

20 minute neighbourhoods

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What is it?

Not a new idea, but one with new significance

- Cities around the world are adopting variations on 20 minute neighbourhood concept
- It's about living more locally by giving people the ability to meet most of their daily needs within a **20-minute** walk from home, with safe cycling and local transport options.
- A simple concept that potentially brings together a number of policies and investments that are already Scottish Government priorities:
 - Place
 - Wellbeing economy
 - Empowering communities
 - Sustainable transport
 - Town Centres



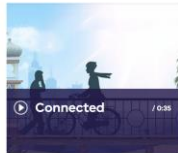
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Melbourne, Australia

International case study

Plan Melbourne 2017 - 2050

“The 20-minute neighbourhood concept is all about ‘living locally’ giving people the ability to meet most of their daily needs within a 20-minute walk from home, with access to safe cycling and local transport options.”



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OUTCOME

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Melbourne is a city of inclusive, vibrant and healthy neighbourhoods

The concept of the 20-minute neighbourhood is simple. It’s all about giving Melburnians the ability to live locally—meeting most of their everyday needs within a 20-minute walk, cycle or local public transport trip of home.

Many of us will still need to travel outside our local area to go to work, but everyday needs such as schools, shops, meeting places, open spaces, cafés, doctors, childcare and access to public transport will be only 20 minutes away.

Many of Melbourne’s established suburbs already have the ingredients for a 20-minute neighbourhood. Plan Melbourne aims to make the 20-minute neighbourhood a reality for every suburb and every Melburnian.

Access to local services—including early years centres, primary and secondary schools, parks and sporting fields, and medical centres—is needed at the early stage of a neighbourhood’s development. Connecting people to these services and facilities via frequent public transport services and safe and convenient pedestrian and cycle routes (which avoid arterial roads wherever possible) will be integral to the creation of a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods.

Local communities will also be encouraged and supported to become actively involved in the delivery of local parks and greening of their neighbourhoods. The city needs to make better use of existing public land—including schools, underutilised road space and easements.

Directions

Create a city of 20-minute neighbourhoods

Create neighbourhoods that support safe communities and healthy lifestyles

Deliver social infrastructure to support strong communities

Deliver local parks and green neighbourhoods in collaboration with communities

Policies

Create mixed-use neighbourhoods at varying densities

Support a network of vibrant neighbourhood activity centres

Improve neighbourhoods to enable walking and cycling as a part of daily life

Facilitate a whole-of-government approach to the delivery of social infrastructure

Create health and education precincts to support neighbourhoods

Support not-for-profit community services to build social capital and stronger communities

Provide and protect land for cemeteries and crematoria

Develop a network of accessible, high-quality, local open spaces

Support community gardens and productive streetscapes

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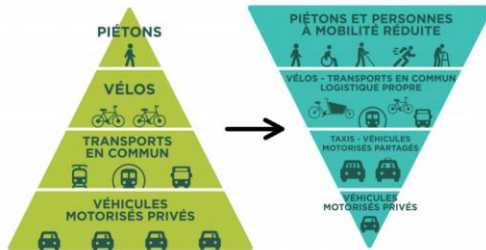
'15-minute city' Paris

Paris mayor unveils '15-minute city' plan in re-election campaign

Anne Hidalgo wants to create self-sufficient communities, with shops, schools and workplaces just a walk or bike ride away. Photograph: Martin Bureau/AFP via Getty Images



▲ Anne Hidalgo, mayor of Paris, wants to encourage self-sufficient communities, with shops, schools and workplaces just a walk or bike ride away. Photograph: Martin Bureau/AFP via Getty Images



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Glasgow - City Development Plan 'a thriving network of neighbourhoods'

