



Forres Local Place Plan

2025-2030

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Forres Local Place Plan – ‘By the Community for the Community’

Foreword

This Local Place Plan (LPP) will be submitted to Moray Council by Forres Community Council with support from the Forres Area Forum, Forres Area Community Trust and Forres Community Sports Hub on behalf of the residents, businesses and visitors to Forres.

This Local Place Plan (LPP) has been produced as a continuation of our community action plan Spirit of the Community (2024 – 2034) which was launched in 2024 and sets out the aspirations of the community for the whole of the Forres ASG area.

An additional consultation took place later on in 2024 to fill the gaps that we felt required more depth and greater input in order to complete an LPP.

This LPP sets out the ways in which our community wants to see land developed and used and a spatial vision for our town.

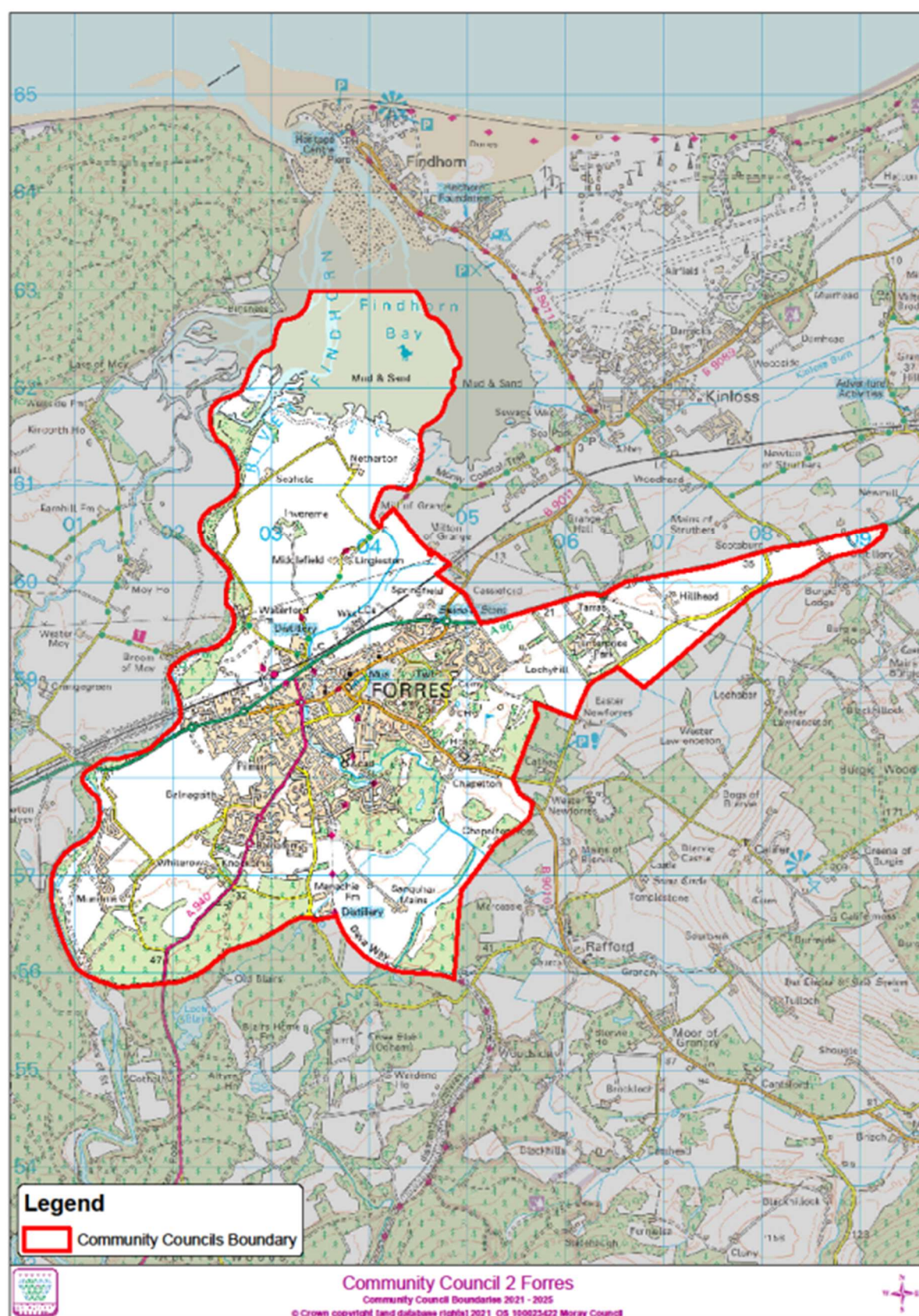
The LPP is a way of identifying and helping to deliver community projects and provides information for other interested organisations. We hope that it will encourage more collaborative working to enable a positive outcome for the continued improvement and development of the Forres Community.

The LPP has demonstrated regard to Moray Council Local Development Plan and the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF 4). We confirm that it aligns with policy aims and objectives of Moray Council Local Development Plan 2020 and NPF 4 and is not seeking to amend the MCLDP 2020.

This LPP will be published online, alongside our community action plan, Spirit of Community (2024-2034) and will be shared with local community groups. It will cover a period of 5 years from 2025-2030. Forres Community Council will work alongside partners and community to help achieve the goals and aspirations.

2. Introduction

The Local Place Plan area is defined by the boundaries shown in the Forres Community Council Map



Aims

The aim of this plan is to give local people a say in future development decisions in Forres.

Our objective when producing this plan was to have a place-based plan that reflects public consultation and meets the LPP criteria to inform future planning decisions via MCLDP 2027.

The Forres Community has inherently been a most pro-active community with the vision and drive to improve all aspects of the community: to create a better place, to attract new residents, to support local businesses and to support the formation of new community groups to enhance the local economy and environment.

A snapshot of our area

Population & Households:

There is a higher proportion of one-person over-65 households in Forres compared with that of Moray and Scotland. Having a higher rate of elderly residents living alone is likely to put more pressure on Health and Social Care services.

Transport & Active Travel:

The A96 links Forres to Inverness and is serviced by a number of bus routes. Forres train station provides links from Aberdeen to Inverness including a direct Inverness Airport link since 2022. There is also an established and growing network of core paths and designated cycle routes throughout the area. There is a larger proportion of households with no vehicle in this area compared to the Moray average. This makes it important to have strong local transport services.

Young People:

Forres has a slightly lower number of 16-17 year olds in full time education than the rest of Moray and Scotland, indicating that pupils are leaving school early and either entering or seeking employment or training. The unemployment rate for younger people in Forres is higher than national and Moray levels. Child poverty is a prominent social issue in the area.

Education:

Forres is served by one secondary school, Forres Academy, which serves the whole ASG. 3 of the 8 feeder primary schools for the secondary school are within the LPP area, Anderson's, Applegrove and Pilmuir. At the current time, Moray Council is undergoing a Learning Estate review.

This means that a number of engagement sessions and focus groups have been held looking at the current school buildings in the area and how to improve their sustainability in the future. The design and build of the new Forres Academy is expected to be completed by December 2027 although at the moment no build has begun.

Health:

The Forres ASG has two medical practices, Culbin and Varis, both based in Forres Health and Care Centre providing NHS primary care services and host a variety of community health and social care teams. The area has a number of pharmacies and specialist health services. Mental health continues to be a growing health concern in the area.

Employment:

Those economically active in full time employment has reduced over the years, though those in part-time work has increased. This statistic could be related to increased caring duties. 259 (2.6%) of residents in Forres provide over 50 hours of care per week, which is higher than the Moray rate and fractionally higher than the national rate.

Heritage:

Our area has a diverse heritage including Forres's links with the real King Macbeth, the monolithic Sueno's Stone found at the east end of Forres; a 21 foot Pictish carved stone and Nelson's Tower sits at the top of Cluny Hill.

Forres is the start of the Malt Whisky trail with two distilleries attracting visitors to the area, supporting economic growth and development along with the businesses now located in the Enterprise Park, all helping to increase job opportunities and assisting with the retention / attracting the younger age group to the area. More information on heritage sites and other visitor attractions in the area can be found on the Visit Forres website: <https://visitforres.scot/forres/>

Social & Community:

There are numerous churches, historical buildings, and community buildings in Forres including Forres Town Hall, Forres House Community Centre and Library, and a local swimming pool which are used by many groups including Youth Uniformed Groups, Men's Shed, Air Training Corps, Army Cadets, dance, pipers, social, toddlers and youth volunteer groups.

The area is known for its plentiful community groups offering opportunities for all users.

For further information go to the Visit Forres website: <https://visitforres.scot/forres/>

Environment:

The Forres ASG area is well provided for with green spaces, many of these located within housing areas. Forres has been a constant winner of the Beautiful Scotland and Britain in Bloom awards thanks to local group, Forres in Bloom.

There are also many other open areas which can be easily accessed to enjoy the local environment including the Dava Way, Culbin Forest, Sanquhar Woods and routes that link into the Moray and Coastal Ways.

Community Engagement

While engaging with the people of Forres was key to producing a Local Place Plan, the Forres area local action plan, Spirit of Community was completed in early 2024 after extensive engagement and we wanted to draw on data received through that process. In the last few years multiple ongoing initiatives have reached out to residents for their thoughts and ambitions. Our intention is for the results of these consultations, and others, to be fed into this Local Place Plan.

Forres LPP 2024 is the result of study of the guidance and policies available to us, and of our local consultations.

Research

In addition to our own engagement process we conducted some further desktop research to add value to our plan.

Plans that we drew evidence of identified need included

- Spirit of the Community https://forresarea.org/the-community/projects/spirit_of_community/
- Town Centre Improvement Plan - <http://www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file144994.pdf>
- Culture and Heritage - file146614.pdf - 2022-25 Quarter to December Education, Resources and Communities Performance Report – Service Plan
- Moray Council Active Travel Strategy- <http://www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file140010.pdf>
- Mannachie Park Masterplan - <http://www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file145345.pdf>
- Learning Estate - Public Consultation on Forres Common Good Land known as Roysvale Park under Section 104 of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
- Moray Council Learning Estate Strategy 2022-2032 - <http://www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file149062.pdf>
- Cluny Hill Woodland Management Proposal 2022-2032 - <http://www.moray.gov.uk/downloads/file150689.pdf>
- Sanquhar Woods Management Plan - <http://www.moray.gov.uk/minutes/data/DC20180320/Item%2013-Sanquhar%20Loch-Appendix%20B-MP.pdf>
- Forres Community Woodland Plan - <https://forrescommunitywoodlands.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/2022-2026-Management-Plan.pdf>
- Forres Area Football Trust feasibility study - <https://fcft.co.uk/feasibility-study-published/>
- Forres Health Locality Plan - <https://hscmoray.co.uk/forres-lossiemouth.html>

Mapping exercise

We held a meeting to map where current priorities from the Spirit of Community Plan sat on the local living wheel. While this isn't exhaustive it gave us a good indicator of the current situation. **Appendix 1.**

Fantastic Forres

Fantastic Forres has produced an amazing map of Forres's local assets and kindly gave us permission to use it to highlight some of Forres's important physical assets.

