

Scottish Borders Development Plan Scheme 2026

*“The purpose of planning is to manage the
development and use of land in the long-term
public interest”*

(Planning (Scotland) Act 2019)



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What is the Development Plan Scheme?

The Development Plan Scheme (DPS) sets out how the next Local Development Plan (LDP) will be prepared. The DPS is an important communication tool. It supports the deliverable and people-focused plans by letting stakeholders know when and how they can get involved in the plan and keep them informed of progress. It is part of the wider project management of development planning.

This DPS has been prepared to provide information on our progress in reviewing our current Local Development Plan (LDP) (adopted August 2024). The DPS includes a timetable of when we intend to reach key stages in the process of preparing our new LDP, which will replace our adopted LDP; and includes a Participation Statement explaining how we will engage with our communities and stakeholders.

This is the second DPS, including the Participation Statement, with a focus on engagement activity throughout the LDP process.

What is the Development Plan?

The planning system provides the basis for land use management and affects everyone. The purpose of planning is to manage the development and use of land in the long-term public interest. Development plans contain the strategy for the future development of an area and set out policies and proposals to guide the future development and use of land. The plans are expected to cover topics on the environment, housing, transport and infrastructure, economic development and retailing.

The Current Development Plan for Scottish Borders

Under the planning system, decisions on where and how development will take place in Scotland are made in accordance with the statutory Development Plan. This comprises National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) and the adopted Local Development Plan (LDP) (2024).

National Planning Framework for Scotland: This is produced by the Scottish Government and sets out the Scottish Ministers' policies and proposals for the development and use of land, and includes the long-term spatial strategy, spatial principles, priority actions and National Developments, looking ahead to 2045. [NPF4](#) came into force on 13 February 2023 and forms part of the Development Plan for the Scottish Borders. It provides national planning policy to guide decision making on planning applications.

Local Development Plan (LDP): These are produced and adopted by local planning authorities and set out more detailed policies and specific proposals for the development and use of land, to guide development. The current [LDP was adopted](#) in August 2024 and replaced the Local Development Plan 2016.

Planning Guidance: Whilst not formally part of the Development Plan, the Council has produced [Supplementary Planning Guidance](#) (SPG), these documents will be taken into consideration in the assessment of planning applications. Appendix 3 of the LDP sets out the SPG's including planning briefs that the planning authority intend to produce, to accompany the adopted LDP.

Main Changes to the Development Plan Process

The next LDP for the Scottish Borders will be prepared under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019. For that reason, the process will be very different from that previously undertaken for the current adopted LDP 2024. The main changes are as follows:

- There is a requirement for the planning authority to prepare a **Regional Spatial Strategy**, this can be produced individually or as a regional group alongside another authority. The planning authority must have regard to the Regional Spatial Strategy in the preparation of their new LDP, however it is not part of the Development Plan
- The new LDP will require to be replaced at least every 10 years
- There is a requirement for the planning authority to prepare an **Evidence Report**. The Evidence Report is then submitted to the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division of the Scottish Government (DPEA) to undertake a “**gate check**”, this is to ensure that the planning authority has sufficient evidence and information to proceed to prepare the new LDP.

Regional Spatial Strategy

Scottish Borders Council has been involved in the production of two Indicative Regional Spatial Strategies (iRSS); one for the South of Scotland and the second for Edinburgh and South East Scotland. Both strategies were approved by Council in September 2020 and will be developed further, moving them from interim to formal status.

Although the RSS will not form part of the statutory Development Plan, Scottish Ministers and planning authorities must have regard to any RSS in preparing, revising or amending either the NPF or LDP.

Local Place Plans

The 2019 Act also introduced the opportunity for a community-led, but collaborative, approach to creating great local places through **Local Place Plans** (LPPs).

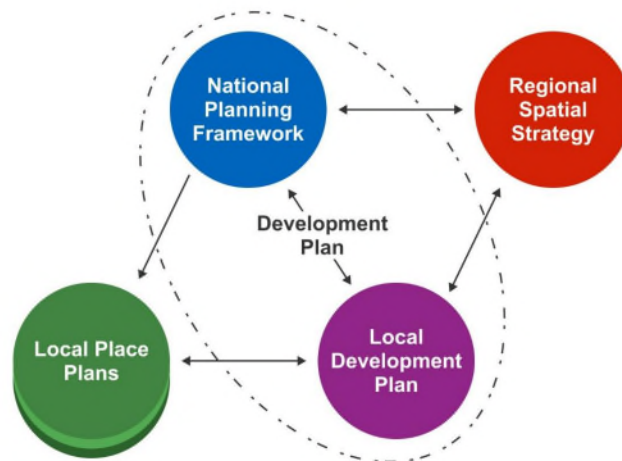
LPPs are defined within the Act as “*a proposal as to the development or use of land. It may also identify land and buildings that the community body considers to be of particular significance to the local area*”. Whilst LPPs are not part of the Development Plan, they have an important role in informing LDPs.

