

**HIGHLAND COUNCIL**

**Committee:** Economy and Infrastructure

**Date:** 2 September 2020

**Report Title:** National Planning Framework 4

**Report By:** Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure and Environment

**1. Purpose/Executive Summary**

- 1.1 This report seeks approval of the Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy for Highland as part of the Council's submission to the Scottish Government's latest engagement on the emerging National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4). The deadline for submission is 18 September 2020.
- 1.2 The Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy (IRSS) is a long term vision to 2050, and identifies strategic development priorities, outcomes and delivery mechanisms. It is intended that the IRSS submitted to Scottish Government acts as the regional proposition for the future of the area on the national stage. In drawing up the Highland Council's proposition for the future, a wide range of partner organisations have been engaged and consulted.
- 1.3 The IRSS submission for approval comprises a vision, the mapped spatial strategy, and our proposed national developments and regional priorities. This shows how our communities and our area's unique set of assets and resources will make a vital contribution to national outcomes. In light of the importance of the Highland region to the wider Highlands & Islands and at the national level, this submission reflects a request for Highland to be recognised as a special case for investment and coordination.

**2. Recommendations**

- 2.1 Members are asked to **approve** the Highland Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy at **Appendix 1** for submission to Scottish Government to inform NPF4.

**3. Implications**

- 3.1 Resource: The production of Regional Spatial Strategies will be a new statutory responsibility, but ahead of that the work on the IRSS (as with other inputs to NPF4) are effectively balanced by largely placing 'on hold' the review of the Highland-wide Local Development Plan.

- 3.2 Legal: It is not anticipated that there will be any legal implications for the Council.
- 3.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural): NPF4 (including region-focussed content) will be consulted on by the Scottish Government. All consultation documents are made available on the internet with alerts placed on social media to raise awareness and reach out to all communities.
- 3.4 Climate Change/Carbon Clever: It is vital that NPF4 ensures that the planning system plays its full role in addressing climate change issues – and this is fundamental to our submissions on NPF4 including the Highland IRSS.
- 3.5 Risk: The delivery of the IRSS requires continued collaboration and coordination of local and national agencies to realise the ambition outlined in this paper.
- 3.6 Gaelic: The Highland IRSS acknowledges the diversity and culture of Highland and seeks celebration of that. For the document itself, Gaelic version of headings and sub-headings will be added before final publication and submission to Scottish Government..

#### **4. Background to the Highland Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy**

- 4.1 At its meeting on 1 July 2020, the Committee received a report on National Planning Framework (NPF4) and homologated the Council's submissions that had been made at the earlier 'Call for Ideas' stage in spring. Members were provided with an update on the preparation of an Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy (IRSS) for Highland and Committee agreed the next steps for its preparation, including a Member Workshop, leading to this report presenting the IRSS for Highland. In summary, the Highland IRSS has been developed as part of the Council's package of submissions on NPF4 and this included the following steps:
- initial draft IRSS content was pulled together in collaboration with a cross-services group of officers, to form a starting point for further work;
  - a workshop was held on 9 March 2020 to introduce Members to the work and seek input;
  - the initial draft was shared with a range of internal and external partners via our consultation portal and feedback invited;
  - the IRSS was further developed alongside completion of our other submissions on NPF4;
  - video produced, with assistance from Scottish Government and their consultants Kevin Murray Associates, to promote and share the IRSS work;
  - participation in workshops led by Kevin Murray Associates to share IRSS experiences across Scotland;
  - report to ECI Committee 1 July 2020;
  - virtual themed workshops with broader range of internal and external partners;
  - virtual workshop with Members on 10 July 2020 – including themed and area-based discussions; and
  - further development and refinement of Highland IRSS in preparation for ECI Committee on 2 September 2020.

