

Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Council Area

Local Place Plan

2026-2031

Submission Statement

Foreword

Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Area Place Plan covers the Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Council area. K&ECC serves the villages of Kirtlebridge and Eaglesfield, the hamlets of Breconbeds and Gair, and numerous outlying farms and other properties.

As a Community Council and as individuals involved in many other aspects of local life, creating this Place Plan has given us a much clearer picture of the things people love most about this area, the challenges it faces, the issues people want to see addressed, and the projects they'd most like to see taken forward.

Our Local Place Plan will be used to help the Community Council and other local organisations to raise funds for new projects and preserve what we already have. We will use the evidence it contains when we speak to local councillors, lobby local and national government bodies, and respond to other consultations about developments affecting the local area.

However, as an entirely volunteer group working in our spare time, there are limits to what the Community Council can achieve. For this reason, several of the projects and priority issues highlighted by the Plan are noted for action by other organisations.

We also recognise that this lack of capacity means we're unable to take forward large or complex projects with longer term goals. For this reason, we will investigate the formation of a Community Development Trust for the area. Such a Trust would allow the employment of skilled staff who can dedicate the time needed to further some of the great ideas raised during our consultation.

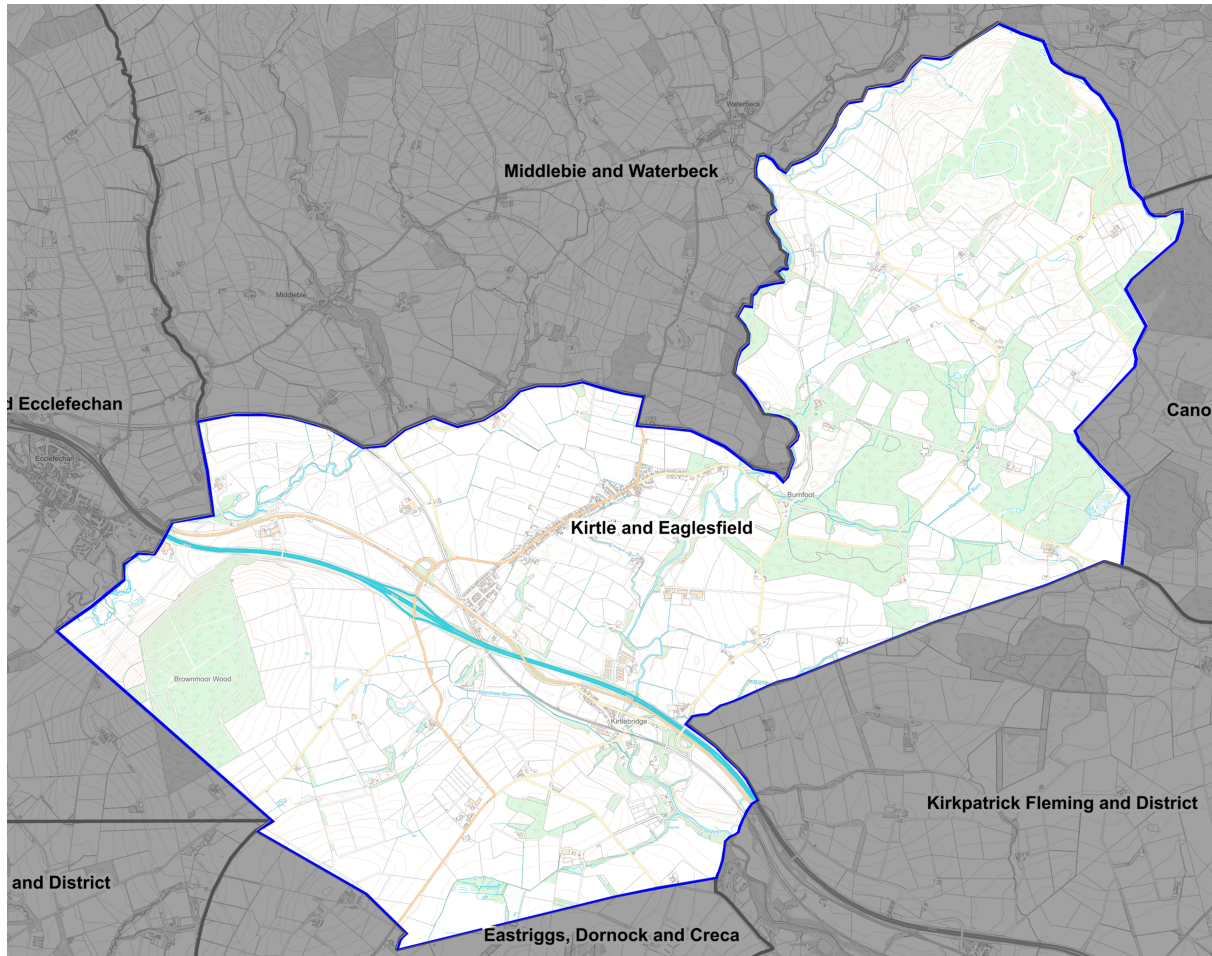
About this document

This **Statement** aims to support our Expression of Interest to register *Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Area Place Plan* to be considered for adoption by Dumfries & Galloway Council in their preparation of Local Development Plan 3.

The Place Plan and this Statement have been prepared in accordance with the policies, strategies and delivery plans listed below in **Local, Regional and National Policy Context** and:

- 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.

PLACE PLAN AREA MAP



Place Plan Working Group

Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Area Place Plan has been developed by a core team drawn from the 2025-26 members of Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Council, co-ordinated by Community Councillor John Wallace.

