

St John's Town of Dalry Local Place Plan Registration

SUBMISSION STATEMENT

INTRODUCTION

St John's Town of Dalry is a rural settlement in the area of Dumfries and Galloway known as the Glenkens with a population of approximately 510, of whom around 400 live in the settlement.

St John's Town of Dalry Community Council, in consultation with local residents, businesses and stakeholders, have created this Local Place Plan with the aim of articulating the community's wishes for development and land use within the settlement and wider rural area, having regard to local and national plans and planning legislation. The area covered by the plan is the entire Community Council area, and the plan period is from 2024 - 2034.

This Local Place Plan was supported by funding from NatureScot, South of Scotland Enterprise, and a UK Shared Prosperity Fund Local Place Plan Grant. It was overseen by a steering group with representatives of Dalry Community Council (DCC) and the Glenkens Community and Arts Trust (GCAT) - Jenna Cains (DCC), Morag Paterson (DCC), Helen Keron (GCAT). It was drafted by the Glenkens Community Spaces Facilitator, Becca Nelson.

AIM

This Statement aims to support our Expression of Interest to register our Local Place Plan for St John's Town of Dalry. The Place Plan and this statement has been prepared in accordance with:

- ◆ Government legislation: Town & Country Planning (Local Place Plans) (Scotland) Regulations 2021
- ◆ Scottish Government's Planning Circular 1/2022: Local Place Plans (LPP)
- ◆ Dumfries & Galloway Council's LPP Overview of Requirements.

To meet statutory requirements for Local Place Planning, this Statement confirms the following:

Governance

The submission is made by Dalry Community Council on behalf of residents of St John's Town of Dalry.

Strategic Context

St John's Town of Dalry Local Place Plan was developed having regard to the National Planning Framework, Local Development Plan and Locality Plan. In preparing the Place Plan the following documents were taken into account:

National

- ◆ National Performance Framework
- ◆ National Planning Framework 4
- ◆ National Strategy for Economic Transformation
- ◆ Shaping Scotland's Economy: Inward Investment Plan
- ◆ Scotland's Social Enterprise Strategy & Action Plan
- ◆ National Strategy for Economic Transformation
- ◆ UK Government Levelling Up
- ◆ Scotland: A Trading Nation
- ◆ Infrastructure Investment Plan
- ◆ National Transport Strategy
- ◆ Scotland's Vision for Trade
- ◆ Climate Emergency Skills Action Plan
- ◆ Fair Work Nation
- ◆ Net Zero & Environmental Strategies
- ◆ Community Wealth Building
- ◆ Culture Strategy for Scotland
- ◆ National Town Centre Action Plan 2
- ◆ Town Centre First Principle
- ◆ Digital Strategy
- ◆ NatureScot 'Developing with Nature' guidance
- ◆ Scottish Government Draft Planning Guidance: Biodiversity (November 2023)

Regional

- ◆ SoSE Regional Economic Strategy Regional Skills & Investment Plan
- ◆ 2017-2027 Poverty & Inequalities Strategy
- ◆ Regional Economic Partnership Vision 2031
- ◆ South of Scotland Indicative Regional Spatial Strategy (April 2021)
- ◆ South of Scotland Regional Land Use Framework (Draft, October 2023)

Local

- ◆ Dumfries & Galloway 5 Year Plan 2023-28 Local Outcomes Improvement Plan
- ◆ Dumfries and Galloway Local Development Plan 2
- ◆ Glenkens and District Community Action Plan (Glenkens CAP)
- ◆ 10,000 Voices
- ◆ Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Character Assessment

Community Engagement

This plan was developed with the aim of building on and bringing up to date the aspirations expressed in the Glenkens CAP, as well as incorporating the body of recent consultation and engagement, which included:

Glenkens-wide:

- ◆ Land Use Vision
- ◆ Housing Survey
- ◆ Childcare Feasibility Study

Specific to St John's Town of Dalry:

- ◆ Mental Health and Wellbeing Survey
- ◆ Secondary School Survey
- ◆ Resilience Plan
- ◆ Community Centre Survey
- ◆ Multi-Use Games Area Survey

Residents were offered multiple opportunities to feed their views into the Local Place Plan, and local business owners and stakeholders were also invited to contribute, by attending events, during interview sessions, and at a stakeholder meeting. As well as using the Place Standard Tool to help to build a picture of residents' perceptions of what is working well, what could be improved, challenges and opportunities, comments were invited both on focused areas and more generally.

