

Supporting statement for submission of **Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Local Place Plan** to The Highland Council

23rd December 2024

0. INTRODUCTION

This statement accompanies the submission of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Local Place Plan to The Highland Council by Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council.

The Local Place Plan can be seen online and downloaded at bit.ly/FAGLPP and the appendices at bit.ly/FAGLPPappendices (that link is also contained in the main Local Place Plan document).

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 proposed Plan covers Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council area, as shown in the map on page 6 of the Local Place Plan.

This community-led Plan is our shared agenda for the future, guiding what we do as a community and influencing public services (including planning policy) and private investment.

The aims of the Plan are to:

- **Support community action** - for example, helping local communities to access funding and resources.
- **Improve public services** - as an evidence base to inform local and national decision-making on planning, transport, housing, education, health, economic development and other public services.
- **Build consensus** - to focus on what needs to happen rather than get stuck in debate, so we are ready to move quickly when resources and support become available.

The Plan contains a vision, area-wide actions and village plans for Fort Augustus and Invermoriston. It has been generated through community engagement during 2024. The story of how the plan was developed is described at www.ourfutureplan.net

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

Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council:
Secretary@fortaugustus-glenmoriston-cc.co.uk

2. STATUTORY INFORMATION NOTICES

The draft Local Place Plan was emailed on 28th October 2024 to:

- Highland Councillors for Ward 12 (Aird and Loch Ness):
 - Cllr Chris Ballance
 - Cllr Helen Crawford
 - Cllr David Fraser
 - Cllr Emma Knox
- Adjoining Community Councils:
 - Glengarry Community Council
 - Glenurquhart Community Council
 - Laggan Community Council
 - Lochduich Community Council
 - Strathglass Community Council
 - Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council

Those emails constitute 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 \(NPF4\)ⁱⁱⁱ](#)
- [Highland-wide Local Development Plan \(2012\)^{iv}](#)
- [Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan \(2024\)^v](#)

As explained on page 13 of the Local Place Plan, whilst the plan is rooted in our community aspirations, it also reflects planning policy aims of creating sustainable, liveable and productive places as expressed in the two parts of the ‘statutory development plan’. The vision and actions in chapters 3 and 4 of the Local Place Plan therefore reflect the policy agendas contained in the statutory development plan, particularly National Planning Framework 4 and the Inner Moray Firth Local Development Plan as its most recent components.

The Local Place Plan also takes account of other relevant policy documents:

- National Performance Framework
- National Strategy For Economic Transformation (2022)
- Highland Outcome Improvement Plan 2017-2027
- Highland Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy
- Highlands and Islands Enterprise Strategy 2023-28
- Highland Strategic Tourism Infrastructure Development Plan
- Highland Council Sustainable Tourism Strategy 2024-30

These documents share overarching objectives relating to climate change, health and wellbeing, and sustainable & resilient communities. This Local Place Plan seeks to deliver on those objectives, plus their subsidiary agendas including active travel, community wealth-building, community empowerment, sustainable tourism, local living, rural revitalisation, a more balanced population and a growing skilled workforce.

This plan also contains suggestions for the next reviews of local and national policy, which are contained in the area-wide actions and village maps in chapter 4. We hope these will be taken

into account by national and local governments. For the Local Development Plan, that next review will be taking place in the near future. We would request that you pass on the suggestions for the Scottish Government to appropriate departments.

4. SUPPORT FOR THE LOCAL PLACE PLAN

For more information on the community engagement process used to develop the Local Place Plan, along with the levels of participation, please refer to the Plan itself and its dedicated website at www.ourfutureplan.net, which contains a narrative describing the community engagement process.

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 Appendix 8 of the Local Place Plan, together with reasons, as required by Scottish Government Circular 1-2022 'Local Place Plans', paragraphs 32-33^{vi}.

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 facing communities across the Highlands such as enabling access to services, facilities and opportunities; affordable housing for all; and enhanced active travel and public/community transport.

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

We would be grateful if you could also make other Council departments, the Scottish Government and public agencies aware of how they might assist in delivery of the Plan (as explained in chapter 5).