Involving the Community

The first meeting of the Spirit of Community engagement group took place on 31st January 2022 and included representation from the following community groups, organisations and agencies:

- Dyke Landward Community Council
- Finderne Development Trust
- Forres Area Business Association
- Forres Area Community Trust
- Forres Area Forum
- Forres Community Council
- Forres In Bloom
- Forres Friends of Woods & Fields
- Forres Highland Games
- Forres Rotary Club
- Forres Sports Hub
- Leancoil Trust
- Moray Council Community Support Unit
- Ray's Opportunities
- Transition Town Forres
- TSI Moray (who also helped fund the project)

The group collaborated on four separate engagements:

April 2022- A public engagement event at Forres Town Hall where 80+ attendees participated.

April 2022 - Online Survey Monkey where 119 responses were received

Following analysis of initial feedback, young people were recognised as a gap in respondents; the following targeted consultation was undertaken as a result:

Autumn 2022 - 163 responses from Forres Academy senior pupils engagement

Autumn 2022 - 76 responses young persons' focus group

March 2023 - at Forres Academy and FACT's Employability Project- an additional 23 participants took part.

May 2024 - At the launch of our Spirit of Community Plan we asked attendees how we could best collaborate to progress some of our identified priorities.



We asked attendees to name groups that could support priority actions, projects that already fitted well with the themes and any barriers they were aware of.

We also asked how best to progress priority actions and the general consensus was thematic group meetings followed up by 6 monthly updates – 40 attendees.

You can read the Spirit of Community Plan at https://forresarea.org/the-community/projects/spirit_of_community/



You can read the Spirit of Community Data Report in **Appendix 3**

Following on from the May 2024 launch of the Spirit of Community Plan the opportunity to produce a Local Place Plan was identified. Subsequently Forres Community Council, Forres Area Forum, Forres Community Sports Hub and Forres Area Community Trust (FACT) met to discuss further engagement that could support the production of an LPP while utilizing the substantial amount of engagement already done.

Oct 2024 - we promoted a community wide online survey that received 59 responses. **Appendix 4**

September 2024 - We hosted a pop-up stall at Moray Pride in Forres's Grant Park that received 30 responses **Appendix 5**





July 2024 We hosted a stall at one of Forres Town Hall's Coffee Mornings

July 2024 We had a session to engage with young people. **Appendix 6**

As part of our consultation process for both Spirit of Community and the Local Place Plan we asked people to identify the strengths as well as the challenges or weaknesses within our area.

Strengths

People enjoy living in Forres for its strong sense of community, friendly atmosphere, and beautiful natural surroundings. The town offers a peaceful, rural feel with easy access to green spaces, woodlands, and beaches.

Locals value the area's safety, low crime, and clean environment, as well as the variety of activities, from local events in Grant Park to scenic walks up to Nelson Tower. Forres is rich in culture and history, with a unique charm enhanced by floral displays, historic sites, and a range of cafes and shops.

Challenges

While new affordable housing is welcomed, continuous housing developments are perceived to strain local resources without sufficient infrastructure improvements.

Residents find Forres lacks infrastructure, including inadequate public transport, long travel distances for specialist healthcare, and a poor road network with frequent traffic delays.

Parking is an issue in the town, with insufficient spaces and restrictions which can't be enforced due to lack of staff resources within Moray Council, this causes safety concerns.

Maintenance issues, such as deteriorating buildings, uneven hard landscaping and street furniture in need of repair detract from the town's appeal.

Local residents and young people expressed that the current secondary school is not fit for purpose and a new secondary school is needed as a priority. While a new secondary school is in development there is concern that delays to decisions on the site will impact the proposed timeline.

Young people perceive that there is a lack of facilities and provision for them and often feel left out of decision-making processes.

Moray Council is perceived to be a financially challenged local authority.

Priorities identified from the Spirit of Community Plan

We mapped the priorities identified under the 6 themes from the Spirit of Community to the spatial framework required for a Local Place Plan (LPP)

Spirit of Community Theme	Priorities suitable to include in a LPP
1. Local Environment	Continue work on improving green and blue spaces including better managed parks, forests, and ponds
	Increase growing spaces including allotments and fruit trees in public areas
	Increase planting to encourage wildlife
2. Traffic, Transport and Access	Improve safety crossing A96
	Improve access to High Street
	Increase disabled access bays on High Street
	Improve signage to surrounding car parks to deter parking on High Street (for those who can use other car parks)
	Improve cycle access and infrastructure
3. Leisure, Tourism and Heritage	Maintain free parking throughout Forres
	Utilise empty buildings for pop-up shops & local businesses
	Development of skate park
	Development of 4G pitch
	Basketball / multi sports pitches to be repaired/ introduced
	Facilities for motorhomes – parking, waste disposal / service areas
	Re-opening of the Falconer Museum and its tourist office
4. Facilities and Services	Improve Grant Park toilets
	Reopen toilets behind Co-op
	Increase number of bins in public spaces
	Introduce recycling bins in public spaces (mostly general waste bins currently)
5. Cost of Living	More affordable housing
6. Young People	Development of skate park
	Development of All Weather pitch
	Basketball / multi sports area to be repaired/ introduced
	Support the improvement and development of play parks
	Re-introduction of a youth club space

We have drafted the Local Place Plan as a set of 6 themes and accompanying statements which complement our Spirit of Community Plan.

These are set out over the following pages interspersed with maps and photos.

Key partners have been identified at this early stage however these are suggested partners and are subject to change. The lead organisations and supporting partners for some projects have still to be approached and their agreement sought in the delivery of actions.

We recognise that there are significant implications in terms of resourcing and funding this plan. We will continue to work collaboratively with partner organisations to support projects and monitor progress.

For further explanation of the NPF4 policies refer to Appendix 2.

Theme 1: Local Environment

Members of the community were passionate about protecting and enhancing the natural environment and green spaces. They were also concerned about climate change mitigation and were keen to explore new ways of addressing waste management and litter, and increase local food growing

LPP relevant priorities from our SoC Plan...

- Continue work on improving green and blue spaces including better managed parks, forests, Lochs and ponds
- Increase growing spaces including allotments and fruit trees in public areas
- Increase planting to encourage wildlife

How we will achieve it

	Green space and parks	Locations	Key NPF 4 policies	Short/Medium/Long
1.1	There is a strong wish to protect and enhance existing green space in Forres and for play areas to be developed for people of all ages. There should be equity of access to green spaces. Good public access to green space is important for health and social justice. The community does not wish green space sacrificed for built development. Planting in all local green spaces should consider biodiversity measures.	Focus on improvement specified that toddler equipment could be added to Mannachie Park play area to broaden the age range of play. Grant Park play area equipment should be improved to increase accessibility of equipment and lighting installed, the play area at Pilmuir (Randolph Lane) should be improved, Bogton Road Play area should be improved and additional equipment should be installed at the Forres Academy Outdoor Gym to	21, 20, 3,	Short/Medium

		<p>improve its accessibility.</p> <p>Forres in Bloom will initiate a community asset transfer for the Grant Park Depot and Greenhouses in order to provide long term sustainability of its work.</p>		
1.2	Wildlife Sites			
	Local listed nature reserves (recognised by Moray Council) should remain protected. Part of the Findhorn Bay Area falls within the Forres boundary.		4, 3,	Ongoing
	<p>Sites not officially recognised as nature reserves or special interest sites should still receive protection. Both the Spirit of Community and the LPP engagement showed a strong wish to protect natural habitats and improve biodiversity. The natural landscape of the LPP area should be protected and maintained. Our consultations show this is highly valued by local people and visitors.</p>	<p>Reference should be made to Moray's draft Nature Networks and corridors recently identified here</p> <p>Cluny Hill Management Plan here</p> <p>Sanquhar Loch Woodlands Management Plan here</p> <p>Sanquhar Pond is outwith the boundary of the above plan but Sanquhar Pond should be treated as a natural reserve for wildlife benefits.</p> <p>Mannachie Park Masterplan here All</p>	3	Ongoing

		<p>plans should continue to be developed with Moray Council and community.</p> <p>A number of objectives were identified in The Moray Woodland Forestry Strategy 2024 which the community, council and private owners could work in partnership on. The strategy can be found here</p>		
1.3	Farmland			
	<p>Nature friendly farming should be encouraged. This includes protection of biodiversity corridors and the planting of native trees and hedges in suitable places. Soils and watercourses should be protected. Soil forms an important part of carbon storage. The importance of soil protection from erosion, undue disturbance, and impoverishment is recognised in NPF4.</p> <p>Watercourses too need protected from chemicals and agricultural run-off. Climate change is delivering challenges to farmers and landowners in managing both wetter and drier conditions than previously experienced, and this may require changes to infrastructure to prevent flooding or parched soils. This may impact development decisions.</p>		4, 3, 5	Ongoing

1.4	Access			
	Responsible access to all land under the Land Reform Scotland Act should be assumed and encouraged. This plan supports development to improve signage, access, and maintenance of local paths, including gates and stiles.		14	Short
1.5	Allotments			
	<p>The Gardenshare at Transition Town Forres is currently not identified as allotment provision in Forres. The reclassification of the ground as allotments space would offer the site a higher level of protection.</p> <p>Further sites for allotments should be explored to meet demand.</p>	Transition Town Gardenshare	15, 23	Short
1.6	Food Growing			
	<p>There are a number of established and developing food growing sites in Forres.</p> <p>We support collaborative working with Moray Council, organisations and stakeholders to secure the long-term sustainability of these projects and new projects through access to funding, land, and technical advice.</p> <p>The Moray Food Growing Strategy is up for review in 2025. We will work with Moray Council to support and promote the review and identification of further food growing opportunities and locations in Forres.</p> <p>A food growing site should be built in to the new Forres Academy.</p>	<p>Forres Friends of Wood and Field's Community Garden at Chapelton: Providing space for community food production and fostering connections between residents.</p> <p>Mannachie Park / Councillor's Walk / Mosset Burn Community Orchard: Supporting local fruit production and biodiversity.</p> <p>Sustainable Planet Project at Auchernack:</p>	15, 23	Short/Medium

	<p>There is potential for a food growing site at Leancoil if this fits within the Development Trust's plans.</p>	<p>Planning to establish a market garden for the provision of organic and affordable vegetables to local residents.</p> <p>Transition Town Forres Community Garden: Operating as a form of allotments, empowering individuals to grow their own food and TTF currently provides education through the Greenshoots Initiative.</p> <p>Wee FIBbees at Grant Park: a food growing, gardening and nature initiative for Primary School aged young people on a Tuesday.</p> <p>Potential sites:</p> <p>Leancoil Hospital</p> <p>Logie Park</p> <p>Bogton Park</p>		
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Potential Partners – community groups or organisations that may be able to help (which is subject to their agreement)

