

**Crossmichael & District Community Council  
Local Place Plan 2025-2035  
Submission Statement**



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## Introduction

This Supporting Statement forms part of the Local Place Plan submission to Dumfries and Galloway Council and is accompanying the Crossmichael and District Local Place Plan dated 16/01/2026.

Crossmichael is a vibrant community, fortunate to have some of the key components for a great rural place to live – a school, a shop, a pub, a functioning and motivated community council and community trust, a youth group, a heritage centre, small businesses, a hairdresser, volunteers who run swimming groups, organise sporting competitions, maintain the Community Woodland, mow the grass, run the village Flower Shows and Gala. We have a Resilience Group looking to support the needs of people who face flooding and other risks.

The Community Council area also includes the rural settlements of Clarebrand and Townhead of Greenlaw.

This plan sets out the aspirations of the community for both short and long term.

Key short term priorities include:

- Bringing Crossmichael Memorial Hall back into use for the community,
- Ensuring that the Quiet Village Charter is supported,
- Improving active travel,
- Finding a site and funding for a playground for preschool children and those with special needs,
- To maintain and improve green spaces across the CC area, and access to the River Dee,
- To save Crossmichael Kirk for generations to come.

Longer term priorities include:

- Planning for a community hub with easy access to resources,
- Identifying ongoing and new funding sources for projects that enhance the quality of life of Crossmichael and District residents.

The Local Place Plan contains;

- an introduction detailing the purpose of the document
- a summary of Key Community Priorities emerging from community engagement for the Local Place Plan
- an Action Plan including projects that were supported by over 50% of respondents
- a context section describing the settlement and population
- a summary of community engagement carried out to inform the plan
- a proposals map
- a description of community activities and wish list
- Crossmichael and District's **Charter for a Quiet Village**

Creation of the Local Place Plan was led by Caroline Reeves on behalf of Crossmichael Community Council, and supported by the Glenkens Community and Arts Trust and Glenkens Community Spaces Facilitator, Becca Nelson. The development of the document has been financially supported by a UK Shared Prosperity Fund Local Place Plan Grant and funding from Dumfries and Galloway Council and SWestrans.

With thanks to contributors, Ruari Hex for supplying drone shots, and to all of the residents, friends and visitors who contributed to our many consultations. Particular thanks go to The Thistle Inn for hosting our consultation events and our village shop for handing out questionnaires.

This Statement aims to support Crossmichael and District Community Council's Expression of Interest to register this Local Place Plan for Crossmichael. The Place Plan and this statement have 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.

## Statement of compliance

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

### Governance

This Local Place Plan was developed by Crossmichael and District Community Council, led and designed by Caroline Reeves. The Council commissioned Becca Nelson from the Glenkens Community & Art Trust to support with the development of the plan, including community engagement, analysis of data, demographic data, and creation of maps. This was funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Local Place Plan Grant.

## Strategic context

Crossmichael and District's Local Place Plan aligns with National Planning Framework 4, particularly with regard to priorities linked with rural revitalisation. Regard has also been paid to relevant documents of those listed below, particularly the current Local Development Plan (LDP2) and the Locality Plan.

### National

- National Planning Framework 4

### 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 & Galloway Local Development Plan 2 (2019)
- Glenkens and District Community Action Plan (2020)
- Dumfries and Galloway Landscape Character Assessment (2019)
- Glenkens Land Use Vision (an addendum to the Glenkens CAP, 2023)

## Community engagement

In order to ascertain community priorities, the Community Council held two public drop-in sessions at the Thistle Inn which were scheduled to run from early afternoon to evening, in order to make them accessible to as many people as possible. Questionnaires were available on the day, left in locations in the community with high footfall (including the shop, the pub etc.) and also available online as Google forms, with information and links circulated on WhatsApp groups and Facebook, as well as the Glenkens Hub.

In addition, members of the Community Council talked to a wide range of residents across the community, shared information on two facebook groups, and engaged with visitors.

In all, 405 separate comments were received at the first consultation through the Place Standard Tool and post-it notes, with 155 questionnaires completed.

Following the first consultation, suggestions submitted by community members were summarised and presented at a second consultation event, which offered comment boards and maps, and a second questionnaire was created which sought to clarify the outcomes of the first round of consultation. The event was held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March at The Thistle Inn, and was attended by approximately 25 visitors. 43 responses were received to the second questionnaire, which was available to complete at the drop-in event, and subsequently paper forms were available in Crossmichael as well as the link to the Google Form being circulated on village Whatsapp and Facebook groups. Around half of respondents completed the demographic section of the form. The outcome of the consultations has shown that we are fortunate to have a lively, thoughtful and safety conscious community who enthusiastically engage with and support the plans for our parish.

After the consultation period closed, amendments were made to reflect views expressed in the submissions, particularly regarding changes in farming practices and husbandry.

We carefully considered the feedback and broadened the wording to ensure balance and inclusivity, while maintaining the overall essence of the community's views.

## Reasons for amendments being sought to the Local Development Plan

### Housing

In light of recent flooding to properties on Templand, we seek an amendment to the Local Development Plan which excludes LDP2 site CMI.H1 from further development unless or until measures are taken to rectify flooding issues on the site.

## Evidence of compliance with Regulation 4

In compliance with legislative requirements a 28-day formal consultation period was held, running from Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November – Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 2025.

The plan was available to be downloaded from or viewed online on the Glenkens Hub.

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

#### List of Councillors to whom the proposed Local Place Plan was sent

- Councillor Pauline Drysdale
- Councillor Iain Clark Howie
- Councillor John Lachlan Young

#### List of Community Councils to whom the proposed Local Place Plan was sent

- Castle Douglas Community Council
- Kelton Community Council
- Balmaghie Community Council
- Parton Community Council
- Corsock and Kirkpatrick Durham Community Council
- Buittle Community Council

## Contact details

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