APPENDICES (overleaf)

Copies of the Information Notices to local Councillors and adjoining Community Councils.

ⁱ www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2021/353/contents/made

ⁱⁱ www.gov.scot/publications/circular-1-2022-local-place-plans/

ⁱⁱⁱ www.gov.scot/publications/national-planning-framework-4/

^{iv} www.highland.gov.uk/info/178/local_and_statutory_development_plans/199/highland-wide_local_development_plan

^v www.highland.gov.uk/imf

^{vi} www.gov.scot/publications/circular-1-2022-local-place-plans/

Local Place Plan Information Notice

Deirdre MacKinnon

28 October 2024 at 11:43

To: David Fraser <david.fraser.clr@highland.gov.uk>, "Chris Ballance (Councillor)" <Chris.Ballance.clr@highland.gov.uk>, "Emma Knox (Councillor)" <Emma.Knox.Cllr@highland.gov.uk>, "Helen Crawford (Councillor)" <helen.crawford.clr@highland.gov.uk>

Hi all

This email constitutes the statutory Information Notice. If you wish to respond, please note that the Regulations give 28 days to respond from the date of this email.

1. Proposed Local Place Plan

The proposed Plan is available online at bit.ly/FAGLPPdraft

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

The proposed Plan covers Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, as shown in Map 1 on page 5 of the proposed Plan.

The primary aims of the Plan are summarised on page 4 of the document. They are to:

- *Support community action* - for example, helping local communities to access funding and resources.
- *Improve public services* - as an evidence base to inform local and national decision-making on transport, housing, education, health, economic development, planning and other public services.
- *Build consensus* - within the community and across the public and private sectors, to focus on what needs to happen rather than get stuck in debate.

The proposed Plan contains a **vision** (on page 13), eight **area-wide actions** (pages 15-16) and **maps** showing proposals in Fort Augustus and Invermoriston (pages 17-18). This has all been generated through community engagement since work started on the Plan in early summer. The story of how the Plan was developed is described at www.ourfutureplan.net

which will be updated at the end of October to include the draft Plan and a feedback form.

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 proposed Local Place Plan, please email them to me or submit them via the online feedback form at bit.ly/draftFAGLPPcomment.

The deadline is Monday 25th November 2024.

I am sending a similar Information Notice to Community Councils within and adjacent to the Plan area, as required by the Local Place Plan Regulations.

Kind regards,

Deirdre MacKinnon

Chair, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council

Sent to:

Cllr Chris Ballance

Cllr Helen Crawford

Cllr David Fraser

Cllr Emma Knox

Information Notice: proposed Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Local Place Plan

Deirdre MacKinnon

28 October 2024 at 11:50

To: • Glengarry Community Council <glengarrycommunitycouncil@gmail.com>, • Glenurquhart Community Council <chairglencc@gmail.com>, • Laggan Community Council <secretarylcc@laggan.com>, • Lochduich Community Council <lochduichcommunitycouncil@gmail.com>, • Strathglass Community Council <strathglasscc@gmail.com>, • Stratherrick and Foyers Community Council <email.sfcc@aol.com>

Dear Community Councils,

I am writing on behalf of Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council, which is working with the local community to prepare a Local Place Plan for the Community Council area, in accordance with the [Town and Country Planning \(Local Place Plans\) \(Scotland\) Regulations 2021](#).

The Community Council, as the body which will ultimately submit the Plan to the Highland Council, is legally required to send all neighbouring Community Councils a statutory **Information Notice** about the proposed Local Place Plan, by virtue of Section 4 of the above Local Place Plan Regulations.

This email constitutes the statutory Information Notice. If you wish to respond, please note that the Regulations give 28 days to respond from the date of this email.

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If you have comments on the proposed Local Place Plan, please email them to me or submit them via the online feedback form at bit.ly/draftFAGLPPcomment. The deadline is Monday 25th November 2024.

I am sending a similar Information Notice to the Ward 12 Highland Councillors for the Plan area, as required by the Local Place Plan Regulations.

Kind regards,

Deirdre MacKinnon

Chair, Fort Augustus and Glenmoriston Community Council