- Moray Climate Action Network (managed by tsiMORAY)
- Local Action Group (managed by tsiMORAY)
- Forres Friends of Woods and Fields includes a community garden, a site for Wild Things gathering place and numerous opportunities for environmental/ recreational activities on 26 acres of land.
- Forres Green Spaces Group
- Forres in Bloom
- Forres Academy Environmental Group
- Forres Area Forum
- Community Energy Moray
- Wild Things
- Development Trusts in local area
- Transition Town Forres Gardens
- Forres Friends of Wood and Fields
- Leancoil Development Trust
- Sustainable Planet Project
- Community Orchard Group
- Moray Council Planning

Current Projects Locally Which Link to this Theme

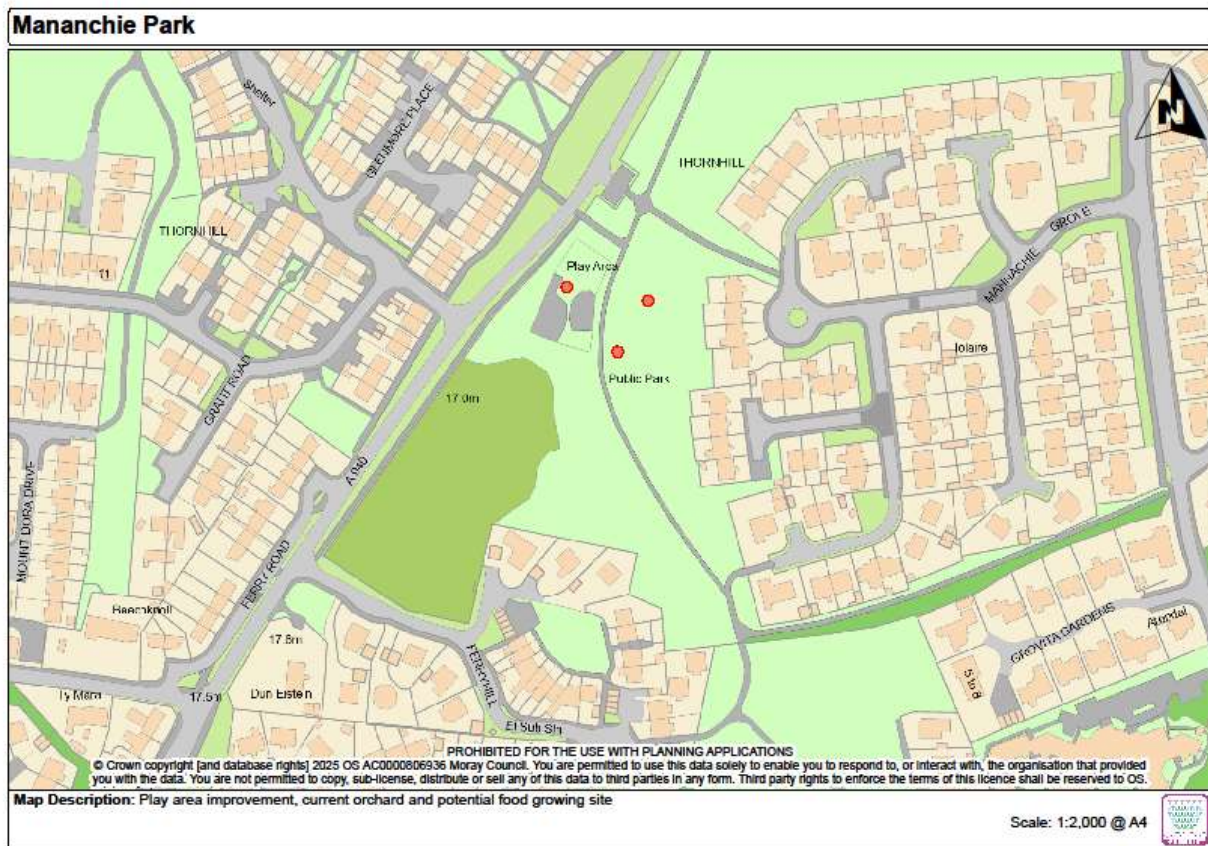
- Forres Community Woodland Trust
- Wild Things
- TTF Gardeners TTF Green Shoots
- Forres Friends of Fields and Woods
- Forres in Bloom CAT
- Earthtime
- Forres in Bloom
- Wee FIBbees
- Cluny Hill Group
- Numerous Environmental Sessions
- Sanquhar Pond Group.
- Dava Way

Potential Barriers

- Lack of volunteers - succession planning
- Loss of sites due to Local Authority rental costs
- Long Term Governance
- Access to Funding to create sustainability

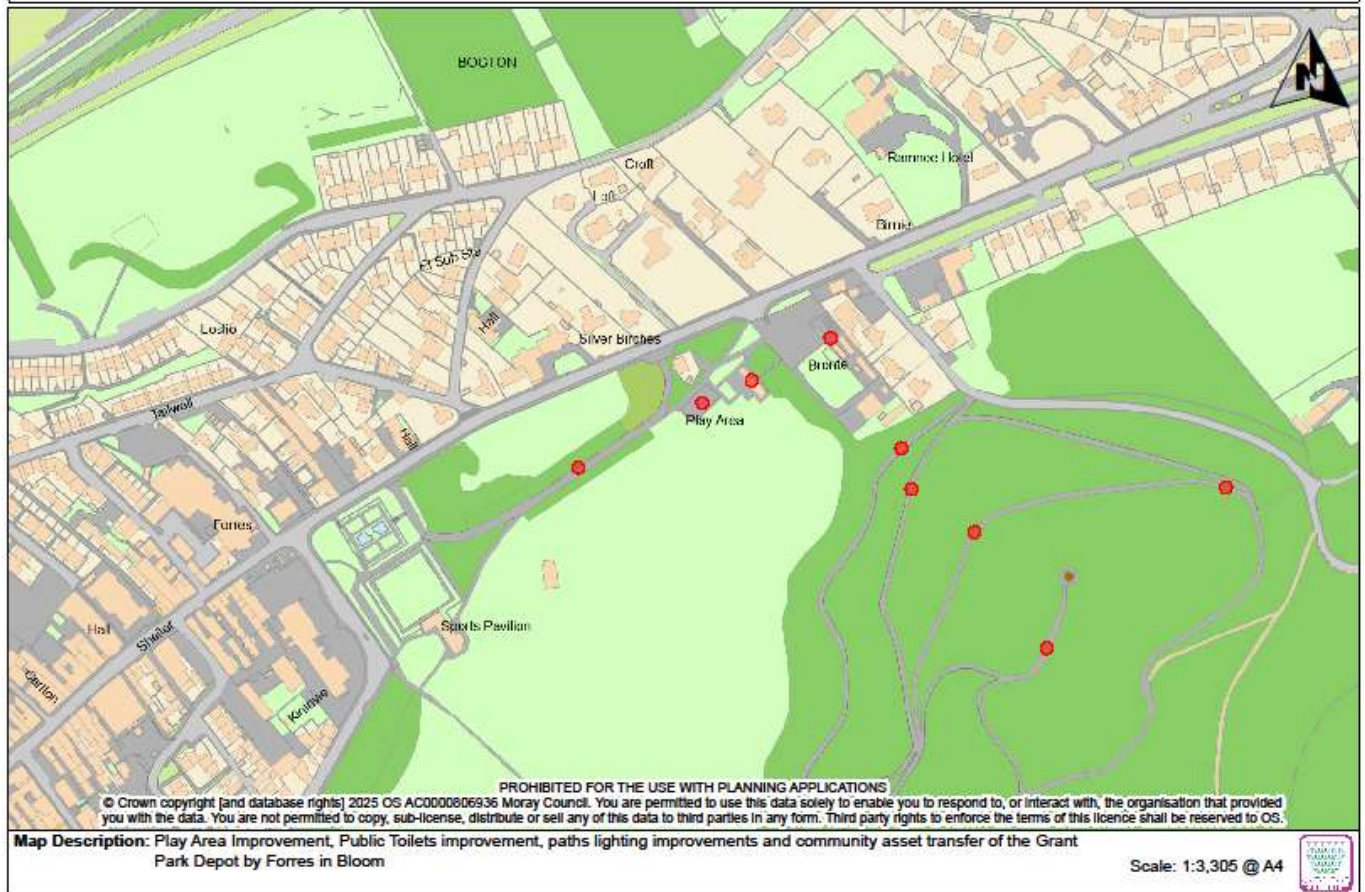
Place Maps Theme 1: Environment

The following maps respond to projects in each theme. Some of the projects refer to whole areas such as the town centre or projects where a site has not been identified yet and we have not included maps for these.



1.1 & 1.6 Mannachie Park Play improvement site and Food Growing areas to be identified