4.2 The enclosed report at **Appendix 1** represents the proposed IRSS submission to Scottish Government and, in preparing this, officers have fully considered the feedback received from partners and elected members during the IRSS workshops. A summary of key points raised and how we have responded is as follows; this includes indication of any key updates required to the details of the candidate National Developments which were previously agreed by Committee in July:

KEY POINT	RESPONSE
To recognise Highland as a special case for investment and coordination at the national level, particularly to address rural fragility and scale of infrastructure.	We have inserted wording in the Introduction section which reflects this request
The need to prioritise the maintenance of our existing network of infrastructure and the soecial case for Highland's infrastructure assets/costs	This has led to changes to the vision statement and the vital lifeline role of our infrastructure for Highland, but also the wider Highlands and Islands region
Reference to A9 north of Inverness	Included on spatial strategy and reference in infrastructure section. * new candidate national development

4.3 As a reminder, the statutory duty to produce RSS has not yet been enacted and there is therefore no formal legislative requirement to guide this *Indicative* RSS stage. Planning authorities have had considerable leeway to decide for themselves how best to develop their iRSS to allow them to ensure their regional priorities can be reflected in NPF4, albeit timescales have been relatively short – particularly given the challenges presented by the coronavirus pandemic that has coincided with IRSS preparation. The legislation states that the long-term spatial strategies of RSS should include a map or diagram. Scottish Government anticipates that early IRSS diagrams could be supported by a brief supporting narrative and that this would suffice to help inform the preparation of the draft NPF4. Proportionality and a focus on key issues and priorities is encouraged by Scottish Government.

## 5. Next Steps

5.1 The Scottish Government will take into account the IRSS submissions to this NPF4 engagement and then expect to lay the Draft NPF4 before Parliament and open it for consultation in Autumn 2021. As well as submitting the Highland IRSS to Scottish Government by the deadline we will publish it on our website and actively promote it through further engagement opportunities on NPF4 and with partners; through this, it can help focus action, coordination and lobbying. Consultation on Draft NPF4 next year will provide opportunity to seek changes, if any, that are identified in the interim period as important and necessary. Beyond that, once the statutory duty to produce RSS has been enacted, the Council will produce a Regional Spatial Strategy, in line with legislative requirements and having regard to guidance to be produced by Scottish Government, which will be taken into account by future National Planning Frameworks.

Designation: Executive Chief Officer – Infrastructure and Environment

Date: 18 August 2020

Author: Scott Dalgarno, Development Plans Manager

## Background Papers:

The Highland Council's earlier submissions to Scottish Government on NPF4, available on our website at:

[https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/178/local\\_and\\_statutory\\_development\\_plans/927/national\\_planning\\_framework](https://www.highland.gov.uk/info/178/local_and_statutory_development_plans/927/national_planning_framework)

# Highland Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy to 2050 (the Highland IRSS) – September 2020

## 1) Introduction

As part of the Highland Council response to the ongoing [Scottish Government NPF4 review](#), the Council has developed an **Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy (iRSS)**. This iRSS showcases the unique set of assets and resources that the Highlands will contribute to the national setting and how Highland Council will collaborate with the Scottish Government and partner agencies at a national and local level to deliver on strategic national development priorities, national outcomes and delivery mechanisms to achieve a long-term sustainable vision for Highland in the period to 2050.

This document contributes to a collection of responses prepared by the Council as part of the ongoing [Scottish Government NPF4 review](#). All responses have been prepared in consultation and engagement with Highland Elected Members, neighbouring authorities and partner organisations. These documents include [Highland NPF4 Call for Ideas Response](#), [Candidate National Development Ideas](#), [NPF4 Policy Topic Response](#) and the [Council Housing Technical Discussion Paper Response](#). Together with this IRSS, these form a comprehensive and robust statement and vision for the Highlands future for the next 30 years.

All the suggested candidate National Developments (cND) are considered critical to Highland as a delivery mechanism for addressing the wider regional priorities and are therefore deserving of enactment as National Developments in their own rights. Nevertheless, irrespective of their long-term national status, the Council will work in partnership to actively promote and deliver on each and every cND at a regional level.

The iRSS – and the Council's other NPF4 responses – have been prepared during the COVID19 pandemic, which has resulted in a change of focus, with greater emphasis being placed on the delivery of the Council's emerging economic recovery plan. Investment in communities and creation of sustainable places are critical elements of the long-term economic recovery of Highland. The iRSS has also been developed to align with the Council's other Corporate Plans and the emerging Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan (IMFLDP).

Highland and particularly Inverness City are considered to offer a vital role across Scotland in relation to their function as a regional hub for a multitude of island and remote communities. It is imperative that Highland assets and services are recognised for their wider regional and national importance, and, as such, that they are well maintained, modern and fit for purpose.

