



The Planning System in Scotland

'GoWell' - 'Integrating Planning and Health' Workshop
Thursday 11th February 2010

**Stuart Tait, Assistant
Manager**

 **glasgow and the clyde valley sdpa**

Agenda

- **What is Planning**
- **New Planning System**
- ***'Futures Work'***
- **Some Thoughts**

Perception of Planning



STRATEGIC PLANNING CONTEXT



Don't let this happen to your development proposal!



Core Principles of Planning

- Planning system essential to supporting Government's central purpose of increasing 'Sustainable Economic Growth'
- Operation of the planning system is the primary responsibility of local authorities
- System to be Plan Led
- Plans to be forward looking, visionary and ambitious
- Engage all interests, early and fully as possible - issues of contention and controversy to be identified and tackled quickly and smoothly
- Focus on 'Quality of Outcomes'

What is Planning

- to help make informed decisions about future development, and the use of land in our towns, cities and countryside and for deciding where development should happen, where it should not
- **balances competing demands to make sure that land is used and developed in the 'public's' long-term interest**

Aims to

- set the land use framework
- **encourage good development and design**
- protect our natural and built heritage
- **create vibrant communities**
- develop sustainable places

[New Planning System]

- **Planning etc. (Scotland) Act 2006 - Spring 2009**
- **More efficient and engaging - Development Plan Scheme including Participation Statement**
- **Two important stages for formal engagement - Main Issues Report and Proposed Plan**
- **Key Agencies - SEPA, SNH, Scottish Water, Scottish Enterprise, SPT and Health Boards**
- **Action Programmes and Strategic Environmental Assessment**
- **Supplementary Planning Guidance**
- **Mandatory Examination in Public**
- **Supported by consolidated Scottish Planning Policy (21 policy areas covered from planning for housing, to opencast coal to fish farming to flooding, to historic environment to role of architecture and design)**

Planning System - Main Parts

3 main parts

- 1) **Development Plans**
set out how places should change and also set out the policies used to make decisions about planning applications
- 2) **Development Management**
process for making decisions about planning applications
- 3) **Enforcement**
process that makes sure that development is carried out correctly and takes action when development happens without permission or when conditions have not been followed

Development Plans

3 tiers of plan making

- 1) National Planning Framework
- 2) Strategic Development Plans
- 3) Local Development Plans

Hierarchy of Plans

Scottish Ministers

National
Planning
Framework

Strategic
Development
Planning Authority

Structure Plans
Strategic
Development Plans

Local
Authority

Local Plans
Local Development Plans

National Planning Framework

National Planning Framework sets the long term (25 years) development strategy for Scotland and requires to be reflected in Development Plans

National Planning Framework first published 2004, latest version NPF 2 published June 2009

Designated 14 National Developments of strategic significance to Scotland

- 1. Replacement Forth Crossing**
- 2. West of Scotland Strategic Rail Enhancements**
- 3. High Speed Rail Link to London**
- 4. Strategic Airport Enhancements**
- 5. Grangemouth Freight Hub**
- 6. Additional Container Freight Capacity on the Forth**
- 7. Port Developments on Loch Ryan**
- 8. Scapa Flow Container Transshipment Facility**
- 9. New Power Station and Transshipment Hub at Hunterston**
- 10. New Non-Nuclear Baseload Capacity at Other Existing Power Station Sites**
- 11. Electricity Grid Reinforcements**
- 12. Central Scotland Green Network**
- 13. Metropolitan Glasgow Strategic Drainage Scheme**
- 14. Commonwealth Games Facilities and Infrastructure**



Strategic Development Plan

- Prepared by Strategic Development Planning Authority - 4 Scottish City regions only
- NOT a Structure Plan - more concise with more focus on vision and setting a spatial strategy - shorter document 30 pages!! (1995 Plan 350 pages, 2000 Plan 90 pages)
- Two stage process - Main Issue Report and Proposed Plan
- Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement
- Action Plan - focus on delivery
- Strategic Environmental Assessment
- Mandatory Examination in public