Grant Park

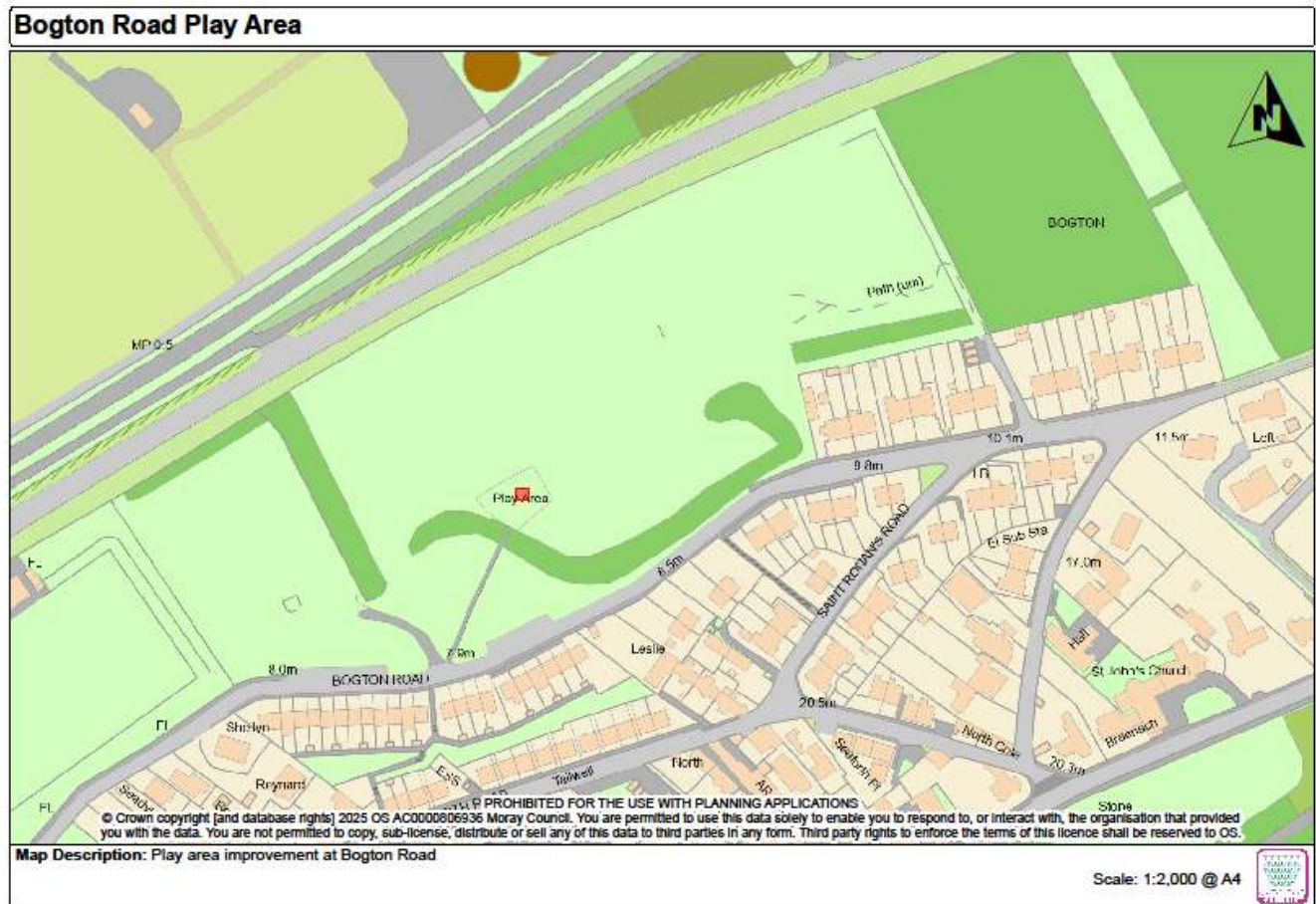


1.1 & 1.6 & 4.1 Grant Park Play Improvement, Food Growing, Lighting improvement and toilet upgrade

Randolph Lane Play Area

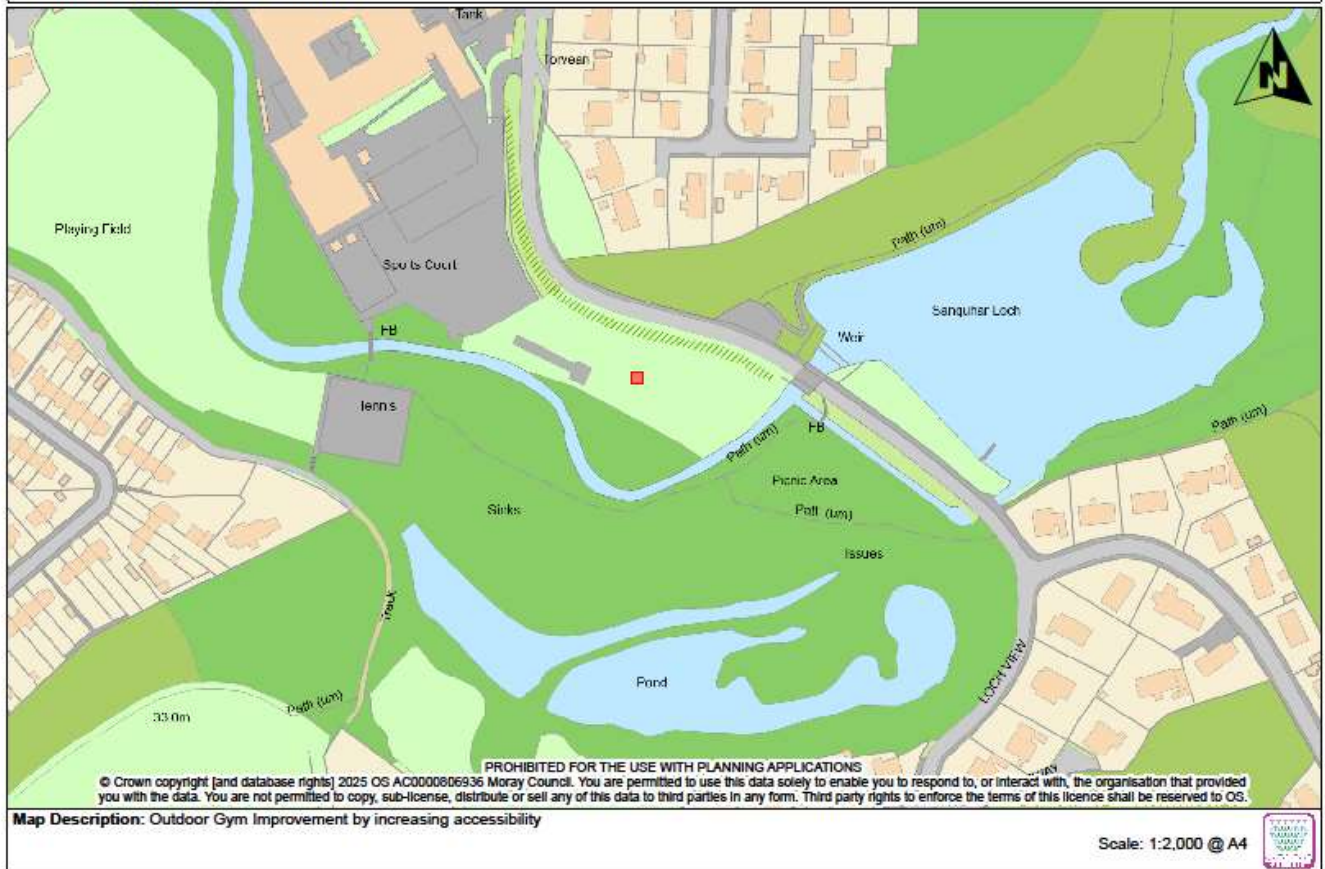


1.1 Randolph Lane/ Moray Street Play Area Improvement



1.1 Bogton Road Play Area Improvement

Outdoor Gym Improvement



1.1 Forres Academy Outdoor Gym expansion to improve accessibility

Map Description: Transition Town Gardens Reclassified as allotments

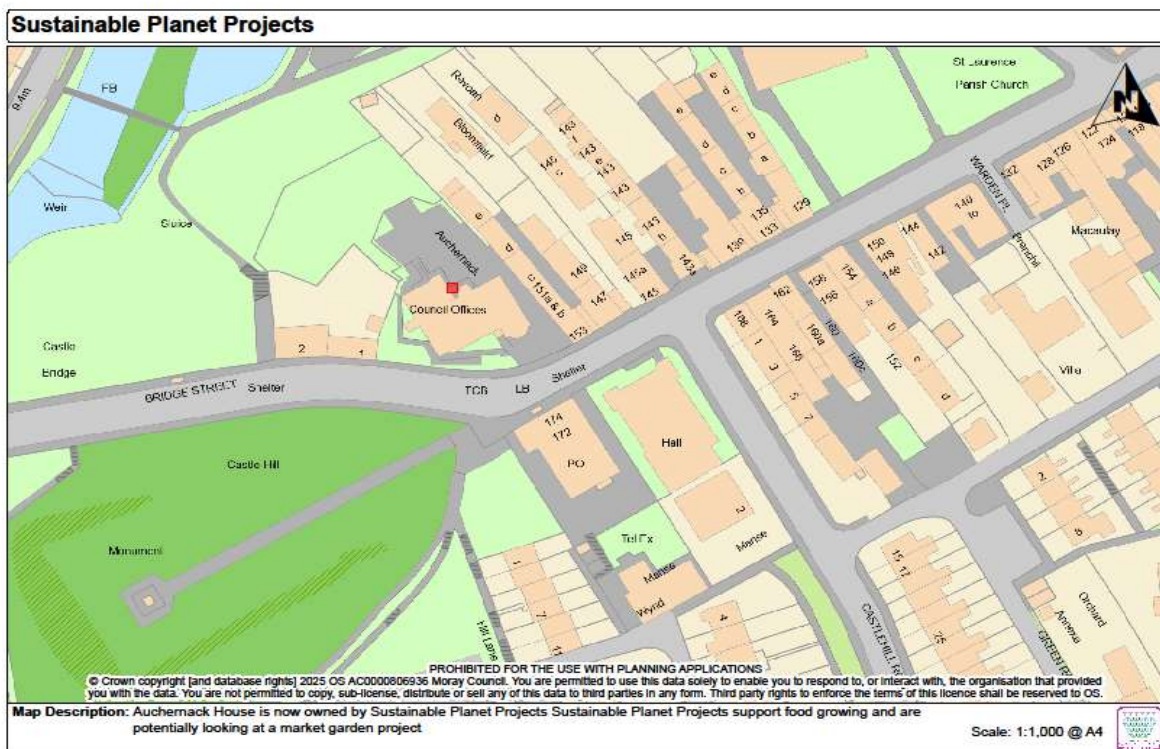
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Scale: 1:2,000 @ A4

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1.6 Forres Friend of Woods and Field has a successful food growing project



1.6 Sustainable Planet Projects are considering a market garden project

Theme 2: Traffic, Transport and Access

Members of the community were looking for improved transportation infrastructure and connectivity including rail frequency, realistic routes, timings, cycle links and pedestrian safety.

Issues around the safety of crossing the A96 especially to access rail travel were seen to limit opportunities for work and visitor economy. Lack of parking is perceived to be a cause of traffic congestion during larger events. Those residents requiring specialist health support are negatively impacted in terms of finances and their mental and physical wellbeing by travel to Aberdeen and further afield. There is support for satellite specialist healthcare provision in Forres to counter this and the impact on the environment of many patients travelling for care versus one specialist travelling to Forres to provide a clinic. There were suggestions this could link to plans for the former Leachcoil Hospital but this would need to be discussed further.

LPP relevant priorities from our SoC Plan...