It is felt that the interrelationship between the area's communities and the wider Highlands & Islands justifies the Highland region specifically being recognised at the national level as a special case for investment and coordination. In doing so, the IRSS emphasises the opportunity for local and national agencies to work together to address rural fragility and repopulation, to modernise and maintain the significant range of assets and to protect, enhance and develop the area's unique set of assets and resources.

The Highland iRSS outlines the Council's Vision, a mapped Spatial Strategy, Highland's proposed national developments and the regional priorities broken down into five distinct themes.

## **2) Vision and Spatial Strategy**

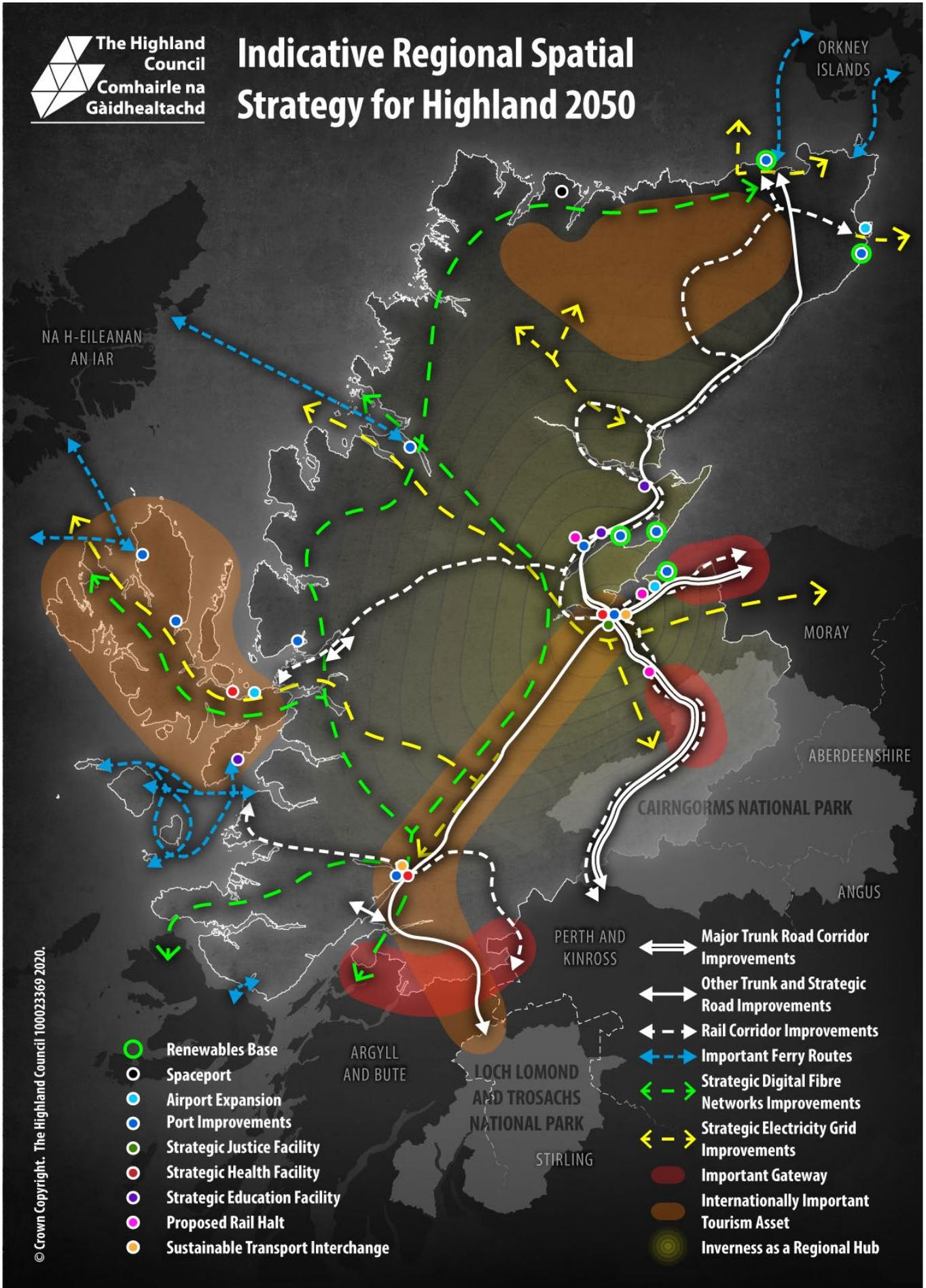
*By 2050, Highland will be an exemplar carbon action region by optimising its unique, rich and diverse assets to lead national emissions reduction targets. Our unmatched land, coast and water environment and natural, built and cultural heritage – which define the character of Highland – will be safeguarded, enhanced and internationally celebrated.*