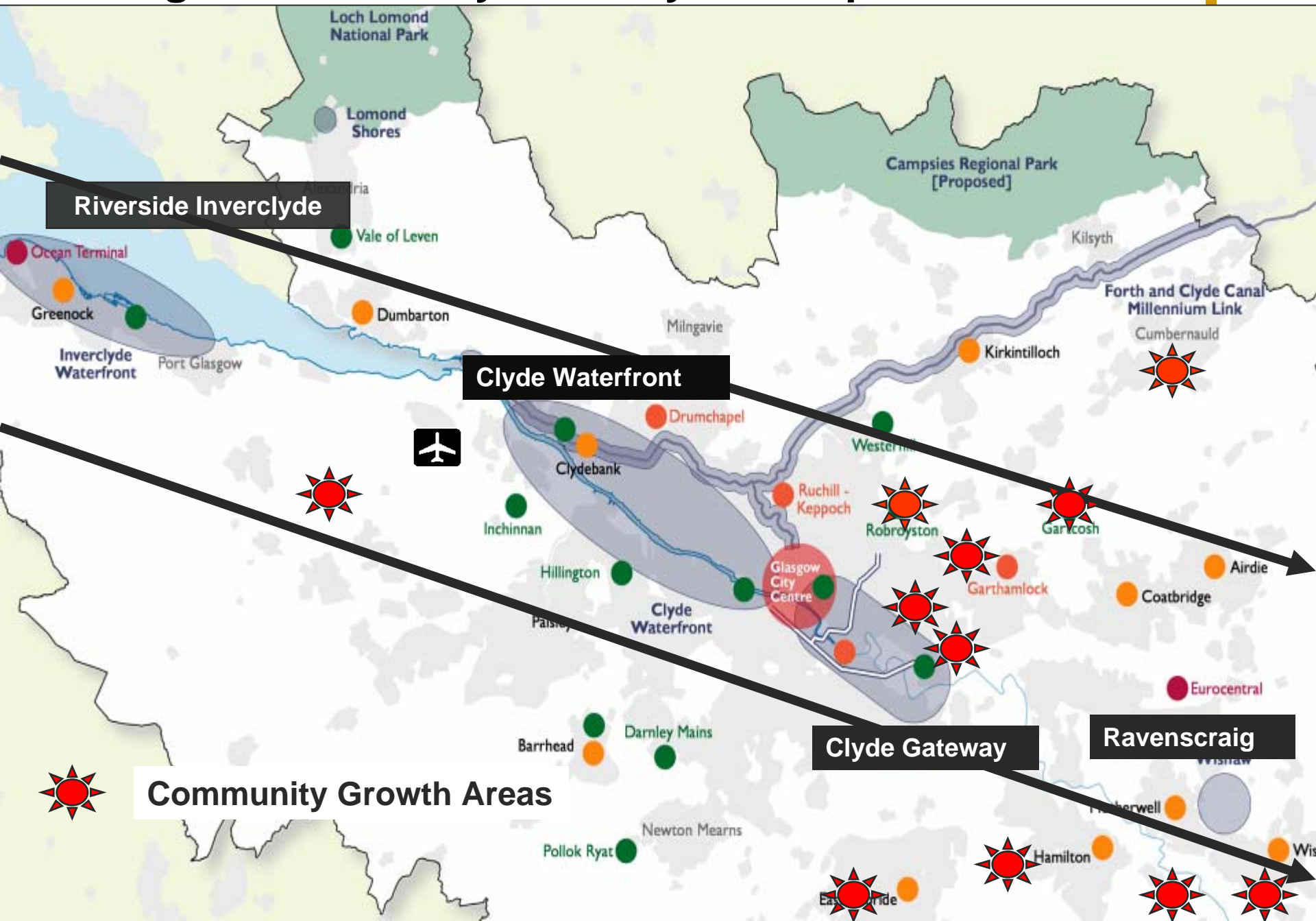
Strategic Development Plan

- Statutory - approved by Scottish Ministers and subject to formal legal processes
- Metropolitan Development Strategy - cross-boundary issues identifying spatial development priorities and long-term infrastructure needs
- Establishes the principle of development - important
- Long term - 20/25 years
- 'Location' specific rather than 'Site' specific
- Guides investment agenda - investment confidence
- Guides Local and Master Planning and supports Supplementary Planning Guidance
- Integrates economy, society and environment
- Integrates a wide 'stakeholder' community

