DRAFT FOR ENGAGEMENT

Perth & Kinross Social Value Charter

Delivering Lasting Local Benefit from Development and Investment

Promoted by Perth and Kinross Council

Purpose

Perth & Kinross Council welcomes investment that helps create a sustainable, regenerative and inclusive economy, strengthens our communities and helps deliver the Council's ambitions for economic transformation and community wealth building.

This Charter sets out a voluntary framework through which developers, investors and businesses can work with Perth & Kinross Council, communities and partners to maximise social, economic and environmental value from development and business activities. It applies proportionately to:

- Energy and renewable energy developments
- Housing and mixed-use developments
- Industrial and commercial developments
- Tourism and leisure projects
- Infrastructure investments
- Major business expansions and relocations
- Long-term operational business activities

Status of the Charter

This Charter is voluntary and non-statutory. The Charter is separate from statutory planning requirements and should not be regarded as mitigation or compensation. It focuses on additional, voluntary social value outcomes.

Five Social Value Commitments

The Charter identifies five shared commitments that help ensure investment delivers lasting benefits for Perth and Kinross, with contributions tailored to the scale and nature of each project or business activity.

Commitment 1 - Community Benefit and Community Wealth Building

Investment should seek to leave a lasting positive legacy for Perth & Kinross.

Developers, Investors and Businesses - We Will

- Provide financial contributions, support in kind or other community benefits proportionate to the scale of investment or operations.
- Work with communities to identify local priorities.
- Consider support for community facilities, local services and projects.
- Support initiatives that reduce inequalities and improve wellbeing.
- Contribute to community or strategic funds where appropriate.

Perth & Kinross Council - We Will

- Provide a clear framework for engagement.
- Support identification of local priorities and opportunities.
- Maintain a Perth & Kinross Social Value Project Bank containing community, skills, infrastructure, environmental and economic development projects seeking financial, material, professional or volunteering support.
- Set-up and administer strategic or community funds where appropriate.
- Facilitate collaboration between investors, communities and partners.
- Ensure transparency in monitoring and reporting outcomes.

Communities and Partners - We Will

- Identify community priorities.
- Engage constructively with Perth and Kinross Council, developers and investors.
- Support transparent governance of community benefits.
- Work collaboratively to maximise impact.

Commitment 2 - Skills, Employment and Fair Work

Investment should maximise opportunities for local people.

Developers, Investors and Businesses - We Will

- Maximise local employment opportunities.
- Support apprenticeships, traineeships, mentoring and work placements.
- Promote Fair Work principles.
- Engage with schools, colleges and employability partners.
- Support skills and future workforce development.

Perth & Kinross Council - We Will

- Coordinate links to poverty reduction, employability, education and skills programmes.
- Promote local labour market opportunities.
- Support recruitment and workforce development initiatives.

Communities and Partners - We Will

- Promote opportunities to local people.
- Encourage participation in training and employment programmes.
- Help identify barriers to participation.

Commitment 3 - Local Procurement and Business Growth

Investment should strengthen the Perth & Kinross economy and supply chain.

Developers, Investors and Businesses - We Will

- Seek opportunities to use local suppliers.
- Engage with local businesses and social enterprises.
- Participate in supplier events and market engagement.
- Support innovation and business development.
- Participate in local business networks.

Perth & Kinross Council - We Will

- Promote local supply chain opportunities (eg Supplier development programmes).
- Facilitate business engagement and networking (eg Meet-the-buyer events).
- Connect investors with local businesses and enterprise support services.

Communities and Partners - We Will

- Promote local business participation.
- Encourage collaboration across sectors and localities.

Commitment 4 - Place, Infrastructure and Community Assets

Investment should contribute to stronger, more resilient places.

Developers, Investors and Businesses - We Will

Support the creation or enhancement of community infrastructure, including:

- Community hubs and facilities
- Active travel infrastructure
- Sports, leisure and cultural facilities
- Parks and green spaces, nature and biodiversity projects
- Digital infrastructure
- Energy efficiency or renewable projects
- Climate resilience projects
- Consideration of how developments can support local housing needs through direct provision, legacy accommodation, land, infrastructure or contributions to housing-focused projects.