*Highland will have transitioned to a green, circular economy which maximises the value of existing core industries, helps attract new and emerging sectors and diversifies jobs and skills. This will maintain and enhance Highland's role as a global centre of excellence for renewable energy innovation and generation and one of the most attractive sustainable leisure, recreation and tourism destinations in the world.*

*Highland communities will function as networks of locally resilient and self-supporting places with equality of access to housing, education, healthcare, work, food, energy, transport, culture, recreation, leisure and virtual connections. Optimising how our existing infrastructure supports and sustains the Highland population and the wider Highlands & Islands region will be an ongoing priority.*

*In delivering this vision, we will collaborate with our communities and partner agencies, recognising the need for a just transition which is fair and equal.*

# Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy for Highland 2050



### 3) National, Regional & Strategic Priorities

This section of the report highlights how the headline national outcomes can be addressed through the Highland IRSS. We are aware that our IRSS priorities cut across a number of the themes that Scottish Govt have sought feedback on and further commentary on how Highland developments, priorities and potential investments will contribute to these is set out below. In addition, we set out a table at the end of this document which captures a summary of the relationship between the Highland candidate national developments and national outcomes and priorities.

- **What development will we need to address climate change?**

Highland Council fully acknowledges the impacts of the changing climate and is already proactively responding to it by changing the way it operates. The area has already noted the long-term trend of warming temperatures, shifting rainfall patterns and rising sea levels, which has resulted in a highly variable weather pattern – hot, cold, wet and dry – that has proved challenging in recent years.

Corollary, in May 2019 the Council declared a Climate and Ecological Emergency which commits the Highland Council to becoming a net zero carbon region by 2025. This declaration has redefined the Council approach to future planning and is now embedded at the heart of all services; as even reaching the target in the declaration, the Council accepts the climate is going to change and they must prepare to adapt to this evolving situation.

As the IRSS extends well beyond the Council Emergency declaration timeframe, it is envisaged that Highland will transition to become an exemplar carbon action region. Highland will continue to play a disproportionately significant role in delivering the national requirements for climate change due to the area natural assets, renewables generation capacity and the qualities and characteristics that uniquely define the region - abundant forestry and peatlands. It is hoped that a more robust national policy context for renewables can be provided to assist Highland in refining its strategy for this regionally important industry and the contribution this makes to a broad range of national outcomes.

It is further contended that it is unrealistic to expect that Scotland can meet its target of a net zero country by 2045 without Highland's contribution – the Highland area is therefore of fundamental importance to this agenda.

However, to deliver Highland as an exemplar carbon action region, the candidate National Developments (cND's) all require effective local networks which inter-connect seamlessly to the wider Highlands & Islands region, and national and international networks to ensure a sustainable production, distribution and consumption of resources and services. Therefore, the proposed cND's which most closely contribute to addressing climate change are:

<b>cND01</b>	Rail Infrastructure Improvements
<b>cND02</b>	Trunk Road Improvements
<b>cND03</b>	National Grid Improvements

cND05	Local Resilient Networks
cND10	Digital Network

- **How can planning best support our quality of life, health and wellbeing in the future?**

In recent years across Highland, like the rest of Scotland, there has been significant expansion in urban living across our towns and city, and a gradual but persistent decline in the population of the rural areas. This population change has been driven by changing lifestyles and social attitudes, with more people seeking to live in closer proximity to retail, services, employment and education as well as leisure, culture and healthcare facilities, which in turn allows them to spend less time travelling and more time with family and friends. Forecasts also indicate that parts of Highland will be disproportionately affected by the combination of ageing population and out-migration of young people and will require particular attention.

However, the Council acknowledges that the character and fabric of existing rural communities are integral to the Highland identity and are therefore keen to preserve and build upon the strengths that bind these communities together. In this regard, the Council notes and supports the Scottish Government’s new drive for rural repopulation and the role that Highland can play in fulfilling this outcome. Indeed, the Council believes that this ambition points to the importance of Highland being specifically recognised at the national level as a special case for investment and coordination. These combined measures will further work to reduce rural fragility across the region and support the national network of rural communities. Furthermore, it will support the work with partners to ‘sell’ the Highland Brand to attract high quality employers and employees and strong tourism.