- Improve safety crossing A96
- Improve access to High Street
- Increase disabled access bays on High Street, lower kerbs
- Improve signage to surrounding car parks to deter parking on High Street (for those who can use other car parks)
- Improve cycle access and infrastructure

How we will achieve it

	Rail station	Location	Key NPF 4 policies	Short/Medium/Long
2.1	There is support for safer pedestrian access to the rail station in the form of a crossing or a bridge. Work collaboratively with Moray Council and relevant agencies to look at scope and impact of pedestrian crossing.	A96 crossing at Forres Train Station	13, 14	Long
2.2	Access to High Street			
	Make the town centre more accessible and inclusive by upgrading and	Museum Square Tolbooth Street Forres House	14	Medium/Long

	<p>providing a cohesive approach to paving and street furniture, in particular Museum Square/ Tolbooth Street as this is a focal point within the town centre and the lanes to the High Street from surrounding car parks as these are key approaches.</p> <p>The cobbled area outside Forres House is uneven and can cause trip hazards.</p> <p>Work with Moray Council to look at possible design and funding.</p>	Anderson's Square		
	<p>Increase disabled access bays on High Street including lowering kerbs.</p> <p>Continue to work with Moray Council, local disability forums and national organisations to ensure town centre is accessible</p>	High Street	14	Medium/Long
2.3	Improve Signage			
	<p>Improve Signage, develop interpretation trail and light up buildings</p> <p>Work collaboratively with Forres Conservation and</p>	Conservation Area	14	Medium/Long

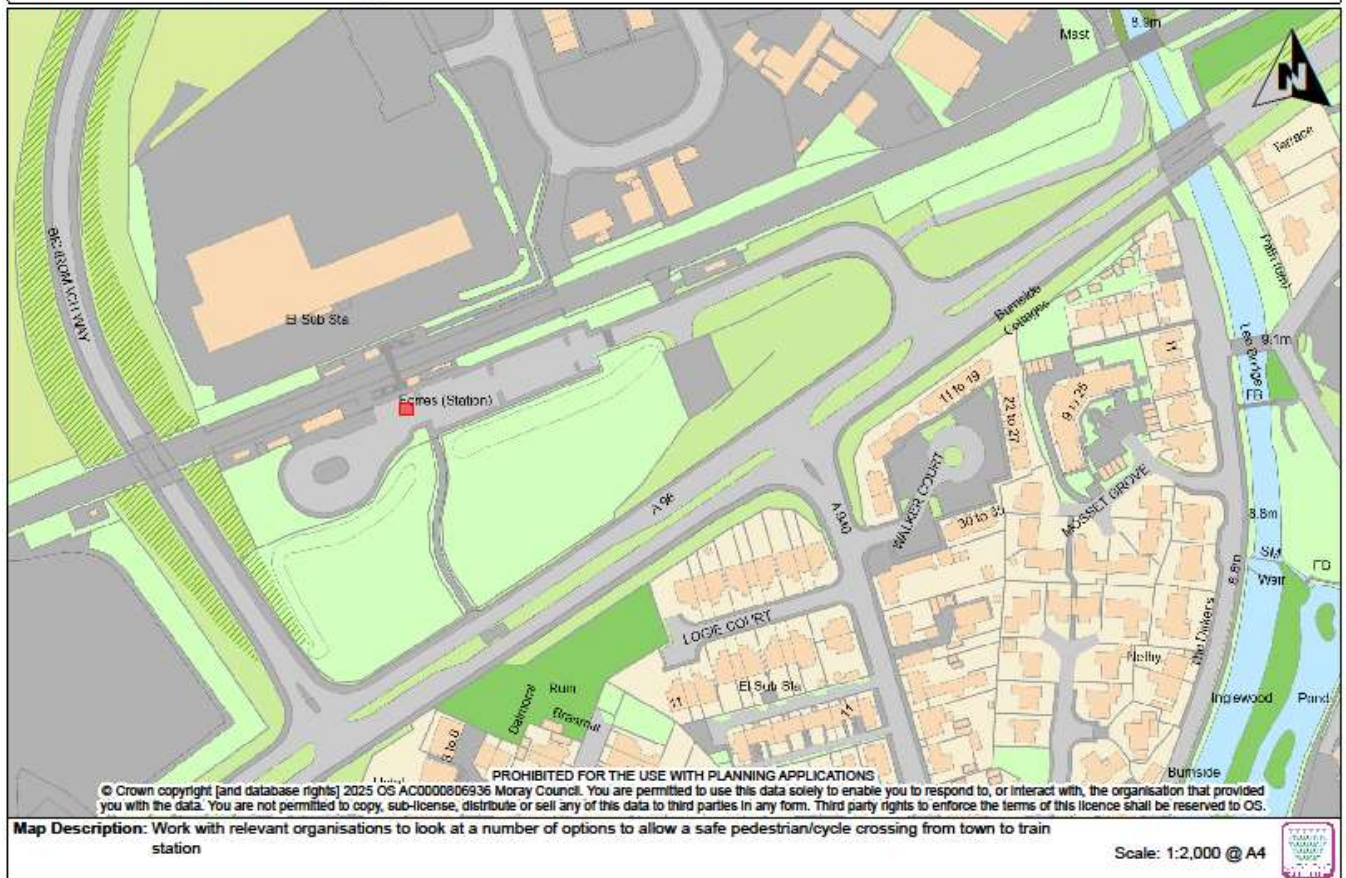
	Heritage Scheme to review and rationalise street signage, and consider opportunities for digital (i.e. QR codes) signage			
2.4	Improve cycle access and infrastructure			
	<p>Work collaboratively with the local groups and Moray Council to identify community projects and infrastructure changes that can improve safety and cycle routes around Forres.</p> <p>Install lighting on Cluny Hill path</p> <p>Install lighting at Grant Park</p>	<p>Cluny Hill Path</p> <p>Grant Park Path</p>	13	Medium/Long
	Potential Partners – community groups or organisations that may be able to help (which is subject to their agreement)'			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active Travel Forres Group • Forres Cycling Club • Osprey Bus • Police • Stagecoach • Outfit Moray • Forres Community Council • Transition Town Forres have a communal cargo bike • Moray Transport Forum • Forres Conservation and Heritage Scheme (Moray Council) • Disability forums (local and national) • Scotrail • Network Rail • Transport Scotland 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AMEY 	
Current Projects Locally Which Link to this Theme		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dava Way • Footpath Network Development • Forres Local Active Travel Strategy (Moray Council) • Active Schools • M Connect • BikeAbility • Osprey Bus 		
Potential Barriers		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The rural road networks being single track and passing points • E-bikes, e-scooters, bikes and scooters can be dangerous on pavements • Insurance costs for car share schemes need to be more affordable • Lack of volunteers • Lack of traffic wardens • Increased admin costs for PVG 		

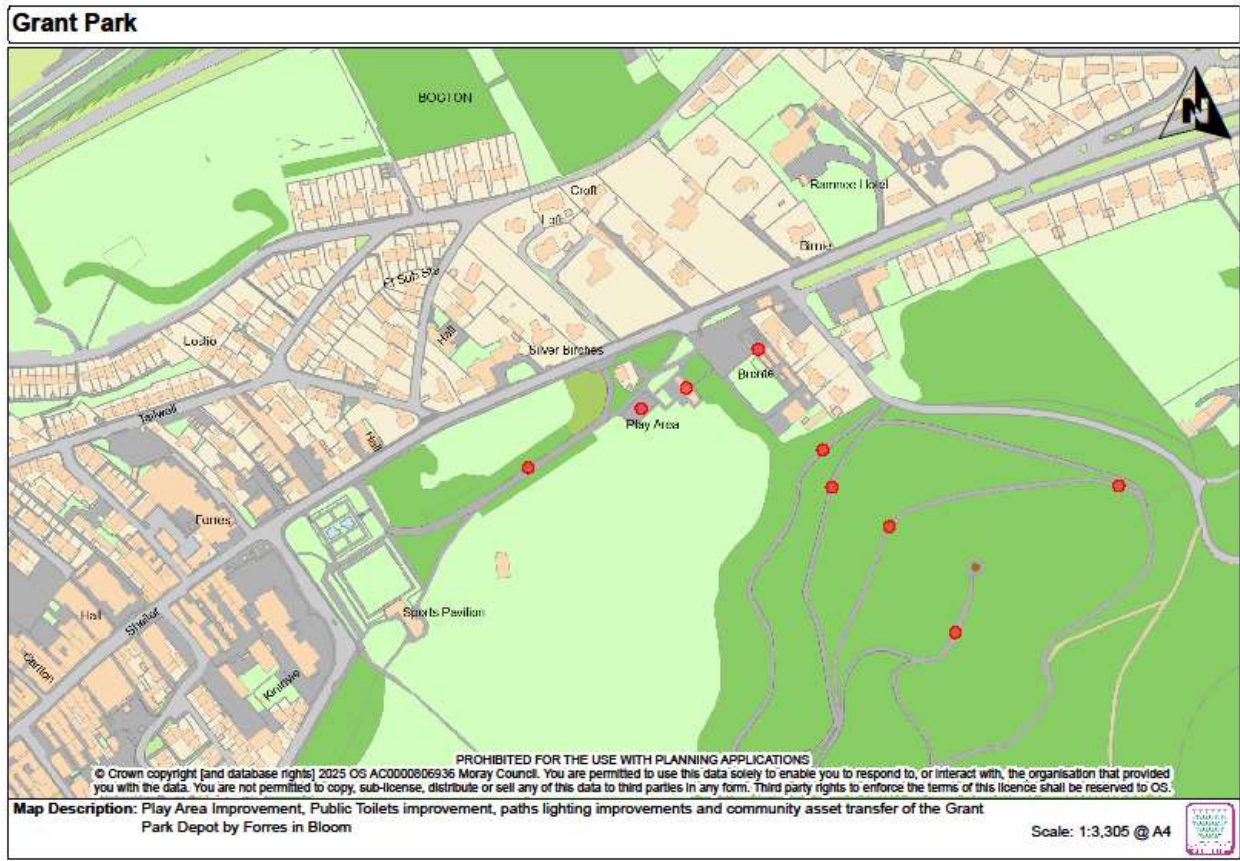
Place Maps Theme 2: Traffic, Transport and Access

The following maps respond to projects in each theme. Some of the projects refer to whole areas such as the town centre or projects where a site has not been identified yet and we have not included maps for these.

Forres Train Station Crossing



2.1 A safe crossing place for pedestrians who need to cross the A96 at Forres Train Station



2.4 Lighting could be added to the path network at Cluny Hill and Grant Park; suitable locations would need to be looked at with the relevant organisations.

Theme 3: Leisure, Tourism and Heritage

There was a strong sense that the community wanted to celebrate and preserve the culture, heritage and traditions of Forres. In response they wanted to see more arts, cultural events, and festivals as well as leisure venues and activities that enrich community life.

LPP relevant priorities from our SoC Plan...

