Policy Context

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Passing Power to Our People and Communities

“Government, communities, trade unions, businesses and the third sector must all come together in a sustained national endeavour to achieve this.”


“Consistent with our commitment to community empowerment, local communities will have the opportunity to participate in shaping their local economy.”
Scottish Planning Policy: ‘People Make the System Work’

“Effective engagement can lead to better plans, better decisions and more satisfactory outcomes and can help to avoid delays in the planning process.”

- Early, meaningful and proportionate
- Innovative techniques
- Tailored to circumstances
Applying the theory – National Planning Framework 3

- Challenging: national scale, long term, strategic
- Learned from experience (NPF2)
- Mix of techniques
- More informal and interactive
- Broader reach (members of the public)
- Targeted engagement (national developments)
- Designed the process with stakeholders
- Self-evaluation on completion
• What are we asking?

• Who do we want to engage with?

• How can we make best use of the time and resource available?

• What information do people need?
• How can we get people’s attention? ....and hold their interest?

• How can we ensure everyone has a voice?

• What mix of methods will work best: ....at different times, in different places, for different people?
Citizens’ juries – potential role

• When tackling ‘big questions’?
• Issues that generate strong opinions / polarised views?
• Early in the process – when options are open?
• Where evidence and information are needed to inform views?
• As part of a wider process....