To match this change in attitude and as the Council work to deliver the iRSS Vision, Highland is committed to working with all communities to transition them to be locally resilient areas, which have sufficient and quality access to both virtual and digital services. This is whilst safeguarding and growing local access to quality, appropriate and affordable housing, educational and medical facilities, appropriate employment opportunities, food and energy production, and a range of transport links and leisure & cultural facilities.

Currently, alongside a network of towns which provide key local services, a number of strategic services and facilities are located within Inverness city which acts as an important regional hub for the wider Highlands and Islands region. Meanwhile, virtual connections are growing increasingly important for modernising access to services and facilities, and, with the distances between many Highland communities, the opportunities and potential benefits are significant. We will therefore work to ensure equality of access to vital services across all our communities; whilst at the same time reinforcing and growing the unique characteristics of individual localities.

Locally produced and sourced food and the generation of cost-effective clean renewable energy via local energy networks will contribute significantly to the national outcomes for

quality of life, whilst also helping to address the high level of food and fuel poverty currently experienced in some of Highland.

Highland is judged to be well placed to deliver on this and have examples of communities that are finding creative solutions to unlocking local access to services. In addition, in recent years the Highland Council has strived to improve our engagement and empowerment of local communities in Place Planning.

We believe achieving this will result in sustainable growth in line with our climate ambitions whilst also achieving alignment with Public Health Scotland priorities and delivering Scottish Government National Outcomes.

The candidate National Developments (cND's) that most closely align with this topic are:

<b>cND04</b>	Regionally Important Facilities
<b>cND05</b>	Local Resilient Networks
<b>cND06</b>	Long Distance Cycling and Walking Network
<b>cND07</b>	High Quality Housing
<b>cND10</b>	Digital Network

- **What does planning need to do to enable development and investment in our economy so that it benefits everyone?**

With its internationally renowned natural and heritage resources, Highland will become increasingly pivotal in Scotland's transition to an environmentally sustainable economy.

At present, the economy in Highland is relatively diverse. Many of the key sectors are well established and have contributed significantly to the Scottish economy, including land and marine management supplying the food and drink industry, tourism, life sciences, the creative industries, energy, business services and engineering. However, each sector faces both opportunities and threats and support is required to retain what we have and allow the sectors to continue to grow.

Highland region will aim to capitalise on opportunities to further diversify the economy, and support it with a high-performing digital network. This will reinforce stability and productivity, giving rise to a culture of innovation, research and development linked with academia and training. The profile of Highland will contribute to increased international trade and attract inward investment.

Highland's capability to generate vast amounts of renewable energy will form a basis for the transition to a green, circular economy which maximises the value of Highlands core and emerging industries and minimises the environmental footprint of the area's transport, waste and energy usage.

The Inner Moray Firth region could be a leading contender for being awarded freeport status as part of the UK Government's post-BREXIT strategy. It is perfectly placed to support

the pipeline of multi-billion pound offshore wind projects which lie off the coast and secure an economic and social legacy for the area. Freeport is believed to be able to strengthen supply chains, attract new investment and regenerate the area. However, a coordinated and innovative approach between all public and private sectors is required to maximise the benefits.

The Highlands is one of the most recognisable and reputable tourism destinations in the world and attracts an increasing number of domestic and international visitors. To ensure the highest possible experience, value and longevity of sustainable tourism for the region and Scotland, a coordinated approach is required for managing and supporting the sector in the most sustainable way. The challenge is to support innovative infrastructure improvements which will support the continual growth in sustainable leisure, recreation and tourism and provide high-quality year-round employment opportunities.

With Scotland looking to enhance its role in the space industry, the characteristics of Highland make it ideally placed to play a key part in evolving the industry. Land at north west Sutherland is at the forefront of international interest and investment and planning permission has recently been granted to develop Europe’s first space hub. This will help to assert Scotland’s position in the wider space industry and maximise opportunities for high-tech, skilled jobs and training opportunities.

At a local level, the economic proposition for Highland will provide opportunity to enhance equality across the region by boosting employment opportunities, regenerating towns and villages and tackling the demographic challenges of an ageing and shrinking population.