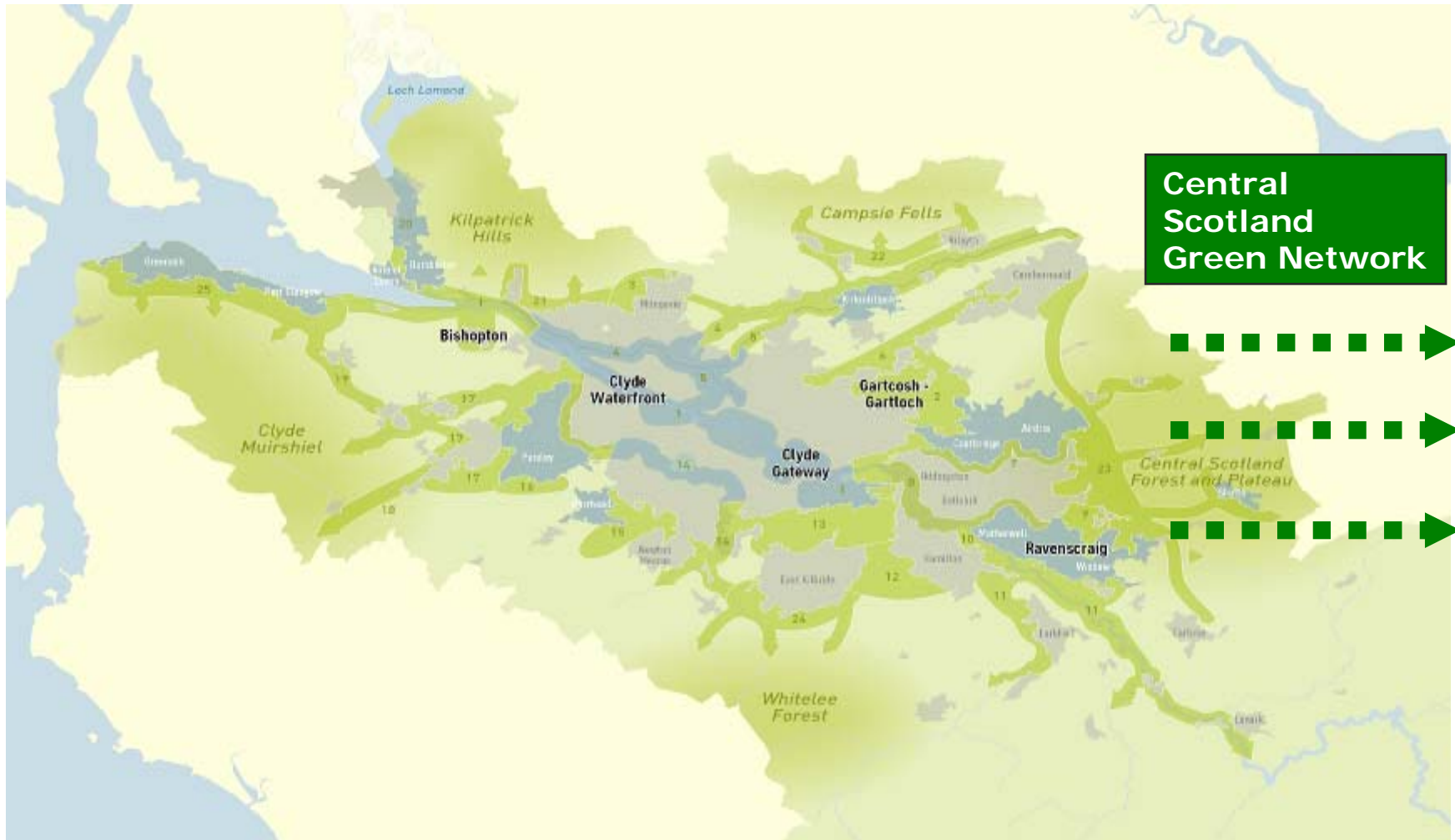


**Glasgow and the Clyde Valley
- Strategic Spatial Strategy**

Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Development Corridor



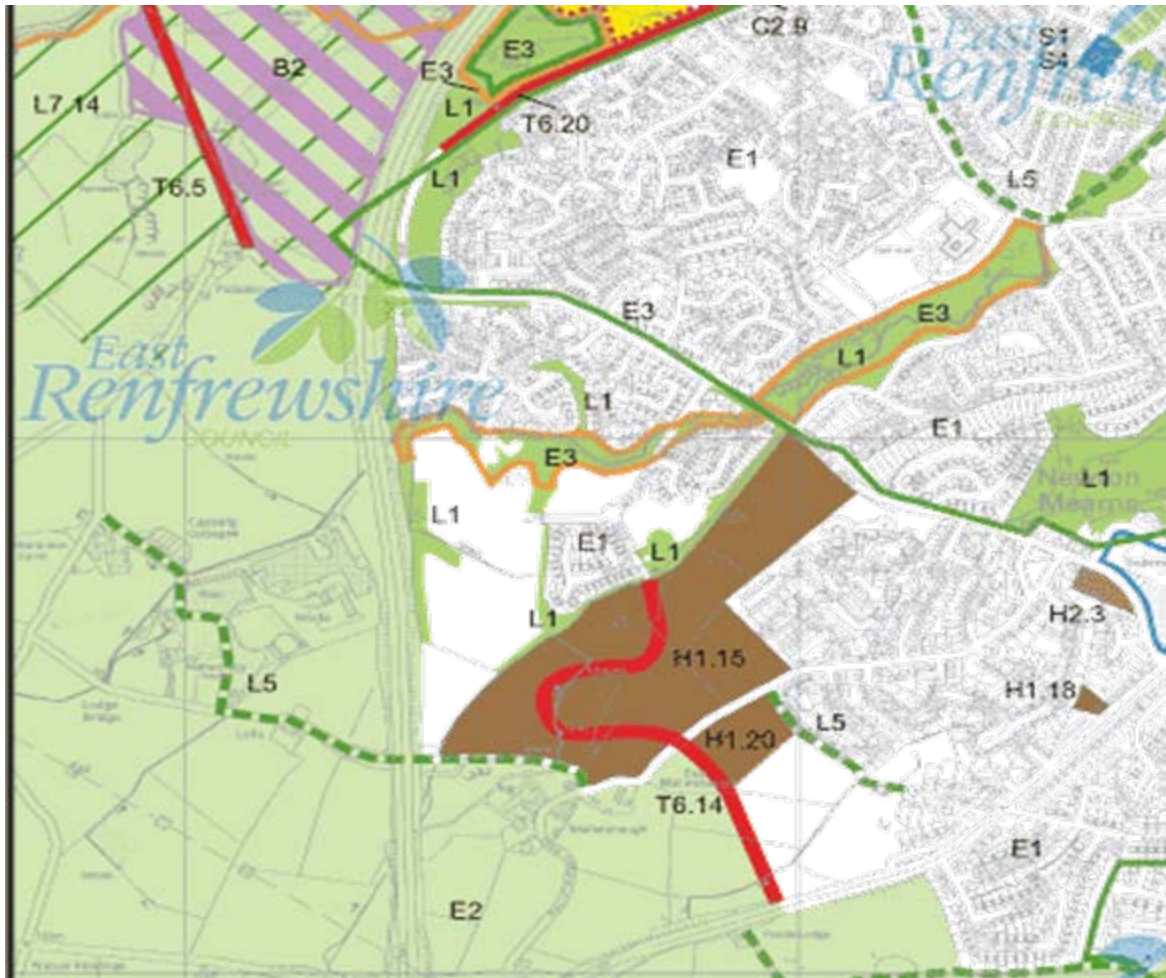
Green Network - linking Town and Country



Local Development Plan

- **Local Development Plan sets out where most new developments are proposed and the policies that will guide decision-making on planning applications**
- **Identifies detailed site boundaries and related policies**
- **Must accord with the Strategic Development Plan**
- **Development Plan Scheme and Participation Statement**
- **Main Issues Report and Proposed Plan**
- **Examination in Public**