[Planning Circular 1/2022](#): ‘Local Place Plans’ was published on 21 January 2022 and provides guidance for planning authorities and communities, on preparing and registering Local Place Plans. Once completed, LPPs can be submitted to the Planning Authority for validation and registration and will be an important resource for preparing LDP spatial strategies.

As noted above, the statutory development plan for the Scottish Borders comprises the National Planning Framework 4 and the adopted LDP (2024). The figure below has been taken from the Scottish Government’s Local Development Planning Guidance (published May 2023) and illustrates how the Development Plan, the Regional Spatial Strategy and Local Places Plans interrelate.

A formal invitation was issued on 11 July 2025 to community bodies inviting them to prepare a LLP. The date by which LPPs are to be submitted to the Council is 30 September 2027.

FIGURE 1: Statutory Development Plan and Related Plans



(Source: Local development planning guidance, Scottish Government 2023)

Implementation and Delivery of LDP 2024

A draft Action Programme was prepared and published alongside the Proposed LDP in 2022. One of the changes introduced by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, was the replacement of Action Programmes with the new-style Delivery Programmes. The overall intention remains the same, to set out how the Planning Authority proposes to implement the LDP. However, there is now a much greater focus on the delivery and implementation of the LDP.

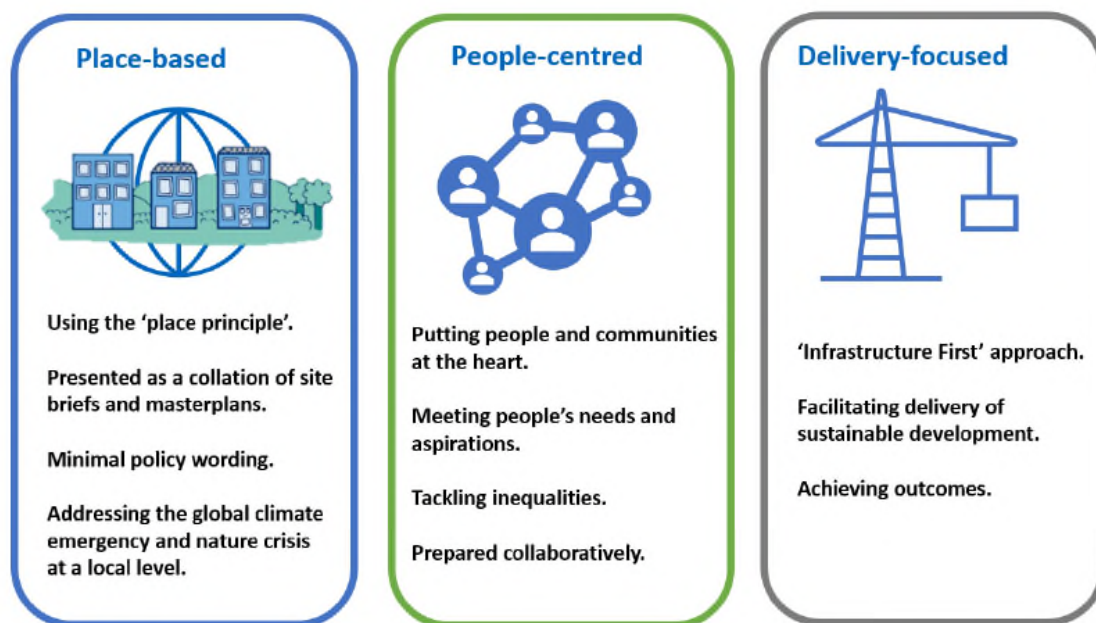
The Council was required to publish a Delivery Programme, to accompany the adopted LDP 2024, setting out the actions for implementing the proposals and policies within the LDP. The Delivery Programme is part of the project management toolkit, helping to focus development planning resources on delivery as well as plan making. It is instrumental to achieving an outcome focussed approach to development planning.

