



Glasgow City Council
City Development Plan 2

Background Report

Infrastructure Audit - Introduction

March 2024



Purpose of the Infrastructure Audit

This Infrastructure Audit has been produced in order to:

- Ensure an 'Infrastructure First' approach to producing City Development Plan 2.
- Meet Scottish Government Legislation and Guidance with regards producing City Development Plan 2

Infrastructure First

Infrastructure First is defined (in National Planning Framework 4) as:

Putting infrastructure considerations at the heart of placemaking. For the purpose of applying the Infrastructure First policy, the following meaning of infrastructure will apply:

- communications – including digital and telecommunications networks and connections;
- existing and planned transport infrastructure and services;
- water management – supply, drainage systems and sewerage (including flood risk management);
- energy supplies/energy generation – including electricity and heat networks, distribution and transmission electricity grid networks, and gas supplies;
- health and social care services – including both services provided in the community directly by Health Boards and services provided on their behalf by contractors such as GPs, dentists and pharmacists;
- education – including early years, primary, secondary, further and higher education services;
- green and blue infrastructure; and
- spaces for play and recreation.

The Policy Outcomes for NPF4 Policy 18. Infrastructure First are:

- Infrastructure considerations are integral to development planning and decision making and potential impacts on infrastructure and infrastructure needs are understood early in the development planning process as part of an evidenced based approach.
- Existing infrastructure assets are used sustainably, prioritising low-carbon solutions.
- Infrastructure requirements, and their planned delivery to meet the needs of communities, are clear.

The planning and delivery of infrastructure is prioritised in line with the Scottish Government Investment Hierarchy. This is a Scottish Government-wide common hierarchy to aid planning and decision-making, which prioritises enhancing and maintaining Scotland's assets over new build. See [Infrastructure Investment Plan for Scotland 2021-22 to 2025-26](#) for further details.

Figure 1: Scottish Government Investment Hierarchy

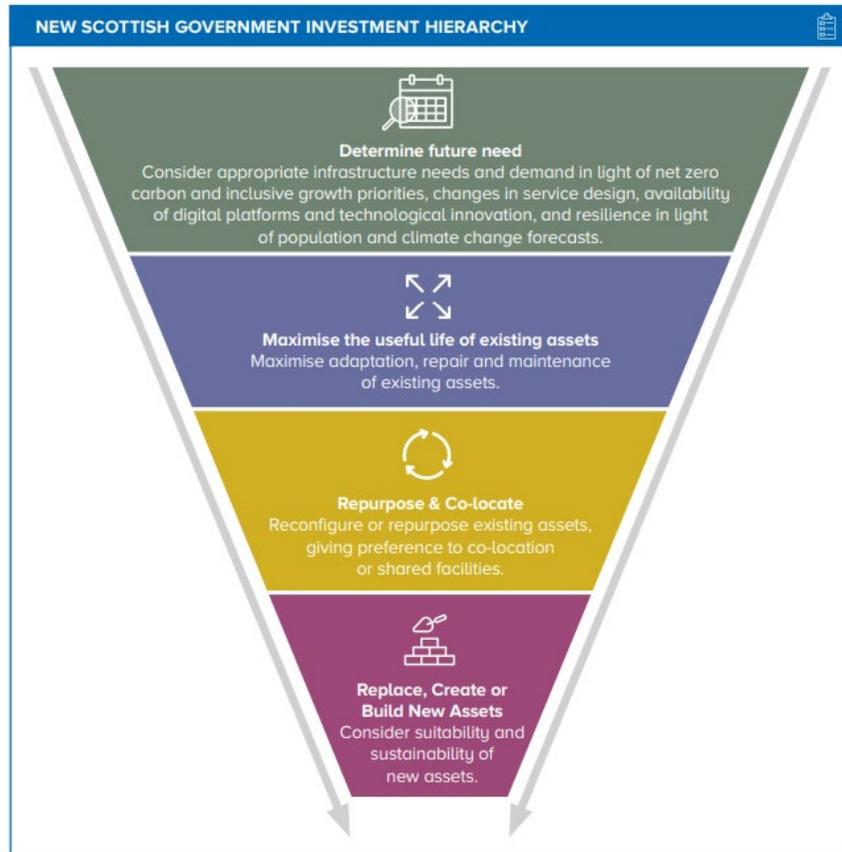


Figure 2: National Transport Strategy 2 Sustainable Investment Hierarchy



As such this Infrastructure Audit should be used to:

- set the context for the plan being built around an infrastructure first approach and is key for framing and informing early thinking on the Spatial Strategy for the Proposed Plan;

- identify key opportunities and constraints within an area, based on both existing infrastructure provision but also committed future provision; and
- offer opportunities to identify risks for climate change and to support the drive towards a more sustainable use of infrastructure, in line with the Infrastructure Investment Plan and NTS2 sustainable investment hierarchies, and Scotland's transition to net zero.

Scottish Government Requirements

The Town and Country Planning Act 1997 as amended by the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019 requires:

- The development plan takes into account the infrastructure of the district (including communications, transport and drainage systems, systems for the supply of water and energy, and health care and education facilities); and
- how that infrastructure is used.

NPF4 requires:

LDPs and delivery programmes should be based on an integrated infrastructure first approach. Plans should:

- be informed by evidence on infrastructure capacity, condition, needs and deliverability within the plan area, including cross boundary infrastructure;
- set out the infrastructure requirements to deliver the spatial strategy, informed by the evidence base, identifying the infrastructure priorities, and where, how, when and by whom they will be delivered; and
- indicate the type, level (or method of calculation) and location of the financial or in-kind contributions, and the types of development from which they will be required.

The Local Development Planning Guidance states:

An infrastructure first approach should underpin all aspects of plan making, with infrastructure considerations at the heart of place making. This means undertaking early engagement, evidence gathering and where possible data sharing, including with public and private infrastructure providers. This approach also offers potential benefits for infrastructure providers with regard to informing their own plans and strategies. The Evidence Report may reference baseline infrastructure information and data including:

- NPF4; relevant aspects of the spatial strategy and national developments;
- national, regional and local infrastructure investment plans and strategies relating to an area for both the public and private sectors; and
- a review of existing infrastructure capacity and condition, as well as identifying planned infrastructure, both within a district, but also cross-boundary infrastructure, which serves the district.

The infrastructure evidence can be used to inform early thinking on the spatial strategy. Where available, evidence on the resilience of infrastructure assets to climate risks may be helpful. The evidence may also support more sustainable use of infrastructure, in line with the Infrastructure Investment Plan and NTS2 sustainable investment hierarchies, and Scotland's transition to net zero.

Assessment of infrastructure capacity, condition and future provision at this stage can inform the early development of the spatial strategy. For example, broad areas of infrastructure constraint or capacity can indicate where there is scope for future growth in line with the infrastructure investment hierarchy, or where intervention will be required to support future development. (Page 68)

Specifically with regards *transport* the Local Development Planning Guidance states:

The Evidence Report is expected to be informed by baseline information and data about the transport infrastructure and capacity of an area.

This could include (but is not limited to):

- NPF4 - relevant aspects of the spatial strategy and National Developments;
- National Transport Strategy 2 (NTS2) priorities;
- national and regional transport problems and opportunities outlined in the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR2) Case for Change Reports and continued relevance of these;
- national strategic transport priorities relating to the area as identified in STPR2;
- existing transport infrastructure and services, their availability, accessibility, capacity and constraints taking cognisance of the NTS2 sustainable travel and investment hierarchies; and
- local transport strategies. (page 54)

The Evidence Report is an opportunity for the authority to establish their transport baseline, present evidence of their commitment to produce a transport appraisal and to demonstrate that discussions have taken place with TS to establish next steps. This baseline will inform the transport appraisal of the emerging plan at a later stage of LDP preparation.” (page 55)

Specifically with regards *blue and green infrastructure* the Local Development Planning Guidance states:

