



St. Andrews Local Place Plan Priority Projects

May 2024

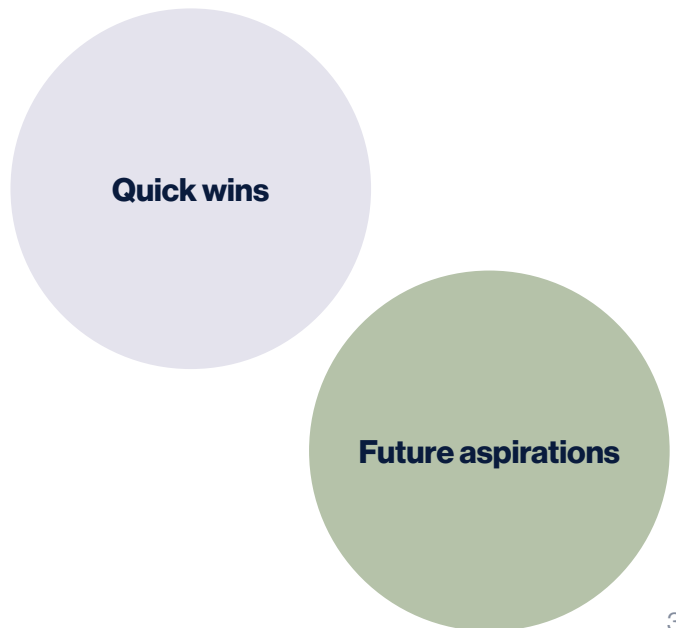


The Community Council has led a process to develop a Local Place Plan following engagement with people and organisations in the town.

Our vision is that “St Andrews will use its significant opportunities and assets it has to be a welcoming, thriving, connected and well-integrated town offering a great quality of life and good prospects for everyone who lives, studies, works and visits here.”

Below we list our priority actions under key themes to realise our vision. They require action by Fife Council, other agencies, local organisations and by the community itself and in many areas funding will need to be secured. In some instances, further feasibility studies are required to see whether and how ideas are viable.

This is our starting point.



Theme 1 - A Connected & Accessible Place

Traffic, Town Centre and Parking	
1.1	Commission a Town Centre Circulation Plan so that any changes can take place within a holistic plan for the town.
1.2	Working with the University, develop an evolution of the car park at Petheram bridge to be a more effective solution to town centre congestion (study into whether this is improved traffic management, a multi-story car park or a park and ride facility). A plan for parking across the town including East Sands and the leisure centre.
1.3	Pedestrianisation of certain town centre areas, safer cycle routes and a possible park and ride can be planned out of such a study.
1.4	Support the implementation of a 20mph restriction, pedestrian crossings and traffic calming measures.
1.5	Investigate a charge to HGVs using the town as a transit route to move them away from the town.
1.6	Support for a relief road (which is in the Fife Council plan relating to St Andrews West) sufficient to extend to the A915 (Leven) and A917/B9131 (Crail/Anstruther).
Active Travel	
1.7	Support and grow the new car sharing scheme led by Transition St Andrews to reduce car use in the town centre and establish accessible electric vehicles.
1.8	Publicly available EV charging point in South Street and other places in the town. There are none currently in residential streets.
1.9	A walkway/pavement/cycle path from Strathkinness to St Andrews down the High Road.
Public Transport	
1.10	Support for the StARLink rail project, ensuring participation of major stakeholders such as the University.
1.11	Better bus routes across Fife and into Tayside.
1.12	Lobby for better coordinated bus times to link to train times at Leuchars

Theme 2 - A Place With Housing for All

- 2.1 Commission a Housing Needs and Demand Analysis and undertake a site options appraisal in consultation with the community building on the Fife Council Evidence Report, but specific to St Andrews.
- 2.2 Establish a control zone for short term lets and ensure there are fewer HMOs in the town commensurate with the needs of the community and the University.
- 2.3 Establish a rent control zone when sanctioned by the Scottish Government
- 2.4 Establish small scale affordable and/or social housing with focus on young families and single people and supported solutions for older people who want to downsize including the Homeshare Scheme where appropriate..
- 2.5 Retirement/student combined community living concept.