Support may be provided through:

- Financial contributions
- Direct project delivery
- Opportunities to leave permanent community infrastructure and physical assets as a legacy of development.
- Materials and equipment
- Construction expertise and labour

Perth & Kinross Council - We Will

- Maintain a Perth & Kinross Social Value Project Bank and pipeline of strategic infrastructure priorities.
- Coordinate support across Council services.
- Help identify opportunities for legacy projects.

Communities and Partners - We Will

- Help identify local infrastructure priorities.
- Support stewardship and long-term use of assets.

- Participate in project development where appropriate.

Commitment 5 - In-Kind Support, Volunteering and Shared Value Place

Not all social value requires a financial contribution, significant value can come through expertise, resources and people.

Developers, Investors and Businesses - We Will

Provide support such as:

- Staff time through employee volunteering programmes (eg Community volunteering days)
- Professional expertise or technical advice (eg Design and engineering advice).
- Project management support
- Use of equipment and materials
- Transportation and logistics support
- Access to land and facilities
- Environmental improvement activities
- Mentoring and coaching

Perth & Kinross Council - We Will

- Develop opportunities for volunteering and community projects.
- Match community needs with business support.
- Help coordinate priority initiatives.

Communities and Partners - We Will

- Identify volunteering and support opportunities.
- Provide feedback on outcomes and impact.
- Work collaboratively with investors and businesses.

Charter Pledge

Investors and Businesses

We will work with Perth and Kinross Council, communities and partners to maximise social value through investment, jobs, skills, local procurement, volunteering, in-kind support, infrastructure and environmental improvement, creating a lasting legacy for current and future generations.

Perth & Kinross Council

We will provide leadership, coordination and support to maximise social value for the people and places of Perth and Kinross from investment, promote Community Wealth Building, facilitate collaboration and ensure transparency and accountability.

Communities and Partners

We will engage constructively, identify local priorities, participate in delivery and work collaboratively to maximise the benefits of investment for the people and places of Perth and Kinross.

Measuring Success

Participating organisations should report, proportionate to the scale of their investment or operations, against indicators such as:

- Community investment secured
- In-kind support provided
- Volunteer hours contributed
- Local contracts awarded
- Local spend retained
- Apprenticeships and employment created
- Businesses supported
- Community projects delivered
- Physical infrastructure completed
- Environmental and biodiversity outcomes achieved

Social Value Partnership Agreements

For significant developments, investors, communities and Perth & Kinross Council may agree a voluntary Social Value Partnership Agreement setting out commitments, outcomes, delivery milestones and reporting arrangements.

Additional Expectations for Energy Developments

Recognising the scale of renewable energy, transmission, storage and other energy infrastructure projects and grid investment existing and anticipated across Perth and Kinross, energy developers are encouraged to consider additional commitments including:

- Retain the existing commitment of £5000 per MW from renewable energy developments to communities already receiving benefits and new developments emerging in line with Scottish Government guidance
- Consider contributing to Perth & Kinross Strategic Investment Fund or Funds (or equivalent arrangements) to support infrastructure, housing, skills and economic development priorities. Contribution levels and mechanisms will be agreed on a project-by-project basis based on each renewable energy development. This Strategic Fund or Funds would be set-up and administered by Perth and Kinross Council as needed and in close partnership with contributors and other partners.
- Provide opportunity to participate in community investment and shared ownership model.
- Provide community energy infrastructure legacy projects such as low cost EV charging points where feasible.
- Provide Housing and accommodation legacy projects where development places pressure on local housing markets.
- Support or participate in Local Area Energy Planning (LAEP) or Strategic Energy Partnership (SEP) arrangements. Perth and Kinross Council will lead on LAEP or SEP in close collaboration with key partners.
- Invest in green skills and workforce development
- Enhance biodiversity and natural assets
- Develop long-term community benefit arrangements that extend throughout the operational life of the project

These specific expectations reflect good practice emerging through energy-sector social value charters and community wealth building approaches.

Roundtable Questions

1. Do you support the overall aims of the Perth & Kinross Social Value Charter?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Partly

2. Do the five Social Value Commitments reflect the right priorities for Perth & Kinross?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Partly

Please explain:

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3. Are there other types of social value that should be included?

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4. How can developers, investors, businesses, communities and the Council work together more effectively?

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5. Should specific expectations be included for renewable energy and major infrastructure developments?

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

Please explain:

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6. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the draft Charter?