Community Consultation

We held a Local Place Plan event at Eaglesfield Public Hall on 1st November 2025 and conducted an online survey. The Place Plan event included many different creative ways for people to express their views and opinions on local issues and how they feel about the area generally. 33 people attended the event and gave their views.

Key points from conversations with people who could not attend were also recorded at the Place Plan Event. Information from the Event was gathered together by professional facilitator Debz McDowall from The Imaginarium, who designed and ran the day.

We used learning from the Event to create an online Local Place Plan Survey. As well as social media posts, leaflets publicising the survey were hand-delivered to all addressable properties within the Community Council Area and distributed at community events and via Eaglesfield Primary School.

Notice boards showing a QR code and URL linking to the survey were displayed at bus stops, along popular walking routes, and in other prominent positions around the area.

The online survey was open for people to complete from 20th November 2025 until 26th January 2026. 79 Responses were received. Over 90% were from people who gave postcodes from the area covered by our Place Plan, with others being regular visitors or carers for people here.

LOCAL PLACE PLAN CONFIRMATION

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

Governance

The submission is made by Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Council, which is duly constituted under the *Amended 2018 Scheme for The Establishment of Community Councils In Dumfries And Galloway* in accordance with the *Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973* and *Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act, 1994*.

Local, Regional and National Policy Context

Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Area Place Plan has been developed with reference to the following policies, strategies and delivery plans:

Local

Dumfries & Galloway Local Outcomes Improvement Plan 2023-2033

Dumfries & Galloway 2017-2027 Poverty & Inequalities Strategy

Local Development Plan 2, 2019

Regional

Borderlands Inclusive Growth Deal

SoSE Regional Economic Strategy

Regional Skills & Investment Plan

South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership Regional Economic Strategy

South of Scotland Regional Economic Partnership Regional Economic Strategy Delivery Plan 2024-2027

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

Infrastructure Investment Plan - Infrastructure Delivery Pipeline 2026

National Transport Strategy 2

Scotland's Climate Change Plan – 2026-2040 (DRAFT)

Fair Work Nation

Scottish Biodiversity Strategy to 2045

Community Wealth Building

Culture Strategy for Scotland

Digital strategy for Scotland

Statutory 28-Day Consultation

Our draft Place Plan was made available for comment and further representation via our neighbouring Community Councils and all relevant elected members of Dumfries & Galloway Council.

All were alerted to the consultation a week prior to delivery of the draft consultation document. It was forwarded to the following neighbouring Community Councils: Middlebie & Waterbeck; Hoddum & Ecclefechan; Cannonbie & District. Though their ward areas borders our own, Brydekirk & District and Eastriggs, Dornock & Creca Community Councils are currently not established.

The Consultation period opened at 12am on Tuesday 10th February 2026 and closed at 11.59pm Monday 9th March 2026. No comments were received at the correspondence address by that time.

Notwithstanding having no responses on the final consultation, we think there's a high degree of support as we made this plan based on a lot of consultation with the public on what they want to see.

Delivery

Our aim in developing a Local Place Plan for our area is twofold: we wanted to find out more about the things local people feel are important; we want to improve our local area.

Local Place Plan – Key Themes, Priorities and Actions

Drawing on the consultation work represented in our Local Place Plan and upon their longstanding experience and understanding of local issues, our Local Place Plan Team has drawn up a list of priority areas for action.

These are split across a number of key themes:

- Community Cohesion, Development & Support
- Community Health & Wellbeing
- Economic & Financial Wellbeing
- Community Safety
- Connectivity
- Economic Development
- Tackling Climate Change

The full list of proposed actions can be viewed by consulting *Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Council Area Local Place Plan*, alongside suggestions for which local organisations can take these actions forward and potential funding sources.

Impact on the Local Development Plan

Several locations and features relating to our Place Plan impact on Development in our Local Place Plan Area and the Planning for such.

These relate to the creation of an area for Economic Development to the south of Eaglesfield, several areas of expanded or additional protected green space, and an area to the north of Eaglesfield that should be protected from certain kinds of development and use due to ongoing issues with flooding which affect residential properties within the settlement.

Meanwhile, issues with public transport and digital connectivity were widely highlighted through the community consultation, and should be considered when addressing service alterations, with a strong desire for improved services.

Housing mix is currently heavily biased towards private dwellings, with a desire for more affordable homes for private or social rent.

Eaglesfield Primary School is a key asset for the area and should be retained.

Inset maps of the areas listed above are available to view as appendices to *Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Council Area Local Place Plan*.

Monitoring And Review

Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Council Area Local Place Plan will be reviewed by Kirtle & Eaglesfield Community Council or a suitable successor organisation in 2031 against the list of challenges and actions set out in the Plan.

Interim reviews may be carried out before that time and alterations and additions made to Our Local Place Plan for the period between 2031 and the beginning of consultation work for Dumfries and Galloway Council's Local Development Plan 4.

Throughout the life of this Plan, we will remain open to new suggestions and responsive to changing circumstances locally.

Accessing our Local Place Plan

A printed copy is available to view at Eaglesfield Public Hall. Please email EaglesfieldRA@gmail.com to arrange access.

Digital copies are available on request from the Secretary of Kirtle and Eaglesfield Community Council. Contact details for the current Secretary can be found on the Dumfries & Galloway Council Website.

Digital copies may also be downloaded from the Local Place Plans section of Dumfries & Galloway Council website.