The updated Delivery Programme was published in January 2025, to reflect the contents of the adopted LDP 2024. Moving forward, there is a requirement to update the Delivery Programme, at least every 2 years. Work will commence on the next Delivery Programme shortly, at the outset of the plan preparation and run alongside the new style plan.

Scottish Borders New Style Local Development Plan

The next LDP will be quite different from adopted LDP 2024. It will establish a new long-term vision and strategy for the Scottish Borders, looking 20 years ahead, alongside the delivery of new infrastructure. The LDP will be place-based, people-centred and delivery-focused as outlined in Figure 2. It will likely contain fewer policies as NPF4 provides many detailed policies that are used through the development management process. In addition, climate change and the nature crisis will be core themes. As far as possible, development briefs and guidance will be included in the Plan. It will also be prepared alongside the Council's updated Local Outcome Improvement Plan (Community Plan).

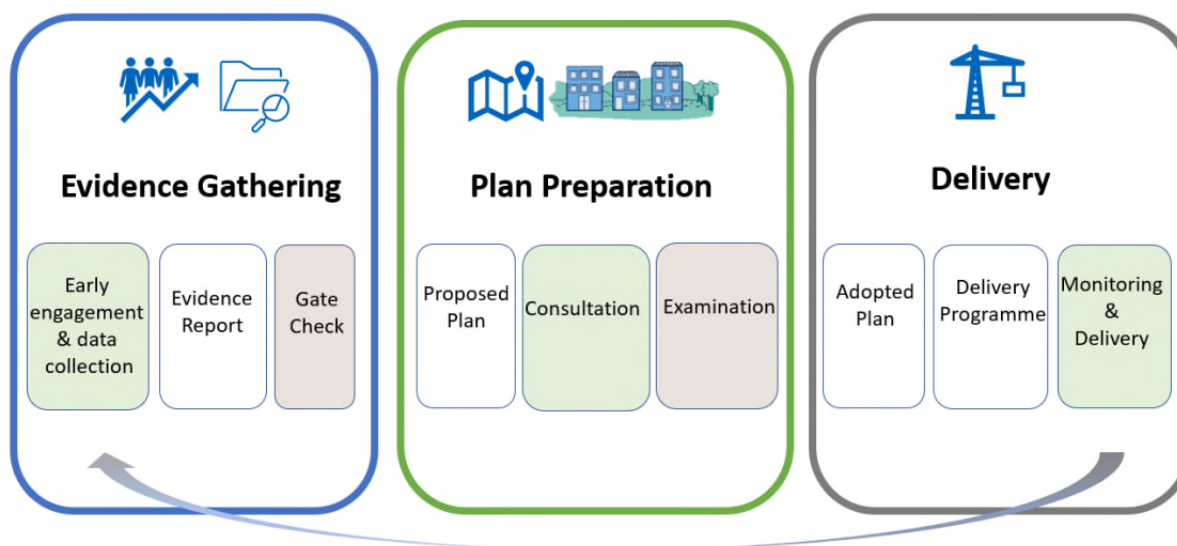
FIGURE 2: Key Expectations of Plans



(Source: Local development planning guidance, Scottish Government 2023)

There are three key stages to the new process of producing a Local Development Plan: Evidence Gathering, Plan Preparation and Delivery.

FIGURE 3: Local Development Plan Process - Overview



(Source: Local development planning guidance, Scottish Government 2023)

Stage 1: Evidence Gathering

- Preparation of the Development Plan Scheme (DPS) including Participation Statement. The DPS will be updated/reviewed at least annually.
- Early engagement with local communities and stakeholders including invitation to community groups to prepare a Local Place Plan.
- Preparation of the Evidence Report, providing the baseline data to ensure the LDP is based on sound evidence. Note that detailed policies and site proposals will not be included in the Evidence Report. Site assessments will take place later in the process i.e. during the Plan Preparation stage.
- Evidence Report will set out the Council's views on the matters that the new Plan will address and will be presented to Council in advance of submission to Scottish Ministers.
- Gate Check – Evidence Report is assessed by a person appointed by Scottish Ministers to determine if the Council has sufficient information gathered to inform the preparation of the new Local Development Plan. Only when it is confirmed that the Evidence Report is sufficient, the Council can then move forward to the next stage of Plan Preparation.