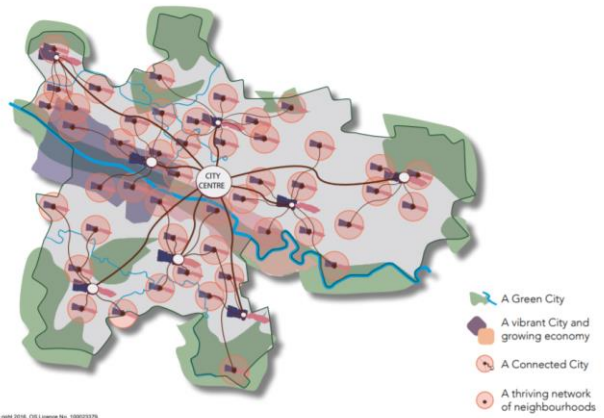


North Glasgow canal strategy



ASL/MVRDV (Y)our City Centre Regeneration Frameworks

Figure 5 A City-wide spatial representation of the broad location and form of development required to help achieve the four strategic outcomes.



City Development Plan 18

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Why now?

- **The ability to work locally is central to the 20 minute concept** - a recent CIPD survey found that 72% of Scottish employers expect increased demand for homeworking, with 36% saying they will be more likely to grant these requests. And a third saying they expect to put in place new measures or investment to facilitate this, including **local work hubs**.
- COVID has seen a rise in cycling numbers and (temporary) active travel infrastructure through actions such as **Spaces for People**.
- Planning and development policy is increasingly focuses on mixed developments and **place, people and wellbeing focused outcomes**.
- COVID is having wide ranging economic impacts. The recovery of community services, **small business and high streets is a priority**, as will **reimagining our urban centres**.
- Transport remains the single largest GHG emitter. A **change in how and why people travel** is a necessary response to the global climate emergency. Scotland is committed to reducing car kilometres by 20% by 2030

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**PROTECTING SCOTLAND,
RENEWING SCOTLAND**



Programme for Government 2020 – ‘living locally’

- “This crisis also gives us an opportunity to **radically rethink the places we live in, our homes and our communities**. We want to ensure our communities can become vibrant hubs for the people who live there – to work, shop, learn, keep active, and socialise.”
- “For some people the experience of lockdown showed that their lives could be improved through active travel, exercise, access to local or online services, working from or closer to home, and access to shared green spaces. While it is natural for people to slip back into old habits as lockdown has eased, throughout this Programme for Government **we will take steps that support the idea of 20 minute neighbourhoods** – where people can meet their needs within a 20 minute walk from their house – enabling people to live better, healthier lives and supporting our net zero ambitions”

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**PROTECTING SCOTLAND,
RENEWING SCOTLAND**



Programme for Government 2020 – place commitments

- The creation of liveable, accessible places with thriving local economies will be important in **reducing transport demand as well as encouraging modal shift away from private car use** – helping to further embed the Sustainable Travel Hierarchy and reduce transport-related emissions.
- We are providing **£500 million over five years for large scale, transformational active travel infrastructure projects**, access to bikes and behaviour change schemes. We must lock in positive changes in response to the pandemic through active travel infrastructure schemes which connect towns and cities from the suburbs to the centres, connect housing to transport, enable active travel in rural areas and support the idea of 20 minute neighbourhoods.
- We have launched a **Review of the Town Centre Action Plan** and have asked the Review for advice on how to adapt the 20 minute neighbourhood idea for our cities, towns, rural and island communities.
- We are establishing a Place Based Investment Programme, linking and aligning all place-based funding initiatives to ensure we have a coherent approach to effectively progress our 20 minute neighbourhood ambitions. As part of this Programme, **we will invest £275 million to support community-led regeneration and town-centre revitalisation**, including the repurposing of buildings, maintenance and repairs, reallocating external space and community-led land acquisition.
- We are supporting efforts to progress the **Working Local Challenge** ambition to create more shared space local working hubs for the private, public and third sector in local towns to enable more flexible and remote working.
- All of our work to redesign our communities to best respond to the pandemic and living with COVID-19 will be underpinned by **National Planning Framework 4, local development plans, and Local Place Plans**, introduced through the Planning (Scotland) Act 2019, and by giving people an opportunity to develop proposals for the development and use of land in the place where they live.