Consultation timetable:

Date	Event	Group consulted
6/8/23	Glenkens Scottish Alternative Games	wider community
12/8/23	Dalry Producers' Market	wider community
19/8/23	Glenkens Agricultural Show	wider community
30/8/23	Afternoon and evening drop-in events at Town Hall	wider community
24/10/23	Good Neighbours Club	older people
3/2/24	Community Cafe	wider community
2/3/24	Bairn Banter	parents with children aged from babies to P7
4/3/24	Glenkens Youth Group	School pupils (P7 to S3)
20/3/24	Stakeholder meeting with representatives from:	Dalry Community Council
		Glenkens Community and Arts Trust
		D&G Archaeology Service
		Galloway Fisheries Trust
		The Loch Ken Trust

		The Crichton Carbon Centre
		Forestry and Land Scotland
		NatureScot
		Scottish Forestry
26/4/24	'Drop in' group (digital literacy support)	older people
9/5/23	Afternoon and evening drop-in events at Town Hall to enable residents to read the emerging plan and comment on the draft Action Plan	wider community

The draft plan was also shared internally within Dumfries and Galloway Council, with feedback received from the following departments:

- Local Development Plan
- Strategic Housing
- Economic Development
- Road Network

Public Consultation

In compliance with legislative requirements, we held a formal consultation period from Saturday 1st – Monday 30th September 2024.

A copy of the Local Place Plan was sent to local councillors and neighbouring communities, as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Councillor Dougie Campbell | Balmaclellan Community Council |
| Councillor John Denerley | Carsphairn Community Council |
| Councillor Andy McFarlane | Glencairn Community Council |
| | New Galloway and Kells Community Council |

The plan was also available to be downloaded from or viewed online on the Glenkens Hub website, with printed copies available in community venues in Dalry, including the village shop, charity shop, library and pub.

Development Proposals

Through the consultations above, we have developed action plans around three overarching themes:

- Roads and Active Travel
- Resources, Services, Facilities and Employment
- Recreation, Land Use and Access to Nature

Additionally, we have developed a statement of underlying principles which are closely aligned with policies in National Planning Framework 4 and the Local Outcomes Improvement Plan, and with the Glenkens CAP goal that 'The Glenkens will be a connected,

resilient and carbon neutral place, where people will want to live, work and visit, to bring up their families, and to grow old.' The principles consider the following overarching areas and principles:

- Nothing about us without us
- Community Wealth Building
- Everyone who takes value from the land returns value to it
- Climate Crisis
- Environmental assurance/Biodiversity crisis

Embedding these values in new development and land use change will help to ensure that all changes enhance environmental integrity and strengthen Dalry as an inclusive and resilient rural community.

Impact on the Local Development Plan

Moving forward with the Place Plan actions will require collective participation from all residents and professionals in the Dalry area. Collaboration is key, involving not just the Community Council, but also various local groups, regional organisations, community volunteers, farmers, land managers, businesses, and stakeholders such as wind farms and forest owners operating within the area. This inclusive approach ensures a comprehensive and diverse input towards achieving our shared goals.

Dalry's vision for the future of the settlement is of one that meets the changing needs of the aging members of our community whilst remaining a place where the availability of education, employment, retail and hospitality, community and arts venues. We ask Dumfries and Galloway Council as the local Planning Authority to take into account the aims and aspirations expressed in the Plan in their development of the upcoming Local Development Plan (LDP3).

Conclusion

Over a third of residents have directly contributed to the development of this Local Place Plan by completing the Place Standard Tool either in person or online, submitting comments, or attending one of the events. More residents have engaged with the process less formally by reading the emerging plan and/or action plan and talking to the LPP team. Conversations about treasured landscapes and land use change as well as traditional planning and development topics offered an opportunity to capture a wide range of ideas and views and demonstrated a widespread sense of determination to maintain and improve Dalry.

In light of the 10-year plan period, items on the action plan are roughly phased as short-term, medium-term and long-term, and some of the actions do not have a lead organisation as yet, or require feasibility studies and/or partnership working in order to be taken forward.

We aim to use the Place Plan to evidence community need and aspiration in future projects.