The candidate National Developments (cND’s) that most closely align with this topic are:

<b>cND01</b>	Rail Infrastructure Improvements
<b>cND02</b>	Trunk Road Improvements
<b>cND04</b>	Regionally Important Facilities
<b>cND05</b>	Local Resilient Networks
<b>cND06</b>	Long Distance Cycling & Walking Networks
<b>cND07</b>	High Quality Housing
<b>cND08</b>	Sea Ports
<b>cND09</b>	Strategic Airport & Service Enhancements
<b>cND10</b>	Digital Network
<b>cND11</b>	Emerging Space industry funding, support and development
<b>cND12</b>	Net-zero Tourism Development Infrastructure Plan

- **How can planning improve, protect and strengthen the special character of our places?**

Highland provides a unique and unparalleled opportunity to provide an environment which can be celebrated nationally in terms of its special character and its ability to offer resources for the delivery of carbon reduction in support of wider national interests. It has a myriad of unmatched land, coast and water environment and natural, built and cultural heritage assets.

Part of Highland's special character is the diversity amongst its constituent areas in terms of landscape, culture and history. Land ownership and the consequent pattern of land use and management has had a historical influence on this diversity too.

All these diverse parts of Highland come together to offer a Highland brand that is significant for the local, regional and national economies in terms of what it can offer for sustainable tourism, sustainable energy and the attractiveness to inward investors as a place to live and work. The management, protection and restoration of Highland's unique natural assets/environment can continue to ensure its contribution to national economy and outcomes. Particular opportunities in Highland are carbon reduction and storage, the protection and restoration of our peatland resource, and the reforestation of Scotland.

One other example of this is the candidate national development for the potential World Heritage Site at the Flow Country which has been approved by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport to proceed to the next stage. This potential accolade presents an opportunity for part of Highland's natural environment to be internationally recognised, thereby preserving this incredible environment for future generations.

The special character of Highland will continue to support places and communities and it will play a key role in delivering the Place Principle, making our communities places where people want to live and ensuring the long-term economic development of Highland. It is vital therefore that the Highland Council and the Scottish Government work in collaboration with all relevant partners to ensure that our communities feel engaged in shaping their future and are empowered to benefit from the opportunities provided by the unique special character of Highland.

The candidate National Developments (cND's) that most closely align with this topic are:

<b>cND13</b>	World Heritage Site for the Flow Country
<b>cND14</b>	The land management, protection and restoration of our natural and bio-diversity assets, including our peatland areas and reforestation of Scotland

- **What infrastructure do we need to plan and build to realise our long-term aspirations?**

Effective infrastructure is fundamental for a thriving economy, for communities, and to address climate change. Highland partners understand the need to be proactive and innovative in addressing these issues primarily by making optimum use of our existing infrastructure and assets while supporting careful and essential investment in new infrastructure.

The unique character and scale of the Highlands and Islands region provides significant challenges for the delivery and maintenance of infrastructure, particularly transport. But this also means ongoing investment in lifeline connections is essential for equality of access to services and rural repopulation. Due to the important inter-relationship with our neighbouring authorities we have engaged them in the discussion around managing our shared infrastructure interests and assets, and how these affect the gateways into Highland.

The Council strongly recognises the value of improving the entire transport system to accommodate a modal shift to a fully integrated sustainable travel network serving all communities, regions and traveller type. However, given the sheer number of local and site specific interventions required right across the region, and across the full range of transport modes, this aspect is not illustrated on the iRSS Spatial Strategy Map.

Alongside, Highland is seeking to develop existing ports to accommodate off-shore renewables and by encouraging more freight to transition from road to rail, and to encourage sustainable economic growth in a way that optimises energy systems and minimises the need for additional grid improvements.

One of the key candidate national developments for infrastructure is for our communities to function as locally resilient and self-supporting networks. Along with identifying and prioritising opportunities for vacant and derelict sites, and increasing the density of housing developments, these combined measures will enable the Council and partner agencies to better cluster facilities and services and improve ease of access.

Alongside, the IRSS promotes a high-performing digital and virtual network as a modern standard utility, both to reduce the need to travel, and to enable equality of access to services and business opportunities. The ongoing pandemic has only reinforced the need to reduce the need to travel physically to access these services and facilities. Many areas of Highland suffer from poor connectivity both digitally and physically and so the potential benefits and the necessity of prioritising these digital innovations is clear. This could include different technical solutions, for example, satellite and mobile solutions may help to address "notspots".