- Utilise empty buildings for pop-up shops & local businesses
- Development of skate park
- Development of an all weather sports pitch
- Basketball / multi sports pitches to be repaired/ introduced
- Facilities for motorhomes – parking, waste disposal / service areas
- Re-opening of the Falconer Museum and its tourist office

How we will achieve it

	Utilise empty buildings for pop-up shops & local businesses	Locations	Key NPF4 Policies	Short/Medium/Long
3.1	Work collaboratively with Moray Council to support the redevelopment and/or refurbishment of vacant and derelict buildings and sites for residential and/or community uses	Town Centre	9	Ongoing
3.2	Support the continued refurbishment and redevelopment of Forres Town Hall into a performance/event space by Forres Area Community Trust (FACT)	Forres Town Hall	7, 25	Ongoing
3.3	Support the refurbishment and redevelopment of the former Leancoil	Leancoil Hospital site	7, 25	Medium/Long

	Hospital by Leancoil Development Trust			
3.4	Support the re-opening of the Falconer Museum. Support The Friends of Falconer Museum and Moray Council to look at a feasibility study of new running models.	Falconer Museum	7, 25	Short/Medium
3.5	The Church of Scotland wishes to dispose of the A-listed St Laurence Church: There is community support that this remain a publicly accessible heritage asset without becoming a financial burden on the community. Details of the possible future development of it are not yet available for this LPP.	St Laurence Church	7, 25	Medium
	Protection and improvement of the Forres conservation area			
3.6	Improving buildings for climate change adaptation and mitigation to ensure that older homes and retail/business premises remain fit for the future. Continue to work collaboratively with	Forres Conservation Area	2, 7	Short/Medium

	Moray Council to promote initiatives and schemes.			
	Heritage Trail			
3.7	Develop an interpretation trail based on local knowledge and Discover Moray's Great Places and light up important and/or prominent buildings/spaces to showcase the heritage of Forres.	Town Centre Cluny Hill Sueno's Stone, Findhorn Road Whitley Bomber Memorial	29	Short/Medium
3.8	Greening			
	Greening' streets and public spaces through additional landscaping and planting. Work collaboratively with Moray Council, Forres Green Spaces Group, Forres in Bloom and Town Centre businesses.	Forres High Street	20 & 3	Ongoing
3.9	Develop a shopfront improvement scheme			
	Work Collaboratively with Moray Council to support the development of a Design Guide and a Shopfront Improvement Scheme for premises on the High Street to enhance the visual appearance of	Forres High Street	14 & 25	Medium

	Forres' traditional shopfront.			
3.10	Development of an all weather pitch			
	Support the establishment of an all-weather sports surface within the town of Forres which includes an enclosed full-sized floodlit artificial surface. Consideration should be given to competition standards to bring economic benefit to the town.	<p>Applegrove or Roysvale present the most favourable options in terms of where a new pitch facility should be developed however delays over the school build and location have meant that an alternative locations may be considered.</p> <p>Potentially</p> <p>Logie Park</p> <p>Roysvale as part of the new school build</p> <p>The current Forres Academy site.</p> <p>https://fcft.co.uk/feasibility-study-published/</p>	21	Medium/Long
3.11	Development of a skatepark			
	Support the establishment of a skatepark	A Community Asset Transfer of a small area of Grant Park was unsuccessful in late 2023. The proposal for a new secondary school build means that alternative sites could be made available in the future. However this would need further discussion.	21	Long
3.12	Basketball / multi games area to be repaired/ introduced			Medium/Long

	Support the resurfacing of the basketball area or change to a Multi Use Games Area at the rear of current Forres Academy with suitable lighting and accessibility	Current Forres Academy site	21	
3.13	Motor homes facilities			
	Parking and motor homes: While the community welcomes visitors to the surrounding beaches, and town centre shopping, there is concern about inadequate tourism infrastructure. Additional car parking capacity and motor homes facilities need to be supported, but green space should not be sacrificed for this.	Potentially Horizon Enterprise Park	30	Medium
3.14	Major Events			
	Forres Highland Games have secured a long lease of their storage facility with Moray Council but the building needs improvement works. These improvement works should be supported through local and partnership approaches to allow the group to continue	Grant Park Storage building		

	on with this local event which brings visitors to Forres			
Potential Partners – community groups or organisations that may be able to help (which is subject to their agreement)’				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leancoil Development Trust • Forres Area Community Trust • FFWF (Forres Friends of Woods and Fields – encourage the use and enjoyment of this beautiful part of Forres • Forres in Bloom • Forres Heritage Trust • Forres Conservation and Heritage Scheme • Forres Connected • Findhorn Bay Arts • Local Churches • Moray Council Leisure and Sport • Forres Activities Association • Moray Council • Forres Academy • Forres Primary Schools • Forres Community Football Trust • Forres Skate Park Initiative • tsiMORAY • Forres Area Business Association • Forres Area Tourism Network • Friends of Falconer Museum • Visit Moray Speyside • Town Centre Task Force • Dance North • MODS • Highland Youth Theatre 				
Current Projects Locally Which Link to this Theme				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Findhorn Bay Arts Festival and Associated Arts Programmes • Forres Connected • Forres Conservation and Heritage Scheme • Forwards Amateur Writing Group • Grant Park 100 and similar celebrations • Forres Theme Day • Forres Highland Games • Forres Heritage Trust Events • NEOS – North East Open Studios • Forres Skate Park Initiative • Badminton Moray and other groups 				

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Piping Championships • Open Doors Scheme • Twinning Association Mount Dora, Vienenburg
Potential Barriers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of volunteers • PVG cost • Transport costs and availability • Land availability/ restrictions regarding usage • Council charges • Governance • Closure of Falconer Museum

Place Maps Theme 3: Leisure, Tourism and Heritage

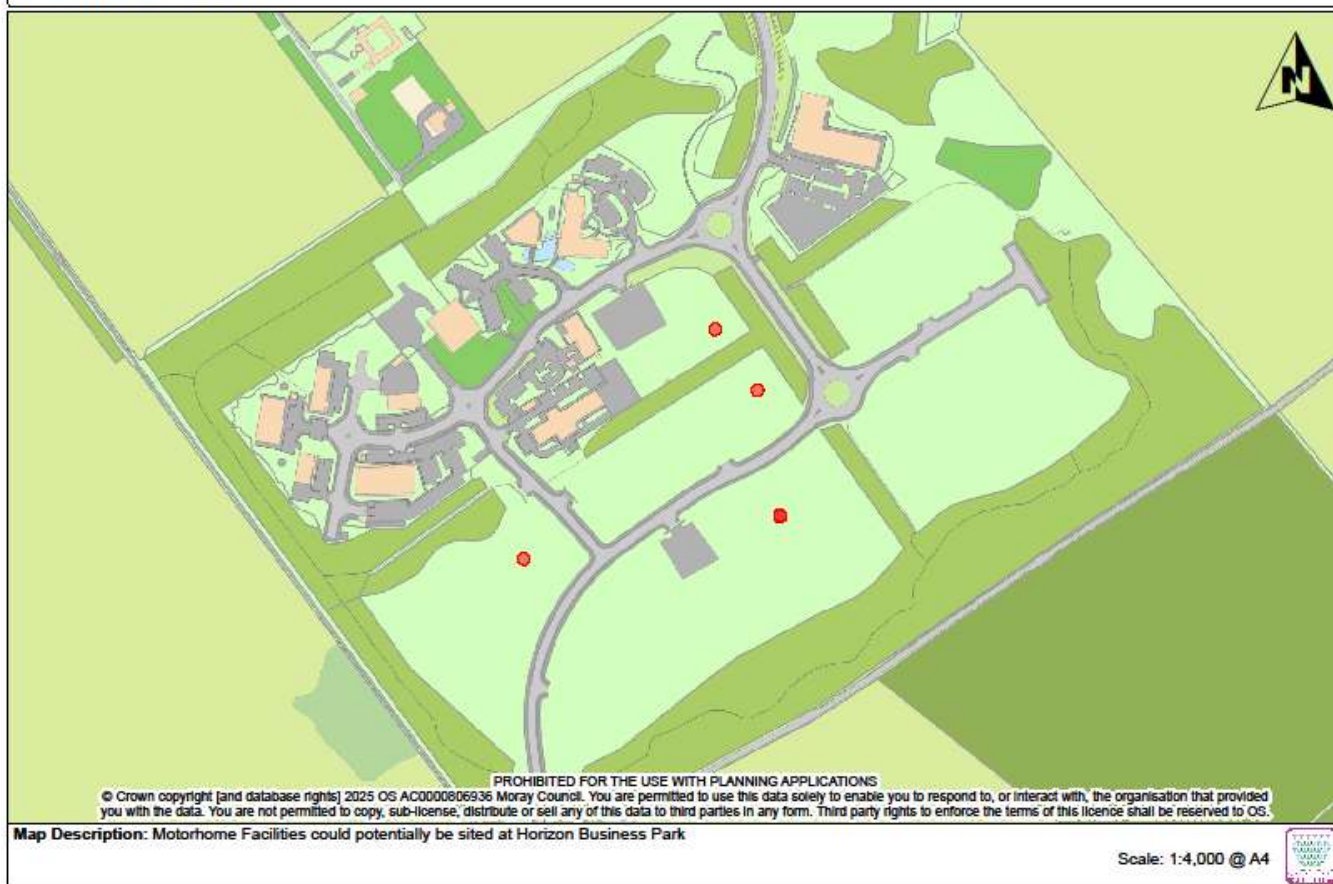
The following maps respond to projects in each theme. Some of the projects refer to whole areas such as the town centre or projects where a site has not been identified yet and we have not included maps for these.

Former Leancoil Hospital



3.3 & 4.6 Support the refurbishment and redevelopment of the former Leancoil Hospital Site. Possible site for specialist clinics

MotorHome Facilities



3.13 Motor Homes Facilities potentially at the Horizon Park

Theme 4: Facilities & Services

Members of the community wanted to see more done to promote buying local and saw the importance of this to the local economy as well as encouraging more visitors to the area which they felt could be achieved through a programme of activities which are outlined in our Spirit of Community plan but may not be relevant to our LPP.

Enhanced access to affordable housing, health and well-being services and the provision of quality education, was highlighted.

LPP relevant priorities from our SoC Plan...

- Improve Grant Park toilets
- Reopen toilets behind Co-op (Leys Road)
- Increase number of bins in public spaces
- Introduce recycling bins in public spaces (mostly general waste bins currently)
- Provision of a high quality secondary school which meets local needs
- Provision of satellite/specialist health care services locally

How we will achieve it

4.1	Improve Grant Park toilets	Location	Key NPF4 Policies	Short/Medium/Long
	Public toilets at Grant Park would benefit from upgrading. Work with Moray Council and local organisations to source funding that could make Grant Park toilets into a changing places toilet.	Grant Park	15	Short/Medium
4.2	Reopen toilets behind Co-op			
	There was considerable support for the town public toilets (at Leys Road behind the Co-op) to reopen. <i>We understand these are now under private</i>	Leys Road	N/A	Medium

	<i>ownership and may not re-open.</i>			
4.3	Increase number of bins in public spaces			
	<p>Increase number of bins provided in public spaces.</p> <p>We will work collaboratively with Moray Council to identify whether this can be provided and managed.</p>	High Street, Public Realm Spaces, Parks and Green Spaces	12	Short/Medium
4.4	Introduce recycling bins in public spaces (mostly general waste bins currently)			
	We will work collaboratively with Moray Council to identify whether this can be provided and managed.	High Street, Public Realm Spaces, Parks and Green Spaces, primary and secondary school.	12	Short/Medium
4.5	Provision of a high quality secondary school which meets local needs			
	The community supports the provision of a high quality secondary school which meets local needs as soon as possible.	There has been recent consultation on the location of the school.	15	Short/Medium
4.6	Provision of satellite/specialist health care services locally as opposed to Aberdeen			

