



# annual report 2013

## Review of Strategic Development Plans in Scotland

In December 2013 the Scottish Government commenced its review of Strategic Development Plans. The review is intended to consider whether the current arrangements for, and approaches to, the new Strategic Development Plans are fit for purpose with the focus being on process and content with particular emphasis on key areas such as on housing and transport.

Scottish Ministers are keen to establish whether the new SDPs are meeting their aspirations, in particular are they 'concise and visionary' documents that set clear parameters for subsequent Local Development Plans and inform decision about strategic infrastructure investment.

Consultants have been appointed and their report and associated recommendations are expected to be submitted to Scottish Government in February 2014.



## Review of Current SDP

2013 has seen the Authority start to put in place a work programme and engagement mechanisms which will support the review of the current SDP with a view to the publication of SPD2 Main Issues Report in January 2015.



To this end the Authority has set up three forums: Environment; Development Land; and Economy, Infrastructure and Placemaking; which are aimed at engaging with a range of public and private sector stakeholders on key issues facing the Authority. In addition the Authority has reconstituted the GCV Housing Market Partnership to take forward work on the second Glasgow and Clyde Valley Housing Need and Demand Assessment.



In March 2013 the Authority published its latest Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement. A revised version will be published in March 2014. In August the Authority produced a newsletter which focused on the publication of two important new documents namely the GCV Forestry and Woodland Strategy and the GCV Green

Network Supplementary Guidance. Both documents are aimed at delivering a high quality environment for the GCV city region. The Authority would wish to thank Mr Paul Wheelhouse MSP, Minister for the Environment and Climate Change at the Scottish Government, for launching and supporting the GCV Forestry and Woodland Strategy.

In addition the GCVSDPA have commissioned and/or supported a number of studies which will assist in the development the Main Issues Report for SDP2 which is due for publication in January 2015. These studies include

- \* Economic Outlook and Scenarios for the Glasgow and Clyde Valley City Region 2013-2028 by Oxford Economics;
- \* GCV wide landscape capacity study for wind turbines jointly funded by SNH, the GCV Local Authorities and the GCVSDPA; and
- \* Firth of Clyde Forum study into the impact of rising sea levels in the Firth of Clyde.

As part of its consideration of the issues facing the city region the Authority agreed to undertake an early engagement consultation exercise in January 2014. This exercise will help inform the Authority as it starts to develop its Main Issues report for SDP2.

In addition this will be directly influenced by the planning policy agenda set by Scottish Government through the National Planning Framework 3 and revised Scottish Planning Policy both of which were consulted on during 2013.



Draft National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3) and Draft Scottish Planning Policy

An important consideration for the Authority in terms of its second SDP is the direction set out in the National Planning Framework for Scotland and Scottish Planning Policy both of which are published by the Scottish Government.

2013 saw the Scottish Government publish for consultation the Draft National Planning Framework 3 (NPF3) and Draft Scottish Planning Policy (SPP). At its meeting in June 2013 the Authority considered these documents. The main considerations for these documents are set out below. The Draft NPF3 focuses on four themes

- 1) A Low Carbon Place (infrastructure to enable transition to low carbon economy);
- 2) A Natural Place to Invest (environment protection, tourism and sustainable resource management);
- 3) A Successful, Sustainable Place (economic growth, sustainable settlements, regeneration, green networks, health and home);
- 4) A Connected Place (movement of people, digital links and connectivity).

These themes are broadly similar to the policy themes in the current GCV SDP and an opportunity exists for SDP2 to further align with NPF3. These themes will form the structure of the Authority's SDP2 early engagement consultation scheduled for publication in January 2014.

The Draft NPF3 also identifies a number of proposed National Developments relevant to the GCV city region.

These include

- National Cycling and Walking Network (which supports a Natural Place to Invest);
- Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Plan (which supports a Natural Place to Invest);
- Central Scotland Green Network (which supports a Natural Place to Invest);
- Ravenscraig (which supports a Successful, Sustainable Place);
- High Speed Rail (which supports a Connected Place);
- Glasgow International Airport Enhancement (which supports a Connected Place); and
- Grid Infrastructure Enhancements (which supports a Low Carbon Place).