Local Plan Proposals Map



Old v New

Old System	Issues paper	Draft Plan	Final Plan Pre Inquiry Modification	Inquiry	Modifications	Adopt
Character of engagement	Involve	Consult/Negotiate		Justify	Consult	

New System	Main Issues Report	Proposed Plan	Examination		Adopt with mods
Character of engagement	Involve/ Consult/Negotiate	Inform/Consult	Justify		

Supplementary Planning Guidance

Local Authorities can also prepare **Supplementary Planning Guidance**

Common types include:

(a) Development briefs or masterplans

which provide a detailed explanation of how the council would like to see particular sites or small areas develop.

(b) Strategies or frameworks on specific issues/areas

e.g. location of large wind farms. Glasgow East End Local Development Strategy

(c) Detailed policies

e.g. design of new development

Adopted Separate consultation process

Development Management

- processing of applications for planning permissions
- dealt with, in the first instance, by the local planning authority with decisions generally made in accordance with the Development Plan although other 'material considerations' can apply
- Each authority works under the general principle that decisions are taken locally, unless there are specific reasons for referring them to Scottish Ministers
- Scottish Ministers will also only intervene in very exceptional circumstances to determine a planning application

[Enforcement]

- responsibility of Local Authorities
- **make sure that development is carried out correctly**
- **takes action when development happens without permission or when conditions have not been followed.**

Futures

Three key points to Futures thinking

1. the aim is to strengthen an organisations awareness about the future

2. this is achieved by offering alternative images of the future and choices of action based on those images

3. it is *not about predicting the future*

So why carry out futures work? Two main reasons

1. Contemplation

- increases the range of policy options open to an organisation
- expands the timescales an organisation operates within

2. Action

- helps stimulate creativity within an organisation and its partners
- can be used to evaluate plans, policies, strategies and sectors
- helps alert decision makers to opportunities and dangers that might impact.