	Work with local healthcare providers to advocate for visiting specialists and satellite clinics in Forres which could reduce the number of cars travelling to Aberdeen. Discuss possibilities for clinical space with Leancoil Development Trust. This would be dependent on current redevelopment plans.	Forres Health Centre Potentially Leancoil Hospital	15	Short/Medium
4.7	Affordable Housing			
	<p>While there was community support for affordable housing there is a preference for developers to consider town gap sites and brownfield sites rather than extending the envelope of the town.</p> <p>Housing should be built with sustainability and energy efficiency in mind. Residents commenting on Moray Council's own housing stock were keen to see more 3 bedroomed properties available to tenants while some residents mentioned that there was a perceived demand for one bedroomed single storey properties to</p>	<p>There is recognition that if any greenfield site building should ever be under consideration, then Lochyhill and Dallas Dhu would be appropriate. This acceptance comes with caveats on ensuring high quality build of a variety of home types; suitable landscaping, leisure green space, active travel routes; and looking at creating new access routes and infrastructure to meet needs.</p>	9, 15, 2	Medium/Long

	cater for an aging population.			
Potential partners, community groups or organisations that may be able to help (which is subject to their agreement)				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moray Council • tsiMoray • Moray Local Action Group • Scottish Government • Schools and playgroups • Forres Health Centre • Leancoil Development Trust • NHS Grampian • Local housing associations • Erskine Veterans Activity Centre – Victoria Hotel • Forres Friends of Field and Woods • Mental Health Groups • Churches • Older people's groups eg BALL, Forres Pensioners Group, Men's Shed • Forres Area Business Association • Walking Football • Gateway Clinic • The Moray Wellbeing Hub • Outreach Healthpoint Service 				
Current Projects Locally which Link to this Theme				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Secondary School Development • Leancoil Development Trust • Moray Tenants Participation Forum • FACT Health and Wellbeing Activities • TsiMORAY Health and Wellbeing Fund 				
Potential Barriers				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Rates • Regulations and red tape • Community Asset transfer process for older and iconic buildings • Lack of volunteers • Lack of funding • Sustainability issues 				

Place Maps Theme 4: Facilities & Services

The following maps respond to projects in each theme. Some of the projects refer to whole areas such as the town centre or projects where a site has not been identified yet and we have not included maps for these.

Former Leancoil Hospital



4.6 Leancoil Hospital possible site for specialist clinics

Theme 5: Cost of Living

The escalating cost of living across Scotland has significantly impacted residents in Forres's ability to afford basic necessities, placing strains on families and individuals alike.

Affordable housing, equitable wages, and access to essential services locally were all mentioned as essential for ensuring a sustainable and thriving future for people in Forres.

LPP relevant priorities from our SoC Plan...

- More affordable housing (see Theme 4)
- Access to essential services locally (see Theme 4)

How will we achieve it

There is crossover with some of the projects articulated in this theme and another theme. You can see what has been suggested for these projects under Theme 4.

Theme 6: Young People

The priorities of young people in the Forres area reflected their aspirations for a more inclusive and sustainable community with increased opportunities for their age group. Access to quality education, safe and inclusive spaces, as well as opportunities for youth voices to be heard and valued within their communities were of clear importance.

LPP relevant priorities from our SoC Plan...

- Development of skate park (see Theme 3)
- Development of all weather pitch (see Theme 3)
- Basketball / multi sports pitches to be (see Theme 3) repaired/ introduced
- Support the improvement and development of play parks (see Theme 1)
- Re-introduction of a youth club space

How will we achieve it

There is crossover with some of the projects articulated in this theme and another theme. You can see what has been suggested for most of these projects under Themes 1 and 3.

6.1	Re-introduction of a youth space	Location	Key NPF4 Policies	Short/Medium/Long
	The newly established youth club, The Gaff is currently alternating between locations including Transition Town Forres, St Leonard's Church Hall, FACT and Forres House Community Centre however if an appropriate gap site became available they would be keen to carry out a feasibility study around taking on a more permanent space.		14, 21	Medium/Long
Potential Partners – community groups or organisations that may be able to help (which is subject to their agreement)				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gaff, • West Moray Parish • FACT 				

- TTF
- Moray Council
- Wild Things
- Forres Friends of Fields and Woods
- Forres Community Sports Hub
- Sports Clubs various
- Youth Organisations – Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, Cubs, Beavers, Scouts, Air and Army Cadets, Boys Brigade
- Forres ASG schools
- RotarACT (youth Rotary)
- Moray Pathways?
- Duke of Edinburgh

Current Projects Locally which Link to this Theme

- New Secondary School Development
- Developing the Young Workforce
- The Gaff
- Various Outdoor Education initiatives
- Forres Skatepark Initiative
- Wee FIBbees
- Transition Town Forres – Green Shoots
- Various youth sports organisations

Potential Barriers

- Lack of Staff/volunteers
- Lack of Funding
- Lack of facilities
- Governance/ Safeguarding/PVG Requirements

This Local Place Plan is being submitted and presented by Forres Community Council with support from the Forres Area Forum and Forres Community Sports Hub and FACT, but it has been shaped by the collective contributions of people living in Forres. We sincerely thank everyone who took the time to contribute to this LPP and previous engagement activities.

With Moray Council as our verifying body, the updated planning legislation provides a unique chance to influence the development of the spaces, facilities, and services that are important to us. This plan ensures that our perspectives will inform Moray Council's forthcoming Local Development Plan.

Compliance

A policy analysis was undertaken to consider Forres Local Place Plan's contribution to key local and national policy.

The National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4)

NPF4 is the Scottish Government national spatial strategy for Scotland. It sets out the spatial principles, regional priorities, national developments and national planning policy. It replaces NPF3 and Scottish Planning Policy. The key themes of NPF4 have been noted next to each project.

This Local Place Plan demonstrates regard to Moray Council Local Development Plan and NPF4 and is not seeking to amend the MCLDP 2020.

This Local Place Plan fits well with the following strategies

- Scottish Government National Performance Framework
- Community Wealth Building
- Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015
- Place Principle 2019
- Community Led Tourism
- Planning Aid Scotland

Local Strategies

- Moray Local Development Plan 2020

It will be through its successor Moray Local Development Plan 2027-2037, and any subsequent area plan that this Forres LPP can contribute a grassroots perspective.

- Moray Council Corporate Plan 2024-2029
- Moray Local Outcome Improvement Plan

Monitoring

Although this plan will sit with the Forres Community Council, Forres Community Council will work with Forres Area Forum, Forres Community Sports Hub, FACT and partners to monitor and review this plan.

Sub Groups

Our Spirit of Community Plan launch event feedback indicated that volunteers were interested in subgroups being created to monitor and drive progress on the 6 themes. They also indicated that we should report on progress twice a year through a variety of communication methods including community meetings and newsletters.

Afterword

Consultation on the draft Local Place Plan took place over a four week period between 14 April and 11 May 2025, promoted by email distribution to partners, on social media, and a notice to our local newspaper.

People were encouraged to send comments on the plan directly to info.fcc@gmail.com

Many thanks to all those who viewed and commented on the draft Plan.

We received only 4 comments on the draft plan asking for slight changes.

One comment requested looking at the formatting of the plan on different devices which the steering group did and decided that a pdf of the approved document would be the best option.

One comment requested slight changes to wording indicating that parking issues remain under the jurisdiction of Police Scotland currently, not Moray Council, which we amended.

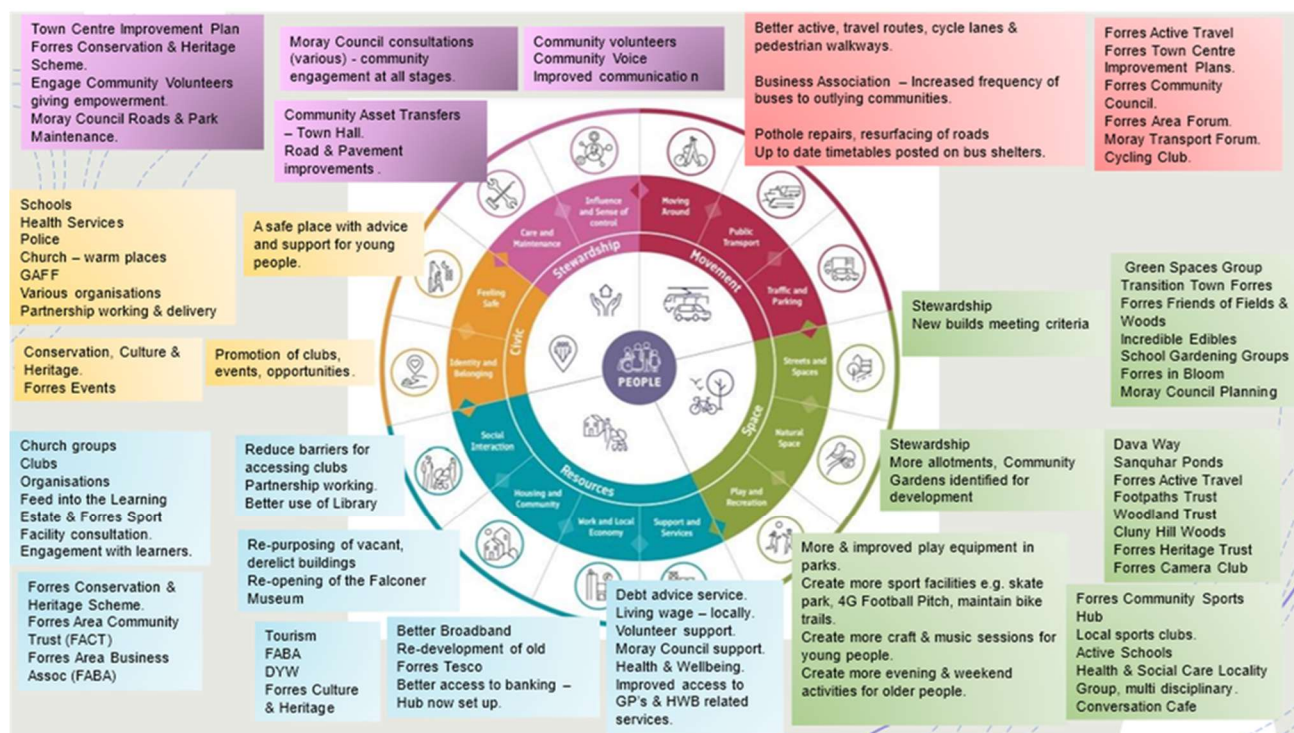
Another comment highlighted the breadth of good work already being done to keep Forres High Street vibrant. We amended this wording to reflect that any actions should continue to build upon the good work already being done.

One comment requested that we provide updated information on the ownership of the Leys Road toilets and plans for its future development. We changed this to reflect the information that was provided by Ray's Opportunities.