A blue and green infrastructure audit can reflect and bring together relevant assessments, audits, strategies and action plans, including those prepared under statutory duties, such as Open Space Strategies, Forestry and Woodland Strategies and Play Sufficiency Assessments. It can identify existing blue and

green infrastructure and their networks, including access rights and core paths, and areas with an important role in flood water storage or conveyance as informed by a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for the area. Priorities for connectivity to other blue and/or green infrastructure assets, including to address cross-boundary needs and opportunities, can also be identified. (page 72)

Contents

The Infrastructure Audit contains the following sections:

1. Green and blue infrastructure
2. Community facilities
3. Cultural facilities
4. Digital Communications
5. Education
6. Energy and Heat
7. Health and social care services
8. Transport
9. Waste management
10. Water management

This reflects the definition set out in NPF4, however it was felt for Glasgow that waste management, community facilities and cultural facilities should also be audited reflecting requirements relating to local living, tourism and wider NPF4 policies / requirements of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019.

Each section covers the following:

	Contents	Purpose / Contents
<i>Existing Infrastructure</i>	1. What it is and how it is used	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definition • Local/strategic significance • Relationship with land use
	2. Existing capacity and condition	An audit of the existing network / range of facilities, including data on capacity, condition and patronage as relevant.
	3. Whether it is in line with the Investment Hierarchies set out in the Infrastructure Investment Plan and National Transport Strategy (see Figures 1 and 2 above)	Analysis of whether the current network meets the Investment Hierarchies and where particular issues lie.
<i>Proposed Infrastructure</i>	4. Future needs	Analysis of future needs for the infrastructure type informed by projections of need and demand.

	Contents	Purpose / Contents
	5. Programmed improvements	An audit of programmed infrastructure projects including NPF4 National Developments and other proposals (national, regional and local infrastructure investment plans and strategies for both the public and private sectors)
	6. Whether further improvements are required (and where?)	Analysis of any gaps in the network / range of facilities that are not being met by programmed improvements.
	7. Deliverability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Including environmental, operational and funding constraints. • Delivery through CDP2 including delivery through development and evidence for developer contributions where on site or adjacent to site delivery is not possible.

In some cases this has been subject to the amount and type of information submitted by infrastructure providers.

Consultation

The Local development planning guidance states:

“Stakeholders expected to inform the preparation of the Evidence Report are:

- digital and telecommunications providers;
- energy network companies – reflecting anticipated increased demands on the electricity network driven by progress towards net zero targets, including an increase in EV chargers;
- health and social care providers;
- transport infrastructure and service providers;
- water management sector; and
- wider local government services, such as education.

The use of forums for collaborating with public and private infrastructure providers may also be useful for all parties in securing and sharing information to inform infrastructure planning.

Where it is not possible for infrastructure providers or other stakeholders to share sensitive information about infrastructure capacity, constraints and planned improvements, the use of a ‘Red Amber Green’ system may enable some understanding of the area baseline”.

The following table sets out the consultation that has taken place on this Audit. This has taken the form of writing to external stakeholders and including information they have provided in the audit as well as sending a copy of the audit to them for comments.

Infrastructure	Internal Services that have been involved in preparing this Audit	External organisations that have been involved in preparing this Audit
Digital Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GCC Telecoms Unit 	Mobile Network Operators & Wireless Infrastructure Providers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BT/EE • Virgin Media O2 • Three • Vodafone • City Fibre • OpenReach
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport Planning and Delivery Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport Scotland • SPT • Network Rail • ScotRail
Water management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water Management Service • Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scottish Water – provided information only • Scottish Canals – provided information only • SEPA – provided information only
Energy and Heat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Service • Housing Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPEN • SGN
Health and social care services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glasgow City HSCP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHSGGC • Glasgow Local Medical Committee Ltd – provided information only
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Service • Property and Consultancy Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Glasgow – provided information only • University of Strathclyde – provided information only
Green and blue infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Service • Parks Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature Scotland • Forestry and Land Scotland – provided information only • Scottish Canals – provided information only
Waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste Management Service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEPA
Community facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glasgow Life 	
Cultural facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glasgow Life • Licensing • Conventions Bureau • City Centre Strategy Team 	