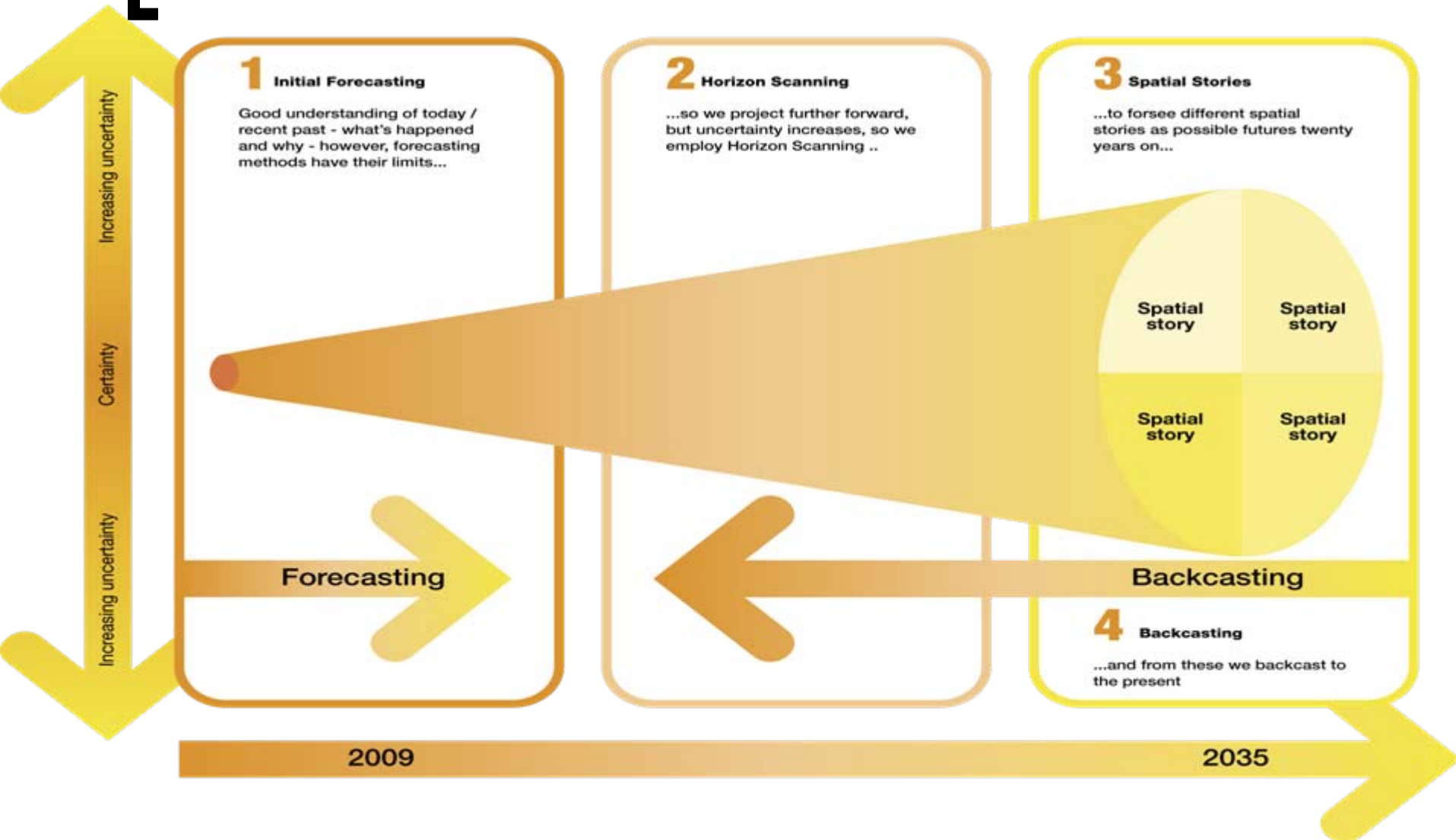
Futures

- **perfect knowledge is impossible**
- the longer the time-frame, the more the uncertainty
- **understanding the operating environment**
- understanding the critical 'change drivers' and their potential impacts
- **developing Institutional Capacity**
- preferred strategy and trying to achieve consensus

GCV SDP Futures Group Membership

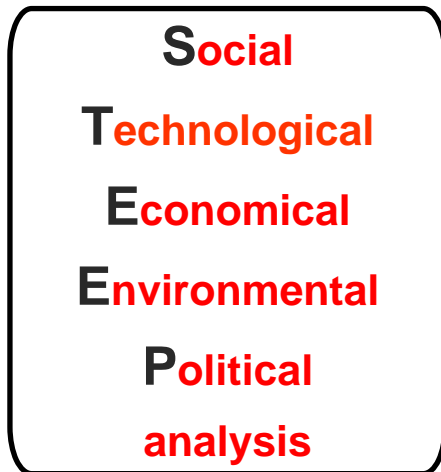
- **8 GCV Local Authorities**
- **BAA**
- **Forestry Commission Scotland**
- **Glasgow Centre for Population Health**
- **Glasgow University**
- **Scottish Enterprise**
- **Scottish Government**
- **Scottish Natural Heritage**
- **Scottish Water**
- **SEPA**
- **Strathclyde Partnership for Transport**
- **Transport Scotland**
- **Visit Scotland**

The Trumpet of Uncertainty!!



