

Only do an LPP if you need to

- We've always done CAPs, still can, and will be doing them into the future
- LPP is not just a new name for a CAP
- New, particular power to influence the spatial planning system





A statement of community aspirations

A way of informing future planning policy and development proposals in your area

Through links with the Local Development Plan, a way of helping to deliver a community's development proposals

An opportunity to guide developers, local authorities and others towards community objectives, and to deliver projects or services which support the local community

A wish list to demand unrealistic investment from others

A top-down way of imposing change

Means of stopping live development proposals

An opportunity to promote individual interests of specific people or organisations

An easy way of getting what you want



Local Place Plans offer communities the opportunity to develop proposals for their local area, expressing their aspirations and ambitions for future change.

Local Place Plans were introduced by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, which contains a new right for communities to produce their own plans as part of the new Scottish planning system. Local Place Plans contain the community's proposals for the development and use of land, and provide a new opportunity for communities to feed into the planning system with ideas and proposals.

However, Local Place Plans are more than just a plan: they can help communities understand what they want to be like in the future and help to develop a positive community identity. They can help develop local connections and collaborations and develop community capacity and improve social capital. They can support community aspirations on the big challenges for a future Scotland, such as responding to the global climate emergency and tackling inequalities. They are an opportunity for real, community-based change.



Why not **do both?**

- LPP *and* a CAP?
 - Side by side, or
 - One after the other
- Just *don't get them confused*
 - Don't submit an LPP that is CAP in all but name.
 - You miss the power of policy to argue your case.
 - Do present a document that clearly marks out the different elements relevant to an LPP





Is an LPP right for you?

What are some **alternatives**?

- Do a CAP
- Getting involved in regular, statutory council consultations on the Local Development Plan
- Participation requests
- Community asset transfer
- Submitting a planning application for your own project



2

**Why it's good that communities
are declining to prepare
Local Place Plans**

Is an LPP the right choice for us?

A *Cost-Benefit* Analysis.

“

Community led
vs
Community delivered

Two *very different* propositions.

“



Why are communities declining to prepare LPPs?

A CAP is often enough	Many communities only need/want a Community Action Plan. It's optional!
Funding	No money or support from central sources. Funders still see 'resilience' as response to Covid not as a foundation for the future.
Expectations	District scale? Silver bullet? Humility needed
Energy	Danger of burnout and damaged relationships. It's not worth it.
Results	How much of what we want might we get at the end?
Daunting	Many groups don't even know what a LOIP or LDP actually is. Anxiety. Confusion of multiple layers of plans. We can't do Wester Hailes.
Little support	3 rd sector and public sector community development workers often don't understand planning, and public sector planners don't understand community development
Local politics	Even powerful groups want PAS for outsider-impartial support
Not for protest	Positive vision, not anti-development
Marginal communities	Resources and time are better spent elsewhere.
Learning curve	Community delivery requires steering groups to learn the following fast: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• work together; project manage the process; understand the guidance and legislation and its jargon; learn enough planning policy to get the best bang for their buck.; do in a tight time-frame.
Institutional happenstance	Argyllshire LDP with the Scottish Ministers...you've already missed the boat to influence the LDP



Roles

Role	Tasks and Activities
Steering group members	Group of local citizens (potentially also office bearers in local community councils and charities) to lead and oversee the LPP
Administration/general co-ordination	General organisation, correspondence, record keeping, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)
Fundraising	Liaison with grant making trusts and other funders, application writing, evaluation (if funding route taken)
Communications	Social media, letter/email/newsletter drafting, correspondence, media enquiries
Volunteer co-ordination	Event management, task delegation
Design/Graphics support	Visualisation, promotional graphics
Event and discussion facilitation	Coordinating group discussions, event delivery, task delegation
Analysis/plan writing	Summarising evidence/data, thematic analysis, writing

Would *you* step up to lead an
LPP in your community?

“



3

Why it's **good** that some
communities are **taking on** the
challenge



The good stuff

A proactive role	Not just a reactive role for CC's as development comes forward.
Foundation for community wealth building	'Pre' pre-distribution
Influence	The community equivalent of a call for sites.
Climate Change	We need co-ordinated local responses to climate change (but do communities get it)?
Harnessing gifts	Communities empowering themselves. Can we trust our communities?
Peer-to-peer support	Leaders in Fife are rocking up to each-others steering groups and sharing best practice.
Proactive landowners	Kingsbarns Estate – Landowner rights and responsibilities.
Integration	Connecting national and regional policy to the local context.
Public accountability	MUST take into account. LPP as a material consideration for Dev Plans and DM.

