

Supporting statement for submission of **Stratherrick and Foyers Local Place Plan** to The Highland Council

31st May 2023 (updated 15th August 2023)

0. INTRODUCTION

This statement accompanies the submission of Stratherrick and Foyers Local Place Plan to The Highland Council by Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council.

The Local Place Plan covers the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council area.

The Local Place Plan and this statement have been prepared in accordance with:

- [Town and Country Planning \(Local Place Plans\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2021ⁱ](#)
- [Scottish Government Planning Circular 1/2022 Local Place Plansⁱⁱ](#)

The Local Place Plan can be seen online and downloaded [here](#).ⁱⁱⁱ

The Plan covers the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council area stretching from the south side of Loch Ness up into the Monadhliath mountains, including the villages and hamlets of Foyers, Boleskine, Inverfarigaig, Torness, Errogie, Gorthleck and Whitebridge. A map of the Community Council area can be seen in the Plan.

The plan should be read in conjunction with our [Community Action Plan](#)^{iv} published in 2022, which contains our aspirations and action priorities for the next 5-10 years. The purpose of the Local Place Plan is to help the community, public bodies, landowners, businesses and funders understand how those aspirations and actions will ‘land on the ground’, and consider how they can each best support positive change in the area.

The Local Place Plan is based on the vision and action areas contained in the Community Action Plan:

- *Vision:* Nurture our Environment | Sustain our Economy | Develop our Community
- *Action Areas:* Community Life | Outdoors, Nature and Heritage | Getting About | Our Homes (the Community Action Plan contains a fifth action area, Organising Ourselves, which is less relevant for the Local Place Plan).

This submission statement contains the following sections:

1. Contact details for the Community Council.
2. Evidence of meeting the requirements for consulting on the Local Place Plan.
3. Statement explaining of regard given to the Local Development Plan and National Planning Framework in preparing the Local Place Plan.
4. Explanation of the Community Council’s view of the level and nature of support for the Local Place Plan.
5. Statement explaining how the Local Development Plan should be amended.

1. CONTACT DETAILS

Sharon Ferguson, Secretary, Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council email.sfcc@aol.com

2. STATUTORY INFORMATION NOTICES

The draft Local Place Plan was emailed on 16th March 2023 to:

- Highland Councillors for Ward 12 (Aird and Loch Ness):
 - Chris Balance
 - Helen Crawford
 - David Fraser
 - Emma Knox
- Adjoining Community Councils:
 - Dores and Essich Community Council
 - Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council
 - Glenurquhart Community Council
 - Laggan Community Council
 - Strathdearn Community Council
 - Strathnairn Community Council
 - the draft Plan was also shared with development trusts in these areas

Those two emails constituted the Information Notices required to comply with Section 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Place Plans) (Scotland) Regulations 2021. Copies are attached to this statement as appendices.

3. REGARD GIVEN TO EXISTING PLANS

In preparing the Local Place Plan, the community had regard to the following plans:

- [National Planning Framework 4](#) (NPF4)^v
- [Adopted Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan](#) (2015)^{vi}
- [Proposed Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan](#) (2022)^{vii}
- [Adopted Highland-wide Local Development Plan](#) (2012)^{viii}
- [Stratherrick and Foyers Community Action Plan](#) (2022)^{iv}

As explained on page 4 of the Local Place Plan, the Plan reflects national planning policy aims of creating sustainable, liveable and productive places as expressed in NPF4, including Local Living / 20 Minute Neighbourhoods, alongside the community issues and aspirations summarised in the [Community Action Plan](#)^{iv} and the additional community engagement described in section 2 of the Local Place Plan.

4. SUPPORT FOR THE LOCAL PLACE PLAN

The community engagement process used to develop the Local Place Plan, along with the levels of participation, is explained in section 1 of the Plan. It combined the engagement undertaken for the Community Action Plan in 2021 (summarised on [this webpage](#)^{iv}) with additional community engagement for the Local Place Plan in 2022-23.

Two reports explain the two main stages of additional community engagement undertaken specifically for the Local Place Plan:

1. [Report of village-by-village community engagement events](#)^{ix} in November 2022.
2. [Report of consultation on the draft Local Place Plan](#)^x in March-April 2023.

The Community Council is satisfied that the Local Place Plan provides an accurate and evidence-based view of local residents' views.

5. AMENDMENTS TO THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Local Place Plan contains a number of suggestions for the Council to consider as it prepares the forthcoming Highland Local Development Plan. These are contained in the table on pages 46-48 of the Local Place Plan, together with reasons, as required by Scottish Government Circular 1-2022 'Local Place Plans', paragraphs 32-33^{xi}.

We trust that the Council will find our suggestions helpful, along with those from other communities, as it develops the Highland Local Development Plan. This is an opportunity to use planning policy and other levers to more effectively tackle issues to communities across the Highlands such as enabling more active travel and public/community transport, affordable housing for working people, and access to services, facilities and opportunities.

We would be happy to discuss our suggestions in more detail, and look forward to hearing how the Council will take account of our suggestions.

APPENDICES (OVERLEAF)

Information Notices emailed to local Councillors and adjoining Community Councils.

