

# The Highland Community Planning Partnership

Chief Officers Group  
2<sup>nd</sup> February 2016

Agenda Item	8.
Report No	COG 05/16

## Local Development Plan Actions and Update

### Paper by Director of Development & Infrastructure, Highland Council

#### Summary

This paper seeks approval for a minor revision to the responsibilities of the Chief Officers Group and Community Planning Partnership Board in the preparation of Development Plans in Highland. Subject to approval of this revised approach, the report also presents Outcomes and Spatial Strategy for the West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan Main Issues Report for approval.

## 1. Background

- 1.1 In August 2015 the COG and CPP Board approved a new approach to the preparation of Development Plans which has introduced a more central role in key stages of the preparation of the Council's Development Plan and in coordinating their delivery to the preparation of Local Development Plans. This was seen as a way of coordinating the efficient use of public assets and services whilst planning for growth in line with the Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) and enabling communities.
- 1.2 The COG and CPP Board have since considered and endorsed a number of Local Development Plan and accompanying Action Programmes at various stages of preparation. This has brought to light an opportunity to refine the responsibilities of each group and take a proportionate approach to their input. This is partly a response to the close partnership working that is undertaken between officers of the Council and partner organisations, alongside the consideration of these plans by the COG and CPP Board.

## 2 What is proposed

- 2.1 In light of the above, we are recommending a less onerous approach to the consideration of Development Plans, with more simple and clearly defined responsibilities at each stage. This is described below and shown as track changes in Appendix 1.
- 2.2 For the Main Issues Report stage, we propose to concentrate on seeking approval for the overarching Outcomes that will be of greatest concern to the COG. The Main Issues Report and accompanying documents would be provided for noting only. We propose to no longer refer the Main Issues Report to the CPP Board.
- 2.3 For the Proposed Plan stage, we have removed the need to seek signatures from Chief Executives of member organisations. This is in line with the recommendation agreed by the CPP Board at their 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2015 meeting.

2.4 At the adoption stage, we propose to remove the referral of the Plan to the COG and CPP Board as changes will not be possible at that stage. These would be presented for noting only. For the Action Programme which is published within 3 months of the adoption of the plan, we would propose to seek advance comments from COG only, to update its contents from the Proposed Plan stage. The CPP Board would then be invited to endorse the final Action Programme and work towards its delivery.

### **3. West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan – Main Issues Report**

3.1 The Main Issues Report represents the first major consultation in the preparation of the West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan. It has been prepared in close collaboration with officers from partners organisations across Highland. The suggested Outcomes for the new plan are set out in Appendix 2 and are intended to become the stated Vision for the plan area, providing the foundation for the plan content but also any development or investment in the area. The Outcomes have been prepared by distilling a range of national and local outcomes including those taken from the Highland Single Outcome Agreement, Highland First 2015 and the retained elements of Working Together for the Highlands 2012-2017.

### **4. Next Steps**

4.1 Subject to approval of the revised approach, future plan stages will be referred to the COG and CPP as described in Appendix 1. The West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan in particular is being considered for approval by Area Committees in February and is scheduled to be published for public consultation as soon as practicable.

4.2 Finally, the Development Plans Newsletter (formally known as the Development Plan Scheme) is published by the Council on an annual basis and sets out timescales for the preparation of Local Development Plans. We propose to refer this to the COG and CPP Board as an Agenda Note to keep the groups well informed of the likely timescales for engagement.

#### **Recommendation**

The Chief Officers Group is asked to:

- i. Agree the revised responsibilities for COG and CPP Board engagement in endorsing Local Development Plans and Action Programmes in Highland, as set out in Appendix 1;
- ii. Agree the Outcomes and Spatial Strategy for the West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan Main Issues Report, enclosed at Appendix 2, and note the Main Issues Report and accompanying documents at [www.highland.gov.uk/whildp](http://www.highland.gov.uk/whildp); and
- iii. Note that the annual Development Plan Newsletter will be shared with the COG and CPP Board as an Agenda Note following its publication.

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Date: 25 January 2016

## Suggested Roles and Responsibilities of the Community Planning Partnership and Chief Officers Group in preparing Development Plans

### Tasks for Local Development Plans

Prior to consideration by Committee unless stated:	Chief Officers Group	Community Planning Partnership
<b>Main Issues Report</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and agree the proposed Outcomes and Spatial Strategy for the new Plan</li> <li>Review Preferred Options and background papers through weblink provided</li> </ul>	n/a
<b>Proposed Plan &amp; Proposed Action Programme</b> (9-12 months after MIR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and agree the Proposed Plan</li> <li>Review and agree Action Programme and consider implications for services / infrastructure, or Capital Programmes</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and agree the Proposed Plan and Action Programme to confirm ownership by CPP Board</li> </ul>
<b>Examination</b>	n/a	n/a
<b>Adopted Local Development Plan and Final Draft Action Programme</b> (within 3 months of LDP adoption)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note Plan for adoption</li> <li>Review and agree Final Action Programme and provide any updates necessary since Proposed Plan version</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Note Plan for adoption</li> <li>Review and Responsible organisations to provide comments on actions for delivery</li> <li>Review and agree implications for partners' investment priorities</li> </ul>

# West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan Main Issues Report

## Proposed Outcomes / Vision

### **ECONOMIC GROWTH ENCOURAGED**

The local economy is growing and diverse. West Highland has an enhanced reputation as a heritage tourism destination, as a base for marine renewables and as an effective place for working at home and with the land.

