

## Place Policy

### Summary Table

<b>Policy Status</b> (circle as appropriate)	<b><i>Approved and finalised</i></b>
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<i>Fiona McCallum, Strategy &amp; Innovation Manager</i>
<b>Policy Sponsor</b>	Kate Bond, Head of Customer & Digital Services and Paul Macari, Head of Service Planning and Economy
<b>Authorised by</b>	<i>Full council</i>
<b>Approval Date</b>	<i>27 June 2024</i>
<b>Review Date</b>	<i>Final date (month/year) by when review must be undertaken</i>

#### 1. Policy Statement

The aim of the Place Policy is to support the outcomes of the Place Strategy and Place Plans.

The policy supports the [Place Principle](#) to help overcome organisational and sectoral boundaries, to encourage better collaboration and community involvement, and improve the impact of combined energy, resources and investment.

The place policy and supporting strategy and plans address challenges posed by financial pressures, widening inequalities, demographic changes, the transition to net zero, and a complex planning landscape with multiple, sometimes opposing, interests. By adopting a place-based approach, the Council, working in partnership with communities and community planning partners, can ensure delivery is aligned to community need. It is anticipated that partners and communities will adopt the approach leading to better joint working, co-production and delivery of shared outcomes.

The policy is designed to help the Council to achieve its Strategic Priorities and is relevant to all the areas identified in the Council Plan – a sustainable economy, connected communities and living well locally.

Underpinning the Place Policy is a Place Strategy and Place Plans, founded upon the Place and Wellbeing Indicators.

#### 2. Scope

The policy applies to all Council Services.

### 3. Principles

The following principles set out the main responsibilities for the Council in delivering a place-based approach:

The policy supports delivery of the [Six Qualities of Successful Places](#) set out in National Planning Framework 4

- Healthy: Supporting the prioritisation of women's safety and improving physical and mental health
- Pleasant: Supporting attractive natural and built spaces
- Connected: Supporting well connected networks that make moving around easy and reduce car dependency
- Distinctive: Supporting attention to detail of local architectural styles and natural landscapes to be interpreted into designs to reinforce identity
- Sustainable: Supporting the efficient use of resources that will allow people to live, play, work and stay in their area, ensuring climate resilience and integrating nature positive biodiversity solutions
- Adaptable: Supporting commitment to investing in the long-term value of buildings, streets and spaces by allowing for flexibility so that they can meet the changing needs and accommodate different uses over time

The Council recognises that place is where people, location and resources combine to create a sense of identity and purpose, and is at the heart of addressing the needs and realising the full potential of communities. Places are shaped by the way resources, services and assets are directed and used by the people who live in and invest in them.

The Council will adopt a joined-up approach to place working with communities and partners and embedding the [place and wellbeing outcomes](#) as part of the decision making process. The outcomes ensure Council services work together as part of a whole systems approach and that every aspect of place is being considered.

In adopting a place-based approach the Council will take account of the needs of different populations and geographies in a way that ensures equitable outcomes for all.

The Council will take account of climate impacts locally, nationally and globally and the need to achieve net zero emissions. The place-based approach will enhance broader environmental sustainability and biodiversity in a way that contributes to both greater climate resilience and reduced carbon emissions. The place based approach will enhance Aberdeenshire's approach to [climate change and sustainability](#).

The Council will work with partners, residents and communities in a way that takes account of the need of different population groups including

- Older people, children and young people
- Women, men (including trans men and women and issues relating to pregnancy and maternity)
- Disabled people (including physical disability, learning disability, sensory impairment, cognitive impairment, long term medical conditions, mental health problems)
- Minority ethnic people (including Gypsy/Travellers, non-English speakers)
- Refugees & asylum seekers
- People with different religions or beliefs
- Lesbian, gay, bisexual and heterosexual people
- People who are unmarried, married or in a civil partnership
- People living in poverty/ people of low income
- Homeless people
- People involved in the criminal justice system
- People with low literacy/numeracy
- People in remote, rural locations
- Carers (including parents, especially lone parents; and elderly carers)
- Staff (including people with different work patterns e.g. part/full time, short term, job share, seasonal)

#### 4. Related Links

[National Planning Framework 4 \(NPF4\)](#)

[Our Place](#)

[Place & Wellbeing Outcomes](#)

[Place Principle](#)

[Public Health Scotland - Place](#)

#### 5. Index of Documents

- Policy - version control, including the date of approval, any revisions to the policy and a summary of those changes.*
- Distribution - state where the approved versions will be circulated. A disclaimer should be added to state that documents seen out with those settings are not considered valid.*

a) Policy

Revision Date	Previous Revision Date	Summary of Changes

b) Distribution

Name	Title