ⁱ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2021/353/contents/made>

ⁱⁱ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/circular-1-2022-local-place-plans/>

ⁱⁱⁱ https://www.nickwrightplanning.co.uk/my_uploads/SFLPP/SFLPP2023.pdf

^{iv} <https://www.communityfuture.net/community-action-plan>

^v <https://www.transformingplanning.scot/national-planning-framework/>

^{vi} https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/178/local_and_statutory_development_plans/202/inner_moray_firth_local_development_plan

^{vii} https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/178/local_and_statutory_development_plans/202/inner_moray_firth_local_development_plan

^{viii} https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/178/local_and_statutory_development_plans/199/highland-wide_local_development_plan

^{ix} https://www.nickwrightplanning.co.uk/my_uploads/SFLPP/SFLPP_events_Nov_2022.pdf

^x https://www.nickwrightplanning.co.uk/my_uploads/SFLPP/SFLPP_draft_plan_consultation_report_2023.pdf

^{xi} <https://www.gov.scot/publications/circular-1-2022-local-place-plans/>

Information Notice: Proposed Stratherrick and Foyers Local Place Plan

Sharon Ferguson <email.sfcc@aol.com>
Reply-To: Sharon Ferguson <email.sfcc@aol.com>

16 March 2023 at 08:06

Dear Councillors,

I am contacting you on behalf of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council. Our local community has prepared a draft Local Place Plan for the Community Council area, involving community engagement over the last few months.

The draft Stratherrick and Foyers Local Place Plan has now been published online for public consultation at www.communityfuture.net/local-place-plan until 17th April 2023. Please do share that link around your local networks in Stratherrick and Foyers, and encourage people to take a look and respond.

We are legally required to send each local authority Councillor for our Community Council area (which lies within Ward 12 Aird and Loch Ness) the information below, to comply with Section 4 of the [Town and Country Planning \(Local Place Plans\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2021](#). This email constitutes the 'Information Notice' to local Councillors required by those Regulations.

1. Proposed Local Place Plan

The draft Plan and facility to comment are online at www.communityfuture.net/local-place-plan, and can be downloaded as a PDF [here](#).

2. Brief description of the content and purpose of the proposed Local Plan Plan

The Plan covers the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council area to the south of Loch Ness. The area includes the settlements of Torness, Inverfarigaig, Foyers, Errogie, Gorthleck and Whitebridge plus extensive areas of hill and moorland to the east and south.

The primary purpose of the Plan is to provide an up-to-date statement of current issues we face and our aspirations for the next 5-10 years, to help public bodies, landowners, businesses and funders consider how they can best support positive change in the area.

There are four priority action themes which are derived from our Community Action Plan: Community Life, Outdoors and Nature, Getting About, and Our Homes.

The purpose of the Local Place Plan is to visualise how the actions in the Community Action Plan will land on the ground, and to influence planning policy and other public, private and community sector services and investment.

3. Information as to how and to whom any representations on the content of the proposed Local Place Plan should be made and the date by which they should be made

- If you have comments on the attached proposed Local Place Plan, please email them to Nick Wright nick@nickwrightplanning.co.uk or submit them via the consultation website: www.communityfuture.net/local-place-plan.
- The deadline for comments is **Sunday 16^h April 2023**.

We are sending similar Information Notices to our adjoining (active) Community Councils as required by the Local Place Plan Regulations.

Please let me or Nick Wright know if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

Sharon Ferguson
Admin
Stratherrick & Foyers Community Council
email.sfcc@aol.com

Information Notice: Proposed Stratherrick and Foyers Local Place Plan

Sharon Ferguson <email.sfcc@aol.com>

16 March 2023 at 07:29

Dear Community Councils and Development Trusts,

I am contacting you on behalf of Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council. Our local community has prepared a draft Local Place Plan for the Community Council area, involving community engagement over the last few months.

The draft Stratherrick and Foyers Local Place Plan has now been published online for public consultation at www.communityfuture.net/local-place-plan until 17th April 2023.

We are legally required to send each adjoining Community Council the information below, to comply with Section 4 of the [Town and Country Planning \(Local Place Plans\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2021](#). This email constitutes the 'Information Notice' to local Councillors required by those Regulations. Although not a legal requirement, we are also sending this Information Notice to each of the community development trusts in our adjoining Community Council areas.

1. Proposed Local Place Plan

The draft Plan and facility to comment are online at www.communityfuture.net/local-place-plan, and can be downloaded as a PDF [here](#).

2. Brief description of the content and purpose of the proposed Local Plan Plan

The Plan covers the Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council area to the south of Loch Ness. The area includes the settlements of Torness, Inverfarigaig, Foyers, Errogie, Gorthleck and Whitebridge plus extensive areas of hill and moorland to the east and south.

The primary purpose of the Plan is to provide an up-to-date statement of current issues we face and our aspirations for the next 5-10 years, to help public bodies, landowners, businesses and funders consider how they can best support positive change in the area.

There are four priority action themes which are derived from our Community Action Plan: Community Life, Outdoors and Nature, Getting About, and Our Homes.

The purpose of the Local Place Plan is to visualise how the actions in the Community Action Plan will land on the ground, and to influence planning policy and other public, private and community sector services and investment.

3. Information as to how and to whom any representations on the content of the proposed Local Place Plan should be made and the date by which they should be made

· If you have comments on the attached proposed Local Place Plan, please email them to Nick Wright nick@nickwrightplanning.co.uk or submit them via the consultation website: www.communityfuture.net/local-place-plan.

· The deadline for comments is **Sunday 16^h April 2023**.

We are sending similar Information Notices to our local Councillors as required by the Local Place Plan Regulations. Please let me or Nick Wright know if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

Sharon Ferguson

Admin

Stratherrick & Foyers Community Council

email.sfcc@aol.com