Stage 2: Plan Preparation

- Using the Evidence Report, the Council will develop a spatial strategy incorporating an infrastructure first approach and the spatial principles set out in NPF4.
- Issue a 'Call for ideas' to inform the new Plan. This will provide an opportunity for the public, communities and stakeholders to submit their comments and any sites.
- Local Place Plans produced will be considered in the preparation of the new Plan.
- It is at this stage that site assessment is undertaken. Undeveloped allocated LDP2 sites will require to be reviewed as part of this process, sites will no longer be automatically carried over into the new Plan.
- Preparation of the Delivery Programme.
- On publication of the new style Proposed Plan, there will be a 12-week statutory minimum consultation.
- Preparation of Summary of Unresolved Issues (i.e. representation/objections to the Proposed Plan).
- Examination of Proposed Plan, receipt of subsequent Examination Report, leading to modification of the Plan as necessary.

Stage 3: Delivery of the Plan

- Once adopted, the new Plan can be in place for 10 years.
- The Scottish Government anticipates that preparation should take 3-4 years. This then allows more time to focus on the delivery of the Plan.
- The delivery of the Plan will be assisted by the Delivery Programme which aims to set out the actions required to deliver the policies and proposals contained in the Plan. Review and renewal of the Delivery Programme will be ongoing once a plan is adopted, at least every two years.
- Monitoring of the Plan will form a feedback loop, providing data that will be needed for the evidence gathering for the amendment of the Plan or the next LDP.
- Regular monitoring of the LDP will assist in determining how successful the Plan is being delivered. A Housing Land Audit is to be prepared annually to assist in ascertaining the extent of the deliverable housing land supply.

LDP Timetable

The Development Plan Scheme is an important communication tool and assists in letting stakeholders know when and how they can get involved in the Plan and keep them updated on progress. Below is the timetable for bringing forward the new LDP.

Table 1: Local Development Plan – Timetable

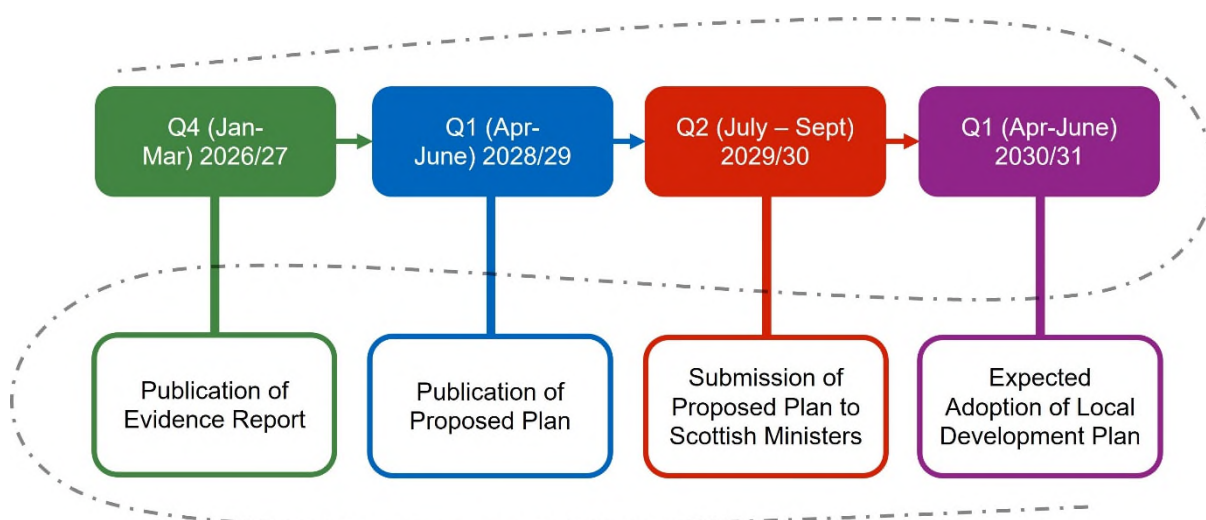
Key Stages	Timescales
Stage 1 – Evidence Gathering	
Early engagement and data collection - DPS and Participation Statement preparation and consultation - Formal launch of LDP3 (Invitation to prepare Local Place Plans, website content and mailing list)	Q4 (2024/25) to Q1 (2025/26) <i>[Jan 2025 – June 2025]</i>
Evidence Report - Gather and collate appropriate evidence - Assessments/appraisals undertaken, including SFRA - SEA scoping workshop/scoping report preparation - Submission of scoping report to consultation authorities - Collection of environmental baseline information - Engagement as part of the Evidence Report preparation - Prepare Evidence Report - Full Council approval of Evidence Report - Early engagement with SG/DPEA re gate check	Q1 (2025/26) to Q4 (2026/27) <i>[April 2025 – March 2027]</i> IN PROGRESS
Gate Check - Submit Evidence Report for Gate Check - Respond to any FIR/Hearing requests (where appropriate) - Publish final Evidence Report	Q1 (2027/28) <i>[April -June 2027]</i>
Stage 2 – Plan Preparation	
Informing the Proposed Plan - Develop a spatial strategy - Call for sites and ideas - Site assessments - Preparation of the Delivery Programme - Assess any local policies required - Prepare Environmental Report - Full Council approval of Proposed Plan and Delivery Programme	Q1 (2027/28) to Q4 (2027/28) <i>[April 2027 – March 2028]</i>
Proposed Plan – publication/consultation - Publication of Proposed Plan/Evidence Report/Delivery Programme together - 12-week minimum consultation	Q1 (2028/29) to Q4 (2028/29) <i>[April 2028 – March 2029]</i>