### **PLACES BETTER DESIGNED**

All places are better designed. Larger settlements and their centres have retained and expanded facilities. Their populations have increased because of this better access to facilities and because they are safe, attractive and healthy places to live.

### **RESOURCES MANAGED**

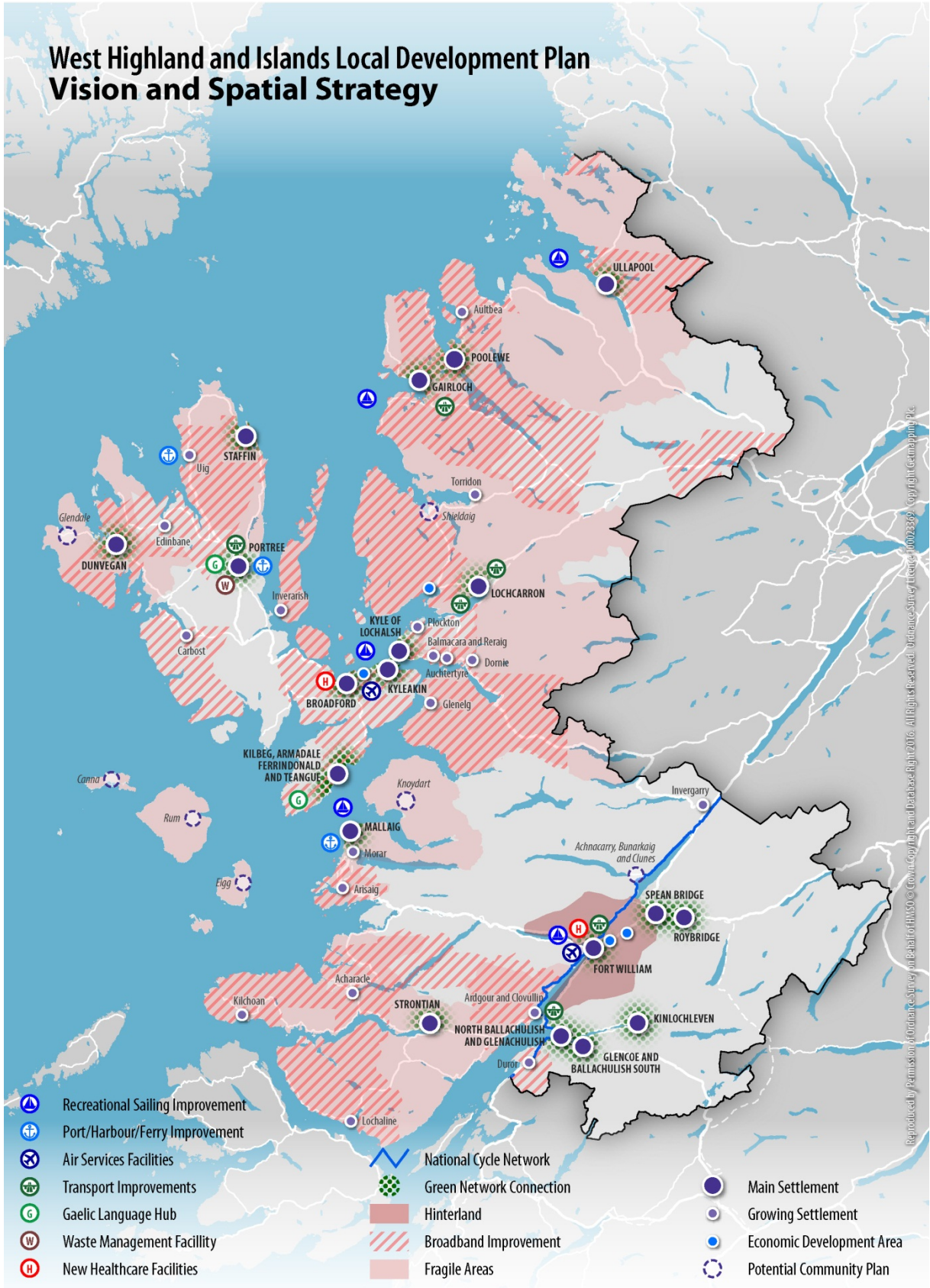
Resources are better managed:

- a higher proportion of journeys are shorter, safer, healthier, more reliable and made in a carbon efficient way;
- water, heat sources, land and buildings are used, sited and designed in a way that is carbon clever and respectful of heritage resources;
- waste is reduced, reused, recycled or treated as close to source as possible to generate renewable energy.

### **COMMUNITIES AND DEVELOPMENT SUPPORTED**

Communities are better supported to become more self reliant, to have more pride in their area and identity, to diversify their populations, and to have more control of local resources. Public agencies and other partners co-ordinate and optimise their investment in agreed growth locations.

# West Highland and Islands Local Development Plan Vision and Spatial Strategy



- Recreational Sailing Improvement
- Port/Harbour/Ferry Improvement
- Air Services Facilities
- Transport Improvements
- Gaelic Language Hub
- Waste Management Facility
- New Healthcare Facilities
- National Cycle Network
- Green Network Connection
- Hinterland
- Broadband Improvement
- Fragile Areas
- Main Settlement
- Growing Settlement
- Economic Development Area
- Potential Community Plan

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