The Draft NPF also sets regional spatial perspectives to guide implementation of the national strategy in different parts of Scotland. The key priority for the GCV city region "is to ensure that planning and placemaking works with the regeneration agenda to help deliver significant improvements to health, wellbeing and quality of life".

The GCV city region perspective recognises a number of key components which form part of the current SDP Strategy, namely:

- Clyde Corridor, including Clyde Gateway and Waterfront;

- Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Plan;
- Glasgow International Airport;
- investment in the rail network;
- continuing challenges are described around environmental quality includes references to nationally significant concentrations of vacant and derelict land; and
- social and health inequalities.

The Draft SPP is also intended to support the delivery of the Scottish Government national outcomes in respect on planning namely

- planning improves quality of life by helping to create well-designed sustainable places for Scotland's people;
- planning protects and enhances Scotland's built and natural environments as valued national assets;
- planning supports sustainable economic growth and the transition to a low carbon economy.

Consequently the key themes for the SPP are placemaking, sustainable economic growth and development and climate change.

Both the finalised NPF3 and SPP are due for formal publication by the Scottish Government in June 2014.





# GCVSDPA Joint Committee



Convener  
Harry Curran  
North  
Lanarkshire



Depute Convener  
James  
Scanlon  
Glasgow City



John  
Dempsey  
East  
Dunbartonshire



Alan  
Moir  
East  
Dunbartonshire



Tony  
Buchanan  
East  
Renfrewshire



Gordon  
McAskill  
East  
Renfrewshire



Elizabeth  
Cameron  
Glasgow City



Provost  
Michael  
McCormick  
Inverclyde



David  
Wilson  
Inverclyde



James  
Coyle  
North  
Lanarkshire



Terry  
Kelly  
Renfrewshire



Iain  
Nicolson  
Renfrewshire



Hugh  
Dunsmuir  
South  
Lanarkshire



Chris  
Thompson  
South  
Lanarkshire



Douglas  
McAllister  
West  
Dunbartonshire



Lawrence  
O'Neil  
West  
Dunbartonshire

## Key Stakeholder Presentations to the Authority

During 2013 the Joint Committee received presentations from Historic Scotland on the work of the agency and how it relates to the GCV city region and from Professor Leigh Sparks, Retail Studies Department, University of Stirling on current retail trends and the work of the Scottish Governments Town Centre External Advisory Group.







Priorities and Issues affecting the future work of the Joint Committee

The priorities for the future work of the GCVSDPA will be influenced, amongst other things, by

- \* ensuring the city region remains competitive through the delivery of the key spatial priorities of the Strategic Development Plan;
- \* the outcomes of its early engagement consultation exercise in January 2014;
- \* the outcome of the Scottish Government's review of Strategic Development Plans; and,
- \* the new planning context set out in NPF3 and Scottish Planning Policy.



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Glasgow and Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership Business Plan

In December 2013 the Authority endorsed the Green Network Partnership's Business Plan 2014/17 and related budget for 2014/15. The GCV Green Network is a core component of the SDP's Sustainable Development Strategy as well as the Central Scotland Green Network.

The Partnership's Programme Plan is split into two areas 'strategic' and 'geographic' project work.

The Strategic Projects for 2014/15 are:

- \* Green Network Opportunities Mapping update for SDP2; Green Network Indicators for Community Plans for all GCV local authorities;
- \* Green Network Opportunities Mapping for Active Healthy Lifestyles - for Glasgow City Council and West Dunbartonshire Council;
- \* Green Networks and Climate Change Adaptation - assistance in developing a 'Climate Ready Clyde' strategy for the whole GCV region; and
- \* Costing the Central Scotland Green Network' project - strategic project for the CSGN with implications for the whole GCV region.

The Geographic projects for 2014/15 are:

- \* Green Network Delivery Planning and Design Briefs - for Inverclyde Council, East Dunbartonshire Council, South Lanarkshire Council and North Lanarkshire Council, based on the 'hotspots' identified through Green Network Opportunities Mapping; and the
- \* Seven Lochs Wetland Park - a major wetland park proposal straddling the Glasgow/North Lanarkshire boundary.