- Publish transport appraisal/other required assessments	2029]
Modification (where appropriate) - Modification of Proposed Plan (where appropriate) and preparation of Modification Report - Revise Environmental Report to reflect any modifications and undertake further consultation, if required.	Q4 (2028/29) to Q1 (2029/30) [Jan 2029 – June 2029]
Examination - Publish Proposed Plan and Modification Report (where appropriate) - Preparation of summary of unresolved issues (Schedule 3) - Examination of Proposed Plan - Modification of LDP if required - Amend Environmental Report following Examination - Submit amended Environmental Report to Scottish Ministers	Q2 (2029/30) to Q4 (2029/30) [July 2029 – March 2030]
Stage 3 – Delivery of the Plan	
Adoption and Publication - Adopt and publish LDP - Adopt and publish Delivery Programme (within 3 months of LDP adoption) - Prepare and publish SEA post adoption statement Monitoring and Delivery - LDP kept up under review/monitor policies and proposal - Evaluate implementation of policies and proposal - Delivery Programme must be kept up to date at least every 2 years - Housing Land Audit: prepare annually	Q1 (2030/31) – ongoing monitoring [April – June 2030]

Quarter 1: April – June; Quarter 2: July- September; Quarter 3: October – December; Quarter 4: January - March

The above timetable is based on best estimates at this early stage of the LDP process, and it is expected that the timetable will change throughout the LDP preparation process. All planning authorities are now starting work on a new style of Local Development Plan under the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 and there are several uncertainties regarding the length of time it will take to undertake and complete each stage, including the new gate check process. As a result, it is likely that in future updates to the DPS, the timetable will change and be updated to reflect the process. There is some form of acceptance that the transition to the new regulations and requirements, will take time, as all planning authorities embark on this process for the first time. The DPS will be updated annually, and this provides an opportunity to review and refine the timetable as required.

FIGURE 4: Local Development Plan Process - Timeline



Impact Assessments

The DPS is required to include an associated programme for work on the various impact assessments (refer to Table 2 below). These assessments are an integral part of the plan making process and should inform and be informed by the plan as it is prepared.

Table 2: Local Development Plan – Impact Assessments

Plan Stage	Strategic Environmental Assessment	Habitats Regulations Assessment	Flood Risk Assessment	Transport Assessment	Public Sector Equality Duty Assessment	Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment
Evidence Report	✓ (Scoping)		✓			
Plan Preparation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Proposed Plan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Adopted Plan	✓				✓	✓

(NB: The Public Sector Equality Duty Assessment and the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment are both incorporated into the Council’s Integrated Impact Assessment).