Theme 3 - An Integrated Place

- 3.1 Good bookable meeting and co-working places across the town where locals and students can mix.
- 3.2 A community wide communication plan to increase information flow.
- 3.3 Creating street furniture in the town centre that stimulates people meeting informally.
- 3.4 Outdoor gyms around the community, expanding existing provision and a programme of playpark development over time including East Sands.
- 3.5 Enhance and extend community allotments jointly funded and developed by students and local people who have no gardens to encourage growing.
- 3.6 Heighten awareness in the community of the availability for public use of Madras College and University facilities (see also Theme 5 Point 7).
- 3.7 Enhance and publicise a student/local mentoring and volunteering scheme.
- 3.8 Create a common booking system across all town facilities.

Theme 4 - A Climate Friendly Place with a Just Transition to Net Zero

Net Zero
4.1 Investigate a Local Energy Plan that opens up renewable solutions for everyone working with, and drawing on, the expertise and experience of the University.
4.2 More tree planting across the town in consultation with Fife Council.
4.3 We will ensure that any retrofitting will be sensitive to the historic environment.
4.4 Support Transition St Andrews plan to create an active travel hub with e-bike hire for local people and visitors once the circulation plan is agreed and ensure this is open to everyone.
4.5 Undertake an analysis of demand to plan for increased electricity and sewerage capability and infrastructure for the town.
4.6 Update conservation area guidance - and St Andrews design guidelines - to reflect increasing need for domestic renewables.
The Built and Natural Environment
4.7 Study to assess the scale and nature of future flooding and coastal erosion and consideration of mitigation schemes, particularly by the sea.
4.8 A clear plan to protect, enhance, celebrate and open up understanding and access to our historic environment. Re-open access to the Cathedral and celebrate the Pilgrim routes.
4.9 More tree planting (e.g. Woodburn Park).
4.10 Preserve publicly accessible garden/green areas (e.g. Greyfriars gardens, Lade Braes).
4.11 Clean up Castle Sands tidal pool and Kinnessburn.
4.12 Establishment of dog free times at beach areas.
4.13 Enhance Scooniehill Park and all parks in residential areas.
4.14 Later in the plan we will establish appropriate flood mitigation schemes.

Theme 5 - A Place with Fit for Purpose Community Facilities

- 5.1 Initiate a feasibility study to identify potential community assets in the town.
- 5.2 Upgrade the playparks at Lade Braes, Scoonie hill, Bogward and Shoolbraids, Hutchison Court, Learmonth Place and Spinkie Den.
- 5.3 Create a banking and postal hub.
- 5.4 Ensure access to facilities for local people.
- 5.5 Upgrade plan for Station Park pitches.
- 5.6 Insist on the community being consulted when a facility is changing hands.
- 5.7 Widen awareness of the availability of Madras College and University buildings for community use, especially sports facilities.
- 5.8 Continue to campaign for inclusive health & social care services locally and to retain as well as to increase outpatient services, locally in St Andrews Community Hospital (STACH).

Theme 6 - An Entrepreneurial Place

- 6.1 Research into specific opportunities for the town to diversify the economy.
- 6.2 Space will be found to set up co-working and enterprise space with support.
- 6.3 Better engagement with the business community through joint meetings and initiatives and the consideration of establishing a Community Improvement District.
- 6.4 Incentives for and investments in opening up locally owned shops run by local people.
- 6.5 Plan to use empty shops as pop up offerings.



We want to thank the residents, businesses and organisations of St Andrews who gave their time and ideas. We want to particularly thank the steering group of the Community Council who spent huge amounts of time throughout the process and we want to recognise the big anchor institutions in the town who gave their view in a positive way.

Keep an eye on the St Andrews Community Council website for more developments.

<https://www.standrewscommunitycouncil.org/>

And if you want to contact us directly, just email: lpp@standrewscommunitycouncil.org

The Local Place Plan Steering Group