Process

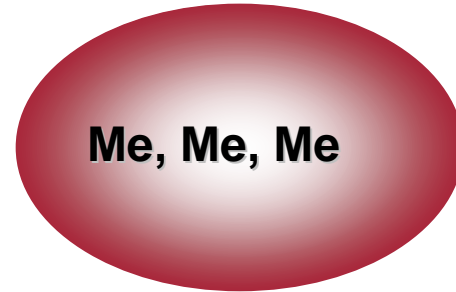
Stage 1
Driver
Analysis



Stage 2
Alternative
Futures of the
GCV area



Resources Readily Available



**Significant
Intervention**



**Limited
Intervention**

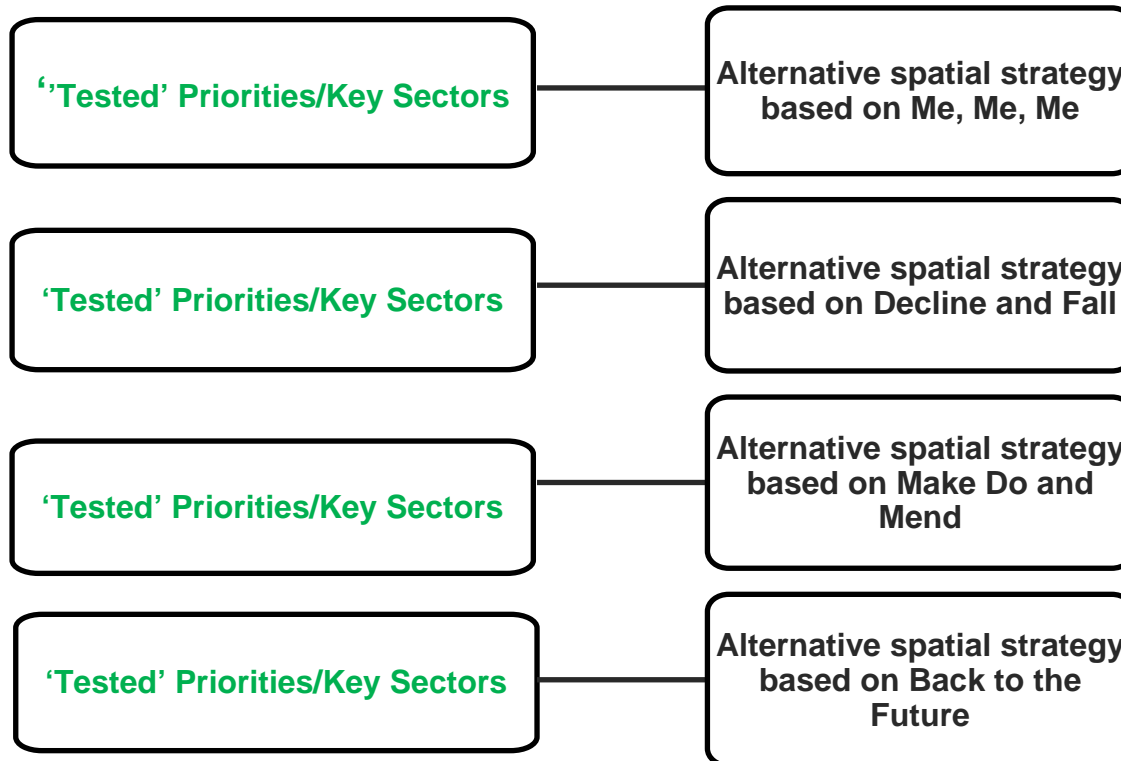


Limited Resources

Process

Stage 3 Spatial geographies of alternative Futures

Stage 4 Identifying alternative spatial strategies



[Key Outputs]

Created four 'distinct, challenging and plausible Stories' of the GCV area in 2035

- **'Stories' are not Strategies or Plans**
- **'Stories' represent pictures of potential development 'worlds' under specific 'drivers' - in this case, resources and governance**

Creation of four alternative spatial geographies of the GCV area based on those stories, taking account of key development sectors and NPF2/MDS legacy

Next Step - Risk Assessment

[Some Thoughts]

- **New planning system - will it really be quicker (mandatory Examination) and will it deliver better engagement**
- **Important to get involved at the right stage of the plan preparation process - strategic v local - MIR v Proposed Plan - public awareness**
- **Fragmented and diverse stakeholder community**
- **Short term budgets - long term strategy**
- **Delivery - role of public sector, over reliance on private sector, reducing public finances**
- **Separation of planning and implementation**
- **Partnership working key to making new system work**



**Thank you
and
Questions**

The Scottish Ministers

The Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Community Planning Partnership

North Lanarkshire

(323,500)

East Dunbartonshire

(110,000)

GCVSDPA

16 Members

(2 per Authority)

(Equal Financial shares)

(Convenership biennial)

East Renfrewshire

(87,500)

Renfrewshire

(176,500)

Glasgow City

(604,000)

South Lanarkshire

(305,000)

Inverclyde

(88,500)

West Dunbartonshire

(96,000)

Executive Planning Team - Dedicated and Flexible