Participation Statement

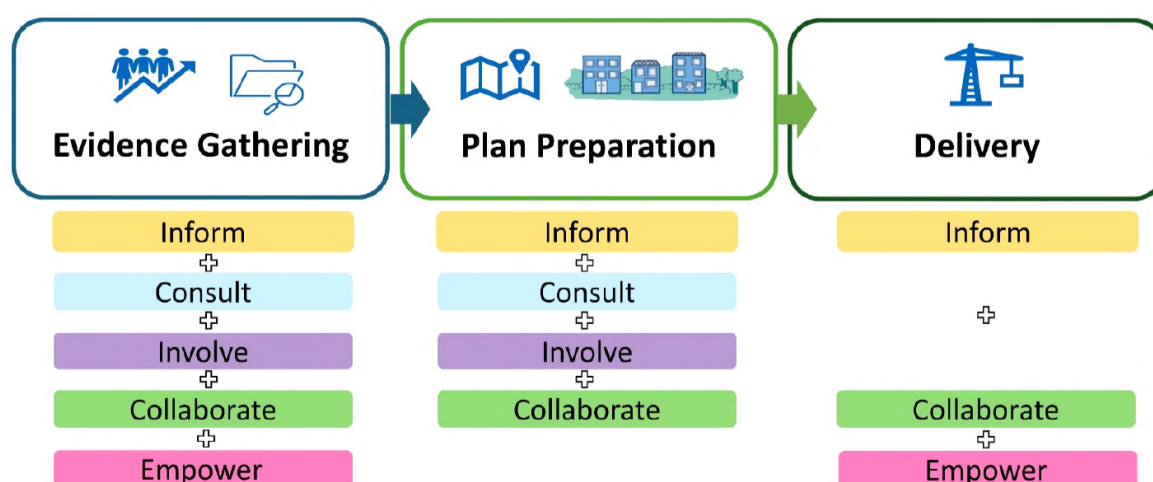
The Development Plan Scheme (DPS) and the Participation Statement are the first step of the Evidence Gathering stage. As part of preparing the DPS, planning authorities must seek the views of the public on what the content of the Participation Statement should be, and have regard to any views expressed. The Participation Statement contained within the Draft DPS 2025 was subject to public consultation from 25 March 2025 to 06 May 2025. Once the DPS was finalised, the Council invited comments on the DPS 2025 so that any comments received could be considered and incorporated into the DPS 2026.

Engagement, undertaken in line with statutory requirements, should be early, collaborative, meaningful and proportionate, with views taken into account. This Participation Statement sets out when engagement is to take place, with whom and the likely form it will take. Participation is important as it will help the Council prepare a plan that addresses the needs, aspirations and concerns of those who live, work, visit and invest in the area. The Council will engage widely throughout the LDP process to make sure everyone has the opportunity to influence the future of the Scottish Borders.

The Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 places an increased emphasis on up-front engagement in the LDP process, this includes the opportunity for community bodies to collaborate and produce their own Local Place Plans to express their aspirations for their areas. Registered Local Place Plans will be taken into account by the Council when preparing its new LDP. The Council has invested considerably in facilitating communities to prepare their own Local Place Plans. Further advice and information on how communities can prepare a Local Place Plan can be found at: <https://www.scotborders.gov.uk/plans-guidance/local-place-plans>

The Scottish Government has published guidance on [Effective Community Engagement in Local Development Plans](#) and Figure 5 shows the Local Development Plan preparation stages and levels of engagement.

FIGURE 5: Local Development Plan Preparation stages and levels of engagement



(Source: Effective Community Engagement in Local Development Plans guidance, Scottish Government 2024)

The Council will consider responses on the content of this Participation Statement and consider any views expressed taking account of time, staff resources and financial pressures.

How will we engage?

There will be a number of opportunities to get involved in the preparation of the LDP, and these will be promoted and advertised in a range of ways including the website, social media, posters, local newspapers, and the contact mailing list.

A variety of consultation engagement techniques will be used to ensure collaborative and meaningful engagement. These methods will vary depending on the stage of the LDP process, and the specific needs of different groups. These engagement methods could include:

1. **Drop-in sessions/exhibitions:** These will provide an opportunity to engage with communities and other stakeholders. The sessions will be focused on the main settlements, where most change is anticipated, the final locations will be finalised later in the LDP process.
2. **Workshops (in person and online):** These will be dependent upon the time of year, audience, availability and circumstances. It is likely that workshops will be tailored depending on the target audience.
3. **Online surveys:** Citizen Space or ArcGIS Survey123 will be used to conduct online surveys, to reach a wider audience. These will be developed at different stages of the LDP process, depending on the target audience.
4. **Story maps/ArcGIS Online:** Utilise digital techniques to display information and engage with audiences.
5. **Website, social media, posters, newspapers and other materials:** These will be used to keep everyone informed on the key stages of the LDP process, when engagement is taking place and how to get involved.

When will we engage?