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Examples of policies that link to 20-Minute Places/Communities

Smart Working	Remote working	Work local hubs	Spaces for people
Creating and embedding new culture working practices conducive to the productive, forward-thinking workforce	Support continued remote working post-lockdown to minimise commuting traffic	Enabling sustained local and remote working practices when working from home may not be practical	Build on increase in number of people walking, wheeling and cycling during lockdown and encourage even more people to travel actively
Economic Development	Planning policy	Public policy and investment	Town Centres - Local place making
Renew local economies through redistribution of economic activity and its benefits to communities across Scotland	spatial planning Local Place Plans NPF4 - SPP	Public transport and provision of local services	Reimagining of city and town centres Mixed use housing
Equality and social inclusion	Wellbeing	Support rural communities	Infrastructure investment
Access to work, childcare, etc.	Quality of life, working hours, etc.	Rural repopulation	Digital and technology challenges or opportunities

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Planning Reform

Play and Open Space

Reallocating Street Space

1. Close appropriate roads to vehicular access to allow free movement through green, active and emergency access ways
2. A clear, unobstructed route should be maintained for pedestrians on crossing routes, with particular consideration given to the needs of disabled people.
3. Allocate and provide appropriate space for parking
4. Allow for tables, umbrellas, and seating to occupy natural street space for both day and evening use
5. Allow for additional opportunities to create appropriate areas for public activities
6. Implement bike parking where possible
7. Ensure appropriate safety measures are in place to make clear segregation between integrated areas and pedestrian routes.

Safer Public Spaces

TCAP2 Review

Scottish Government
Town Centre Action Plan Review

A New Future for Scotland's Town Centres

Town Centre Action Plan Review (Green Report)

February 2021

Chaired by Professor Leigh Sparks

Scottish Government
Housing

HOUSING TO 2040



Planning for Scotland in 2040
National Planning Framework 2

Scottish Government
Scotland's National Planning Framework

Scotland's Fourth National Planning Framework Position Statement

November 2020



Impact on policy – examples...

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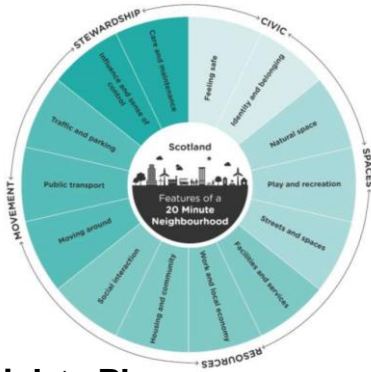
20 Minute Neighbourhoods Climate Xchange Research – March 2021

<https://www.climatechange.org.uk/research/projects/20-minute-neighbourhoods-in-a-scottish-context/>

climateXchange
Scotland's centre of expertise connecting
climate change research and policy

20 Minute Neighbourhoods in a Scottish Context | Page 11

Figure 6: Features of a 20 minute neighbourhood in the Scottish context



Link to Place
Standard themes



Local Place Plan
Wester Hailes

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Digital Strategy

As we move forward, Scottish Government's commitment to the place principle and focus on 20-minute neighbourhoods, localism and placemaking, signals the importance of joining up across organisational and policy boundaries to look at the outcomes for places holistically. **The tools, technologies and different ways of working delivered through the digital transformation of planning are well suited to support this; helping design and create places that work for us all, regardless of background.**

Looking to the future – PlaceTech Innovation Lab
Feature

We are committed to ensuring that innovation in planning continues to take place beyond the lifespan of our 5 year programme.

To do this we will establish a PlaceTech Innovation Lab, to act as both a research hub and an incubator of planning and place-based technology.

We have also created a digital working group led by Scottish and Westminster. In Scotland, Scottish and Westminster have signed a joint letter between the public and private sectors to drive technology in planning. This group will identify and create a digital working group to drive technology in planning and create a digital working group to drive technology in planning.

MISSION 4

USE DIGITAL TOOLS TO DRIVE COLLABORATION AND ENGAGEMENT

We will develop digital tools to support greater digital participation and inclusion in planning, using them to drive collaboration and engagement with people and their places.

Digital Planning

Contents Introduction The Vision The Opportunity The Transformation Future Us

MISSION 4

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Innovation ... Data... Collaboration

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