

# CASTLE DOUGLAS LOCAL PLACE PLAN

## SUPPORTING STATEMENT

### Statutory Requirements

#### **1. Details of the Preparing Committee**

This plan was produced by Castle Douglas Community Council and the Local Place Plan Steering Group with early support from two members of the Castle Douglas Development Forum.

#### **2. Regard to Statutory Documents in the Preparation of the Place Plan**

In preparing the Castle Douglas Place Plan the Dumfries and Galloway Local Development Plan 2 (2019) (LDP2) was consulted at an early stage in the process. This provided the Steering Group with an understanding of the current land allocation within the place plan area as well as the role of Castle Douglas within the community and the wider Dumfries and Galloway region. The document also provided the Community Body with an understanding of the vision for Dumfries and Galloway and the Spatial Strategy for the region. The place plan was prepared with regard to current planning policies.

The current National Planning Framework (NPF) 4 is the national spatial strategy for Scotland. It sets out our spatial principles, regional priorities, national developments and national planning policy. NPF4 now incorporates planning policies rather than these being produced at a local level. NPF4 will have a role in making sustainable, liveable and productive places as well as detailing the wider strategic principles and proposed national developments. Understanding the role of NPF4 and current transition from local policies to national policies informed the Community Body in the preparation of the place plan. In addition, the Locality Plan and Local Outcomes Improvement Plan were also taken into account in the preparation of this Local Place Plan.

#### **3. Statement on why the Community Body considers that the Local Development Plan should be amended**

The Community Body considers that the Local Development Plan should be amended as detailed in the Castle Douglas Place Plan document as this should hopefully lead to the town growing and thriving. The proposed amendments have been developed as a result of the consultation process undertaken and are thus in accordance with the wishes of the community. The Community Body considers that the amendments as detailed are reasonable and are consistent with current planning policy.

#### **4. The Community Body's view of the level and nature of support of the local place plan**

Overall, the level of support for the place plan was extremely positive. The Community Body considered the number of attendees at the community meetings to be relatively low

however almost 300 completed responses to the Place Standard Tool online were received. During the consultation period the nature of the support was largely overwhelmingly positive.

## **5. Evidence of compliance with Regulation 4**

### **Consultation Period 9 December 2025 – 6 January 2026**

The proposed Local Place Plan was distributed to the individuals and organisations as listed below along with the following notice:-

Dear Community Councillors and Elected Councillors,

#### Overview of the Plan

Please find attached the Final Draft of the Castle Douglas Local Place Plan, which has been prepared collaboratively by the Castle Douglas Community Council and the Steering Group. This comprehensive document reflects the community's collective vision and proposes enhancements to the Town's amenities and facilities. The Plan is intended for submission to Dumfries and Galloway Council for registration, and it will be taken into account during the preparation of the new Local Development Plan issue 3 (LDP 3).

#### Contents of the Plan

The Plan comprises several key sections:

- Community Engagement: Documentation of the engagement activities undertaken with local residents.
- Engagement Results and Analysis: Presentation and evaluation of feedback received during community consultation.
- Objectives: A clear list of goals identified by the community for the improvement of Castle Douglas.
- Action Plan and Asset Development Map: A structured action plan, supported by a map highlighting assets for future development.
- Conclusion: Summary remarks reflecting on the process and proposed outcomes.
- Acknowledgements: Recognition of contributions from individuals and organisations involved.
- Appendices: Detailed supporting information including sources, plans, and summaries.

#### Feedback and Submissions

Representations and comments regarding this Plan are welcomed. You may submit your feedback using the attached form, which should be sent to:

[castledouglascc@gmail.com](mailto:castledouglascc@gmail.com).

The deadline for returning this form is 06/01/2026.

Your input on the content of the Plan is highly valued. All comments received will be given careful consideration.

The plan and notice was sent on 9 December 2025 to the following:-

### **Councillors**

Councillor I Howie  
Councillor P Drysdale  
Councillor J Young

### **Community Councils**

Crossmichael CC - Secretary  
Kelton CC - Chairperson  
Buittle CC – Secretary

### **Community Councillors**

|              |             |
|--------------|-------------|
| K. Patterson | J. Brown    |
| L. Andrews   | T. Kirk     |
| A. Clark     | L. Marshall |
| M. Fortnum   | C. Eade     |

## **Community Meeting**

In addition to the consultation period being publicised on social media, a public meeting took place in accordance with the notice below.

In total there were fourteen attendees: eight at the afternoon session and six in the evening. In the afternoon all were community residents and in evening three were community residents, two community councils and one local councillor for D&G Council.

In general feedback was positive with comments relating to matters that individuals would like to see in the town and potentially included in the document. Matters raised included the following: -

- *more flats for aging population in the town*
- *signage into the town should be amended to include 'Market Town'*
- *more summer seats round the town and for the one at the Post Office to be retained*

One attendee provided useful feedback in relation to the format/content of the document.



In addition to the above and during the consultation period additional comments were also received by email from one community resident and one local councillor for D&G Council. These comments included matters such as the re-introduction of traffic wardens should be mentioned, and that we should tone down the wording in our 'Traffic & Parking – Influence and sense of Control' section. Another suggestion was for the inclusion of additional smaller housing sites. One local resident provided a

comprehensive list of comments and each of these were considered by the steering group, making changes to the document where necessary.

Comments on social media were limited. One however merely said 'A load of ollocks', not particularly positive!

As a result of the community feedback the document was amended including changes to the selection of small housing sites and potential Masterplan Consent Areas.

Notice of the Community Meeting:-



## Local Place Plan

### Public Viewing Invitation

The Castle Douglas Local Place Plan is approaching its final stage of development. The Steering Group, which has been responsible for creating the Plan, has planned for a Public Viewing meeting. This event provides an opportunity for all residents of Castle Douglas to review and comment on the draft Plan before it is officially submitted to Dumfries and Galloway Council for registration.

- **Date: Tuesday 9 December 2025**
- **Time: 2 – 4pm & 6 – 8pm**
- **Room 2 Community Centre, Cotton Street**

#### The Importance of the Local Place Plan

This Local Place Plan serves as a crucial blueprint for guiding the future planning and development of Castle Douglas. It reflects the collective vision and aspirations of the community for their town.

#### Meet the Steering Group

Residents are encouraged to attend, meet the Steering Group members who have dedicated the past 24 months to preparing and producing the Plan, and take an active role in shaping the town's future. Let us strive to be proactive, rather than reactive, in planning for the continued success and vitality of Castle Douglas.

Copies of the LPP will be available at the Library, Community Centre and on the CDCC Facebook page and CD What's Going On Facebook page.