Engagement will take place at key stages throughout the preparation of the LDP. These are highlighted in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Local Development Plan – Participation Statement

Stage	Purpose	How/Who?	Timescale
EVIDENCE GATHERING			
Stage 1: Development Plan Scheme (DPS), Participation Statement and early evidence gathering Engagement level: Inform Involve Collaborate	Set out the Council's programme for taking forward the new Local Development Plan and to seek views on the Participation Statement contained within. Let people know how they can get involved in the LDP process and keep them informed of progress. Early collaboration can build early partnerships that continue throughout the LDP process.	- Consult and engage with stakeholders on how they want to be involved in the preparation of LDP3 - Inform Community Councils of the publication of the DPS and the Draft Participation Statement - Issue a call to register for updates on the LDP (added to the LDP Mailing List) - Update the LDP webpages and publicise through social media, that views are sought on Draft Participation Statement - Report to Council on DPS and Participation Statement, after the public consultation - Publish finalised DPS and Participation Statement online - Place DPS in libraries	Q4 (24/25) - Q1 (25/26) [Jan 2025 – June 2025]
Stage 2: Invite communities to prepare Local Place Plans (LPPs) Engagement level: Inform Involve Empower	Formally invite and encourage community groups to prepare LPPs. The invitation will inform community bodies that they are invited to prepare LPPs and about the assistance available to them to prepare LPPs. Involve communities in the preparation of LPPs. Empower communities who will decide on the	- Inform community bodies that they are invited to prepare a Local Place Plan and the assistance/resources available to them in the preparation of LPPs - Publication of invitation on the website, social media channels and inclusion within the DPS - Raise awareness of the invitation through existing networks of community bodies, local stakeholders, and through the Community Engagement team	Q4 (24/25) - Q1 (25/26) [Jan 2025 – June 2025]

	content of the LPP they prepare.		
Stage 3: Preparing the Evidence Report Engagement level: Inform Involve	Inform and Involve communities in the creation of the Evidence Report. Engage with stakeholders to understand people's views on where they live.	• Early engagement with a range of consultation partners re data collection • Engage with community planning colleagues, to maximise engagement opportunities • Update the LDP webpages and publicise through social media that the Council are in the process of gathering and collating evidence in advance of publishing the Evidence Report • Involve and engage with the public through online surveys, in person exhibitions/drop-in sessions, to gather views on where they live and what they think needs improved. These will be tailored to the specific audience • Elected Members briefing, to inform elected members on the evidence gathering process and engagement • Inform and involve through a stakeholder/developer forum or briefing session • Community Council briefing session, to inform and involve as part of the evidence gathering process • Engagement with stakeholders on key topic papers • Engage with specific target groups including disability groups, Gypsy/Travellers and travelling show people, and children and young people • Approval of Evidence Report by full Council	Q1 (25/26) - Q4 (26/27) <i>[April 2025 – March 2027]</i> IN PROGRESS
Stage 4: Gate Check	Establish whether the Evidence Report	• Inform stakeholders and local communities that the	Q1 (27/28)

Engagement level: Inform Consult (if necessary)	contains sufficient information to prepare a LDP. Where disputes remain, different views may be considered to help establish whether the Evidence Report contains enough information. The appointed person leading the Gate Check may consult with certain stakeholders whether in writing or through a hearing to inform their assessment.	Evidence Report is at Gate Check • Update the LDP webpage and publicise through social media that the Evidence Report has been submitted to the DPEA (Planning and Environmental Appeals Division of the Scottish Government) • Inform stakeholders and local communities of the Gate Check outcome	[April -June 2027]
PLAN PREPARATION			
Stage 5: Preparing the Proposed Plan Engagement level: Inform Involve Collaborate	Inform and collaborate with communities and stakeholders in the preparation of the Proposed Plan. Have regard to registered Local Place Plans.	• Update the LDP webpage and publicise through social media that the Council have issued a “Call for Ideas” • Extend the “Call for Ideas” invitation to those parties on the mailing list, Community Council’s and other interested parties who may wish to contribute • Elected Members briefing session, to inform and involve • Engage with relevant stakeholders and consultees, as part of a review of existing LDP allocations • Engagement with Key Agencies and stakeholders on the development of policies and identification of sites • In preparing the Delivery Programme, engage with stakeholders that have responsibility for taking forward development proposals in the LDP	Q1 (27/28) - Q4 (27/28) [April 2027 – March 2028]