Allocating land for extension of a playing field





4

Some provocations





- Do community groups even know what LPPs are designed for?
- What is RTPI Scotland's public position?
- PARD partner grants to ringfence jobs delivering LPPs in communities with the least resources.
- Will LA's honour community investment?
- Can we 'empower' technical planning knowledge?
- Validation vs Assessment.
- One National Register of LPPs.



The challenge

- ⦿ For Planners and Local Authorities:
 - Will we honour community's investment in these plans?
 - Team to ensure goals are integrated/assessed across silos
 - Positive interpretation by planners – filling policy gaps
- ⦿ For Communities
 - Recognise that officers are often struggling within their own complex contexts.
 - Have grace for each other within the community.
- ⦿ For everyone
 - We are all learning.
 - Problems so wicked that we'll only crack them if we are humble.

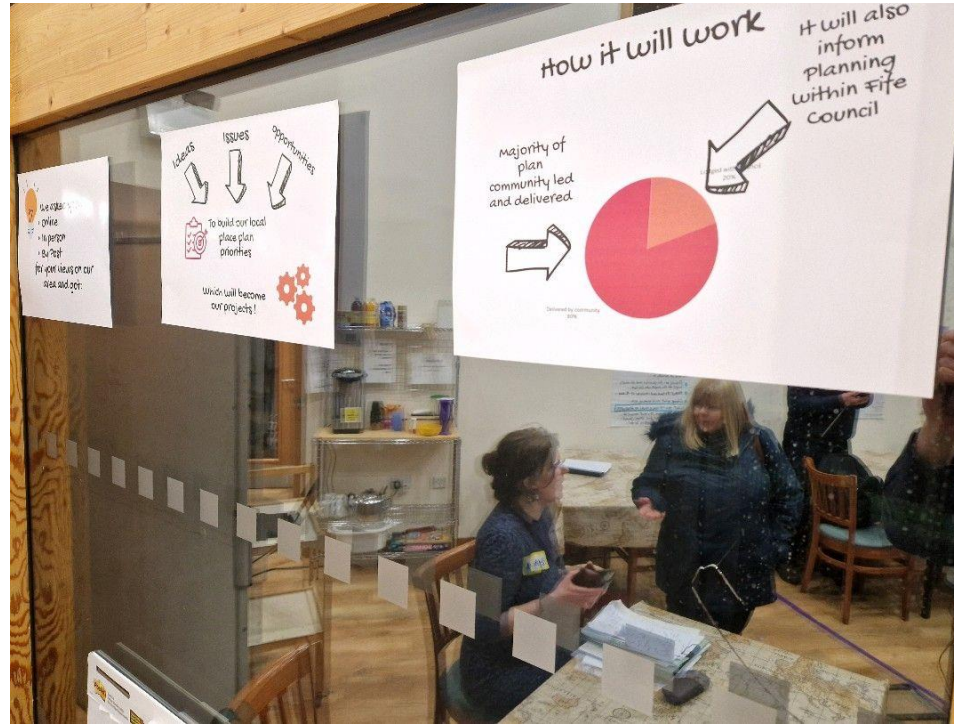


Centre for Best Practice

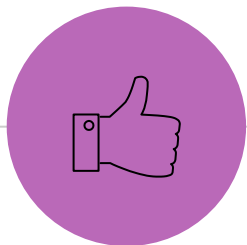
A suite of training
modules

- Does your LA want to support groups?
Does your community network or group want to support itself?
- Signpost us anyway!

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Questions & Discussion



Thanks!

You can find me at

- @edepaulf
- paul@pas.org.uk


Provocations



- ◎ Do community groups who've submitted an LPP **even know what they are designed to do?**
 - Do community development workers need to invite collaboration and training from planners rather than just imagining what LPPs *should* be for?

- ◎ What is **RTPI Scotland's public position**. Is it invested?
 - We worship Jane Jacobs.
 - But mistrust those trying to follow in her footsteps.

Provocations

- 
- ② **Humza:** “every penny and pound” of future SG commitments will be examined to ensure it is targeted at tackling poverty.”
 - ② How about PARD at least supports poorer communities: **use partner grants to ringfence** jobs to deliver LPPs in communities with the least resources?
 - It really is mostly rich communities doing this.
 - For LPPs to work AND have integrity they need to make a difference everywhere.

Provocations



- ◎ An **army of policy officers** developing national and regional policy, but apparently no money to pay people to help communities develop their own local policy document – an LPP.
 - Time to reinvent the role of policy officer in our organisations?
- ◎ **Will LA's honour community investment** and plug the energy created by local community plans into a delivery response from every department?

Provocations

- - Is developing significant **technical planning knowledge** a reasonable expectation of “**empowerment**”? Can communities develop the most impactful LPPs (in planning terms) without professional support?
 - We know all about the validation process, **what about the assessment process?** Every LA making it up?
 - Can we have **one National Register** of LPPs?