Highland Council promotes the role of the Local Development Plan Delivery Programme as being of primary importance to delivery of affordable and timely services and infrastructure. This approach requires local and national partners to engage with and collaborate on future

collective investment across all communities. The Council’s recent experience in delivering the FW2040 Masterplan and delivery programme has highlighted good progress in delivering a joined-up approach to place planning and infrastructure planning and investment. In the future, the Council will seek to build upon this approach of working more collaboratively with communities. However, the FW2040 experience has also highlighted a fragmented approach to the coordination of investment. It is vital that NPF4 plays its role in addressing this lack of coordinated investment across Scotland, particularly in the context of the Place Principle.

Moreover, infrastructure considerations need to reflect more than just the typical focus in the past of road and rail assets, to also include blue and green infrastructure, active travel and digital. In Highland’s instance, Inverness has been developed as a principal hub and economic driver of the region and to ensure the continued economic prosperity of the entire region, all of the Council’s candidate National Developments (cND’s) are considered necessary:

<b>cND01</b>	Rail Infrastructure Improvements
<b>cND02</b>	Trunk Road Improvements
<b>cND03</b>	National Grid Improvements
<b>cND04</b>	Regionally Important Facilities
<b>cND05</b>	Local Resilient Networks
<b>cND06</b>	Long Distance Cycling & Walking Networks
<b>cND07</b>	High Quality Housing
<b>cND08</b>	Sea Ports
<b>cND09</b>	Strategic Airport & Service Enhancements
<b>cND10</b>	Digital Network
<b>cND11</b>	Emerging Space industry funding, support and development
<b>cND12</b>	Net-zero Tourism Development Infrastructure Plan
<b>cND13</b>	World Heritage Site for the Flow Country
<b>cND14</b>	The land management, protection and restoration of our natural and bio-diversity assets, including our peatland areas and reforestation of Scotland

## Appendix 1 - Highland priorities/devs and national outcomes

Highland IRSS: Strategic Development Priority (candidate National Development - cND)	Highland IRSS Themes to which the cND is particularly relevant					High level outcomes to be addressed by NPF4, to which the cND contributes					National Outcomes to which the cND contributes								Other priorities and outcomes to which the cNDs contribute					
	Climate Change	Quality of Life, Health & Wellbeing	Economy	Special Character	Infrastructure	Meeting housing needs	Improving health & wellbeing	Increasing population of rural areas	Improving equality and eliminating discrimination	Reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases	Positive effects for biodiversity	Children & Young People	Communities	Culture	Economy	Education	Environment	Fair Work & Business	Health	Human Rights	International	Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS</a></li> <li><a href="#">SCOTLAND'S PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITIES</a></li> <li><a href="#">HIGHLAND OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2017-2027</a></li> </ul>	
<b>(cND01) Rail Infrastructure Improvements</b>																							<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div> <div style="margin: 0 5px;">↑</div> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div> </div> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 5px 0;">To follow</p> <div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div> <div style="margin: 0 5px;">↓</div> <div style="border-left: 1px solid black; border-right: 1px solid black; width: 100%; height: 100%;"></div> </div>	
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<b>Highland IRSS: Strategic Development Priority (candidate National Development - cND)</b>	<b>Highland IRSS Themes to which the cND is particularly relevant</b>					<b>High level outcomes to be addressed by NPF4, to which the cND contributes</b>						<b>National Outcomes to which the cND contributes</b>										<b>Other priorities and outcomes to which the cNDs contribute</b>		
	Climate Change	Quality of Life, Health & Wellbeing	Economy	Special Character	Infrastructure	Meeting housing needs	Improving health & wellbeing	Increasing population of rural areas	Improving equality and eliminating discrimination	Reduction of emissions of greenhouse gases	Positive effects for biodiversity	Children & Young People	Communities	Culture	Economy	Education	Environment	Fair Work & Business	Health	Human Rights	International	Poverty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">SCOTLAND'S PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITIES</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">HIGHLAND OUTCOME IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2017-2027</a></li> </ul>	
<b>(cND11) Emerging Space industry funding, support and development</b>																							<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border-top: 1px solid black; width: 100%;"></div> <div style="margin: 0 10px;">↑</div> <div style="margin: 0 10px;">↓</div> </div> <p style="margin: 0;">To follow</p>	
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