		Approval of Proposed LDP and Proposed Delivery Programme by full Council	
Stage 6: Proposed Plan and Proposed Delivery Programme consultation Engagement level: Inform Consult	Publicise and inform the Proposed LDP consultation, to allow formal representations to be made.	- Formal Representation Period (a minimum of 12 weeks) - Notice in Local Newspapers that the Proposed Plan and Proposed Delivery Programme have been published, where they are available to view, and that any person wishing to do so may make representation on the content of the Proposed Plan or Proposed Delivery Programme - Make available paper copies of the Proposed LDP for inspection at public libraries and at an office of the Planning Authority - Publish electronic version of the Proposed LDP online and other background papers - Key agencies, children and young people, disabled persons, Gypsies & Travellers, Scottish Ministers, other interested parties, neighbouring authorities and Community Councils will be informed of the publication of the Proposed LDP and details of the representation period - Update the LDP webpage and publicise through social media that the Proposed Plan and Proposed Delivery Programme have been published, where they are available to view, and that any person wishing to do so may make representation on the content of the Proposed Plan - Notify the owner, lessee or occupiers of sites and neighbouring land that may be significantly affected by development proposals	Q1 (28/29) - Q4 (28/29) [April 2028 – March 2029]

		- Engage with a variety of stakeholders, in a tailored approach, through on-line survey, workshops/drop-in sessions/exhibitions (in person and online) - Elected Members briefing session to inform of the consultation.	
Stage 7: Modifying the Proposed Plan (if required) Engagement level: Involve Collaborate	This stage is optional and may be an opportunity for the planning authority to involve communities by working with them to understand the issues raised and what an appropriate solution may be, including consideration of different views.	To be confirmed, if required further to the Proposed Plan consultation.	Q4 (28/29) - Q1 (29/30) [Jan 2029 – June 2029]
Stage 8: Examination Engagement level: Consult Inform	Inform interested parties of the Examination process. Reporter can consult with relevant stakeholders, where further information is required.	- Notify all contributing parties of the Examination process - Make available the Examination Report with Reporter Recommendations - Update the LDP webpage and publicise through social media that the Examination Report and the Proposed Modifications are available to view	Q2 (29/30) - Q4 (29/30) [July 2029 – March 2030]
Stage 9: Adoption of Local Development Plan Engagement level: Inform	Inform interested parties of the Adoption of the LDP	- Notify all parties who engaged/made a representation as part of the LDP process, informing of the adoption and where the LDP can be viewed - Publish statutory notices in local newspapers - Distribute paper copies of the Adopted LDP to libraries - Update the LDP webpage and	Q1 (30/31) [April – June 2030]

		publicise through social media that the LDP has been formally adopted • Send two copies of the adopted LDP to the Scottish Ministers	
Stage 10: Delivery Programme Engagement level: Inform Consult Collaborate	Publish the Delivery Programme within 3 months of LDP adoption, to inform people about the delivery of the LDP. The Delivery Programme aims to support the delivery of the LDP, planning authorities should collaborate with anyone named in it and those responsible for delivering it, including key agencies.	• Publish the Delivery Programme on the LDP webpages, alongside the Adopted LDP • Distribute paper copies to local libraries • Notify Community Councils and all interested parties of the publication	Q2 (30/31) [July – September 2030]

Who will be involved?

In the past some people have, for various reasons, not been able to, or have chosen not to get involved in the planning process. But it's vital we hear from a wide range of interests. Participation in the plan-making process is open to everyone, it is important that everyone gets involved with the process particularly at the early stages when ideas and options are being considered and evidence and data gathered.

There are a range of consultation partners who will be involved in the preparation of the Local Development Plan, this will include:

- General public, local organisations and community groups
- Community Councils
- Key agencies (*as defined by the Scottish Government*)
- Scottish Government
- Other agencies/organisations/infrastructure providers
- Local landowners, housebuilders and developers
- Local business and industry
- Disabled persons, children and young people, travelling show people and gypsy/travellers
- Adjoining local authorities

Mediation

Given the range of competing private, community, and government interests, conflict and differences of view are inevitable. Mediation can be used to help build bridges between stakeholders and explore, reduce, or resolve issues of dispute. It has potential to be used in development planning, as highlighted by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 and the subsequent [guidance on the promotion and use of mediation in the Scottish planning system](#) which has been developed by the Scottish Government. Mediation can also assist in opening up communication, improving relationships, and encouraging a way to move forward from disputes, however, this does not guarantee dispute resolution or an agreement between parties. It is a voluntary process and be facilitated either by an impartial third party or through informal mediation where planners and other relevant stakeholders take a mediation-style/facilitatory approach in their work.

How to stay up to date

View the Adopted Local Development Plan at:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/ldp2

Keep up to date with the next Local Development Plan at:

www.scotborders.gov.uk/ldp3

If you want to be involved in the LDP process you can
contact us by:

Emailing us at: localplan@scotborders.gov.uk

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