

Policy Context

Dr Fiona Simpson

Assistant Chief Planner

Planning &
Architecture

Programme for Government

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.”

Scotland’s Economic Strategy (2015)

“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....