Any comments regarding this LPP should be made to Forres Community Council using the email address info.fcc@gmail.com

Appendix 1

Mapping Exercise



THEME - LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

Read columns vertically

Which organisations or groups could help?		Which current projects link to this scheme?		Is there anything that would stop us making progress?
Moray Climate Action Network (managed by tsiMoray)	Local Action Group Forres Friends of Woods and Fields	Forres Community Woodlands Trust	Wild Things	Loss of sites due to Local Authority rental costs - long term
Forres Academy & Primary school Environmental Group	Forres Area Forum	TTF Gardeners	TTF Green Shoots	Lack of volunteers - succession planning
Forres in Bloom	Community Energy Moray	Forres Friends of Fields and Woods	Earth Time	Access to Funding to create sustainability
Wild Things	Re-Boot	Forres in Bloom CAT	Forres in Bloom Wee FIBbees	Governance
Waste Busters	Development Trusts in Local Area	Numerous Environmental Sessions	Cluny Hill Group	
TTF Gardens	Moray Council Planning	Sanquhar Pond Group	Dava Way	
Youth organisations				

THEME – TRANSPORT, TRAFFIC AND ACCESS

Read columns vertically

Which organisations or groups could help?		Which current projects link to this scheme?		Is there anything that would stop us making progress?
Forres Active Travel	Stagecoach	Local Forres Active Travel Strategy	M:Connect Development	The rural road networks being single track and passing points
Taxi Firms	Moray Council	Active Schools	Osprey Bus	Scooters, E scooters and bikes can be dangerous on pavements
Forres Cycling Club	Osprey Bus	Footpath network developments		Insurance costs for car share schemes need to be more affordable
Police	Outfit Moray			Lack of volunteers Lack of Traffic Wardens Increased admin costs (PVG)
Forres Community Council	Elected Members			Wish List More cycle lanes
Transition Town Forres	The Moray Transport Forum			Designated bike lanes on roads More connected bike paths
The Development Officers Network run by tsi Moray				Further expansion of M:Connect. Further expansion of the Moray Council 314 Route.

THEME – LEISURE, TOURISM AND HERITAGE

Read columns vertically

Which organisations or groups could help?		Which current projects link to this scheme?		Is there anything that would stop us making progress?
Moray Council Sport and Leisure	Findhorn Bay Arts	Findhorn Bay Festival and associated Arts Programmes	The Forres Skate Park Initiative	Lack of funding/resources
Forres in Bloom	tsiMoray	The Forres Connected Culture and Heritage Project	Badminton Moray and other sport groups	Lack of volunteers Safeguarding/PVG costs Transport Costs and availability
The Forres Heritage Trust	Forres Area Business Association	Forwards Amateur writer group	Forres Conservation and Heritage Scheme	Land availability / restrictions regarding usage
Local Churches	Forres Area Tourism Network	Grant Park 100 Theme Day Highland Games	Piping Championships	Council Charges and Governance Closure of Falconer Museum
Forres Community Activities Association	Friends of Falconer Museum	Heritage Trust Events	Open Doors Scheme	
Forres Academy/Youth	Dance North, MODS, Highland Youth Theatre	NEOS – North East Open Studios	Twinning Association – Mount Dora, Vienenburg	
Forres Primary Schools				

THEME – FACILITIES AND SERVICES

Read columns vertically

Which organisations or groups could help?		Which current projects link to this scheme?		Is there anything that would stop us making progress?
Moray Council Scottish Government	tsiMoray – The Moray Local Action Group	Shop Local, Love Local	Development of IT Skills	Business rates
Woman's Rural Institute	Churches	Activities at Town Hall to support HWB	Church provision of food and support	Community asset transfer for older/iconic town buildings
Forres Friends of Fields and Woods	Schools and Playgroups	New secondary school development	Forres Grant Park update	Regulations and red tape
Moray Council Digital Connectivity, CSU & Moray Pathways Resilience Planning (FCC)	Older peoples' groups e.g. Ball Groups, Pensioner's Group, Men's Shed	Forres infrastructure for connectivity – Open Reach – broadband provision. Updating of utilities		Lack of volunteers Lack of Funding Sustainability issues
Mental Health Groups	Walking Football			
Leancoil Hospital Erskine Veterans – Old Vic Retirement Homes	Gateway Clinic The Moray Wellbeing Hub, Outreach Health point Service			
Local Businesses	Forres Area Business Association			

THEME – COST OF LIVING

Read columns vertically

Which organisations or groups could help?		Which current projects link to this scheme?		Is there anything that would stop us making progress?
Building skills workshops TTF for 16 – 24 yr olds Forres Community Gardens (Allotments) 25 – 80 yr olds	Forres Business Association	Job training and apprenticeships with Businesses	Read columns vertically	More business engagement to increase apprenticeship opportunities to improve skills set and increase future workforce in local area
The Fairer Moray Action Group	The Support Hub Forum	Churches – warm space initiative and Library	Upskilling tradesmen	Lack of Volunteers
Chapelton Community Garden	All churches for Food Bank	Moray Food Bank		Lack of Funding and other resources
Charity Shops Charity Organisations	Re-boot and Moray Waste Busters	Moray Clothing Bank		Difficulty creating sustainability
Moray Council – Active Schools	Moray Clothing Bank			Governance

Appendix 2

NPF4 Policies Referenced and Their Relevance to the Local Place Plan for Forres.

This appendix outlines the National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) policies referenced in the Local Place Plan for Forres, explaining their key principles and how they align with various elements of the plan.

Policy 2: Climate Mitigation and Adaptation

Supports development that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, enhances climate resilience, and integrates sustainable practices.

Policy 3: Biodiversity

Prioritizes projects that protect and enhance biodiversity, contributing to ecological networks and nature recovery.

Policy 4: Natural Places

Ensures the safeguarding of Scotland's natural assets, protecting important habitats and landscapes from inappropriate development.

Policy 5: Soils

Encourages development that conserves and enhances soil health, particularly carbon-rich and prime agricultural soils.

Policy 7: Historic Assets and Places

Focuses on protecting, enhancing, and sustainably managing Scotland's historic and cultural heritage.

Policy 9: Brownfield, Vacant, and Derelict Land and Empty Buildings

Promotes reuse of land and buildings to reduce environmental impacts and revitalize communities.

Policy 12: Zero Waste

Supports a circular economy by reducing waste and encouraging resource-efficient developments.

Policy 13: Sustainable Transport

Promotes active and low-carbon transport options, reducing reliance on private vehicles.

Policy 14: Design, Quality, and Place

Emphasizes well-designed, sustainable places that enhance community well-being.

Policy 15: Local Living and 20-Minute Neighborhoods

Encourages communities where essential services are accessible within a 20-minute walk or cycle.

Policy 20: Blue and Green Infrastructure

Enhances natural networks to improve biodiversity, water management, and recreation.

Policy 21: Play, Recreation, and Sport

Supports development of inclusive recreational spaces and sports facilities.

Policy 23: Health and Wellbeing

Promotes developments that improve physical and mental health and tackle health inequalities.

Policy 25: Community Wealth Building

Encourages projects that support local economies and deliver social and economic benefits.

Policy 29: Rural Development

Facilitates sustainable rural growth by supporting local economies, jobs, and essential services.

Policy 30: Tourism

Supports sustainable tourism projects that respect local communities and natural environments.

Appendix 3

Spirit of Community Data Report can be found below which details all the original data for Spirit of Community and our analysis.



Spirit of Community
Forres Area Commu

Appendix 4

Responses from the October 24 Survey can be found here

https://www.surveymonkey.com/stories/SM-uO26iSDkC0GK50YXsn23lw_3D_3D/

There were 59 responses which we found to be largely in line with the previous data collated for Spirit of Community in Appendix 3 and which we have reflected in the LPP. There were some additional recurring comments like ‘improving the process of consultation and planning’, although not a land or building issue this is something we can communicate to Moray Council and partners.

Appendix 5

Our pop up stall at Moray Pride 7 September 2025 received 30 responses on post-it notes.

What do you like about living in Forres?

Grant Park
Absolutely everything
Lovely historic buildings
Plenty of Green Space
Pilmuir Nursery Excellent for ASN
Community Spirit
People band together
The flowers
Forests
Forest Walks
The volunteers who keep our town beautiful

What don't you like about living in Forres?

Not enough for young people
No guarantee Moray Council will adopt our development

What changes would you like to see in the area in the future?

More green and affordable housing
Affordable housing
Developers paying more towards road infrastructure
More 3-bedroom council tenancies
An Active Travel Plan for Forres
Businesses that are young people friendly
Hot desking
Infrastructure roads connecting to where the school isn't going
Regulations have made it difficult for small land lords who then sell

.

Appendix 6

A session in Forres Academy took place at the end of June 2024 with 14 young people, supported by a guidance teacher. The session was facilitated by the Community Support Unit officers and a local GP and the focus was on good health for young people in Forres.

Although the focus was on health to incorporate findings into the HSCM locality working group, there was a much wider discussion about the Forres area and how lack of facilities and spaces was impacting young people's health. The information was anonymised and shared.

Their recommendations are below

Support for a new school with increased facilities and subject choice so that travel to other high schools for subjects was not required.

Access to Facilities: Improved maintenance of facilities like the Sanquhar pump track, basketball court and increased access to facilities through new provision eg skatepark.

Transport Solutions: Develop better transport solutions for rural areas to facilitate social connections and access to resources.

Safe Spaces: Create more safe spaces for young people, girls and other marginalised groups within schools and communities.

Youth Involvement: Involve young people in local decision-making processes and ensure their voices are heard in community initiatives. Potentially themed groups at school based on challenges e.g. transport - Where young people could invite decision makers for Q&A. Themed/opt-in groups were preferred as not all young people are affected by the same issues

Life skills: Offer cooking classes, money management and promote positive life skills beyond academia in both school and community settings.

Healthy Food Access: Explore initiatives to make healthy foods more affordable and accessible. E.g. Fresh fruit at school from local initiatives and access to local food growing initiatives.

Inclusive Events: Organise more affordable local community events that cater to a wide range of ages and interests and involve young people in planning.

Appendix 7

Information Notice sent out on 14 April

Local Place Plan Information Notice

Forres Community Council has prepared a proposed Local Place Plan (LPP) for the Forres Community Council boundary area which adjoins the Finderne, DykeLandward and Findhorn and Kinloss boundaries. It is a requirement of the Local Place Plans Regulations 2021 to send the community councils for our LPP area an Information Notice.

This Information Notice sets out a brief description of the content and purpose of the LPP, how and to who any representations on the content of the proposed LPP should be made and the deadline for responding.

The proposed LPP covers the area of the Forres Community Council boundary area.

This LPP sets out the ways in which our community wants to see land developed and used and a spatial vision for our town.

The LPP is a way of identifying and helping to deliver community projects and provides information for other interested organisations. We hope that it will encourage more collaborative working to enable a positive outcome for the continued improvement and development of the Forres Community.

If you have comments on our proposed LPP please email them to info.fcc@gmail.com The deadline for comments is 5pm Sunday 11th May 2025.

Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Steve F
Chair
Forres Community Council

