

## What is the Elgin Long Term Town Plan and Elgin Town Board?

In October 2023, Elgin was one of 55 towns in the UK, seven in Scotland to be awarded £20M from the UK Government as part of the Long Term Plan for Towns.

The Elgin Town Board has recently been formed to develop a long term town plan for Elgin that includes a ten-year vision and initial three-year Investment Plan. Local businesswomen Jenny Urquhart was appointed Chair of the Elgin Town Board which includes local community figures including Moray's MP Douglas Ross, MSP Richard Lochhead, Elgin Community Council, Moray Chamber of Commerce, NHS Grampian, Moray College UHI, Elgin Town Hall for the Community and Elgin BID. More representatives from business and community are being added to the board.

## What is the Long Term Town Plan Funding for?

The UK Government has identified 3 themes. The funding is split as follows £15 million capital (e.g. purchase of an asset or construction works) and £5 million revenue (e.g. running costs, salaries and consumables)

- **Safety and Security** – aimed at tackling crime and anti-social behaviour to ensure local areas and businesses can thrive.
- **High streets, heritage and regeneration** – explores ideas to enhance town centres, improve local green spaces, support arts, heritage, culture and creativity and local sports facilities.
- **Transport and connectivity** – focuses on improving transport connectivity so that residents can access high streets, jobs, and local shopping centres with ease.

Please note that the themes are broader than the titles may suggest and cover an extensive range of different topics/ issues. The fund extends to the whole of Elgin not just the town centre. Ideas are encouraged from all residents of Moray and visitors to the area.

# What type of project is the funding for?

The UK Government has listed interventions (project ideas) where the case for support has already been agreed simplifying the Long Term Plan process. Ideas outside of those listed below are welcomed but must be supported by an outline business case.

## High Street, heritage and regeneration

**Ideas for place-based regeneration and town centre and high street improvements, which could include better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs**

- regenerating a town square or high street
- public realm improvements, for example street furniture or other decorative improvements
- the delivery of outreach, engagement and participatory programmes for community spaces, including youth centres and public libraries

**Ideas for new or improvements to existing, community and neighbourhood infrastructure projects and assets including those that increase communities' resilience to natural hazards, such as flooding, and support for decarbonisation of facilities, energy efficiency audits, and installation of energy efficiency and renewable measures in community buildings (including capital spend and running costs).**

- building new or updating existing defences to increase communities' resilience to natural hazards like flooding or coastal erosion

**Creation of and improvement to local green spaces, community gardens, watercourses and embankments. Improvements to the natural environment and the incorporation of more of these natural features into wider public spaces**

- development of a new park, particularly in areas with the least access to greenspace
- development of a new park or community garden
- urban or riparian tree planting
- changes to management of green spaces and verges
- regeneration of existing parks or community gardens, particularly in areas with poor quality parks and gardens
- improving access to existing parks

**Ideas for enhanced support for arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities, projects and facilities and historic institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer**

- the delivery of events programmes for community spaces, including youth centres and public libraries
- the development, restoration or refurbishment of local natural, cultural and heritage assets and sites

**Ideas to support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities**

- funding for maker spaces
- funding for local art galleries, museums, libraries for exhibitions
- support for displays for artists to showcase work
- locally led music and theatre performances, tours, author events and film screenings
- funding for cultural, heritage and creative events
- support for outreach, engagement, participatory programmes as part of wider local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities
- support for the establishment and development of cultural, heritage collaborative networks to share knowledge locally

**Ideas for the development and promotion of wider campaigns which encourage people to visit and explore the local area**

- campaigns promoting the local area and its culture, heritage, leisure and visitor offer to residents and visitors
- campaigns to encourage visitors from further afield to visit and stay in the region, collaborating with other places where appropriate

**Ideas for impactful volunteering and social action projects to develop social and human capital in local places**

- funding for local volunteering groups, such as youth charities and carer's groups
- support for people to develop volunteering and social action projects locally

**Ideas for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues; to bring people together**

- renovation and maintenance of existing sports facilities
- support for community sports leagues
- regeneration of an unused area to build sports facilities
- creation of new 3G sports pitches and other sports facilities

**Ideas for investment in capacity building, resilience (which could include climate change resilience) and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups**

- funding for community spaces, such as village halls, libraries or community centres for local civil society and community groups to use
- support for people to develop volunteering and social action projects locally

**Investment and support for digital infrastructure for local community facilities**

**Investment in open markets and improvements to town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wrap around support for small businesses**

- funding to support the establishment and ongoing running of a new open air market business support activity for entrepreneurs

**Development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally**

- development of local visitor trails and tours
- grants for the development, promotion and upkeep of local tourist attractions
- development of other local visitor experiences based around the local offer

**Grants to help places bid for and host international business events and conferences that support wider local growth sectors**

- grants to bid for, secure and hold a conference for a leading sector locally

## Safety and security

### Design and management of the built and landscaped environment to 'design out crime'

- promoting the active use of streets and public spaces throughout the daytime and evening
- improvements to streetlighting
- installation of new CCTV

### Engage with Police Force and together consider interventions to focus on visible crime prevention in defined areas places

- hotspot policing
- problem-oriented policing

### Measures to prevent anti-social behaviour, crime and reduce reoffending

- sports programmes designed to prevent crime and reduce reoffending
- mentoring
- police-led pre-charge diversion models for young offenders
- focused deterrence strategies
- halfway house programmes

### Measures to reduce repeat burglary

- Neighbourhood Watch
- provision of crime prevention advice
- property marking
- target hardening (increasing the security of a property)
- cocoon watch (provision of crime prevention advice, support and guidance to neighbours and surrounding addresses of burgled properties)
- alley gating

## Transport and connectivity

### Active travel enhancements in the local area

- creation of new foot paths and cycle paths, particularly in areas of health need or social inequalities
- upgrading of existing foot paths and cycle paths, particularly in areas of health need or social inequalities

### Bus infrastructure and connections to speed up journeys.

- traffic signalling improvements
- bus lanes and corridors
- improved passenger information
- Funding for collaborative approaches with commercial bus operators to improve connectivity and boost economic growth

### New, or improvements to road networks to improve access within and to the town

- traffic management improvements to relieve congestion
- road safety
- highway maintenance (including potholes)

### Improving rail connectivity and access

- adding stations along existing lines
- improved accessibility and journey quality at and around stations
- improved passenger information

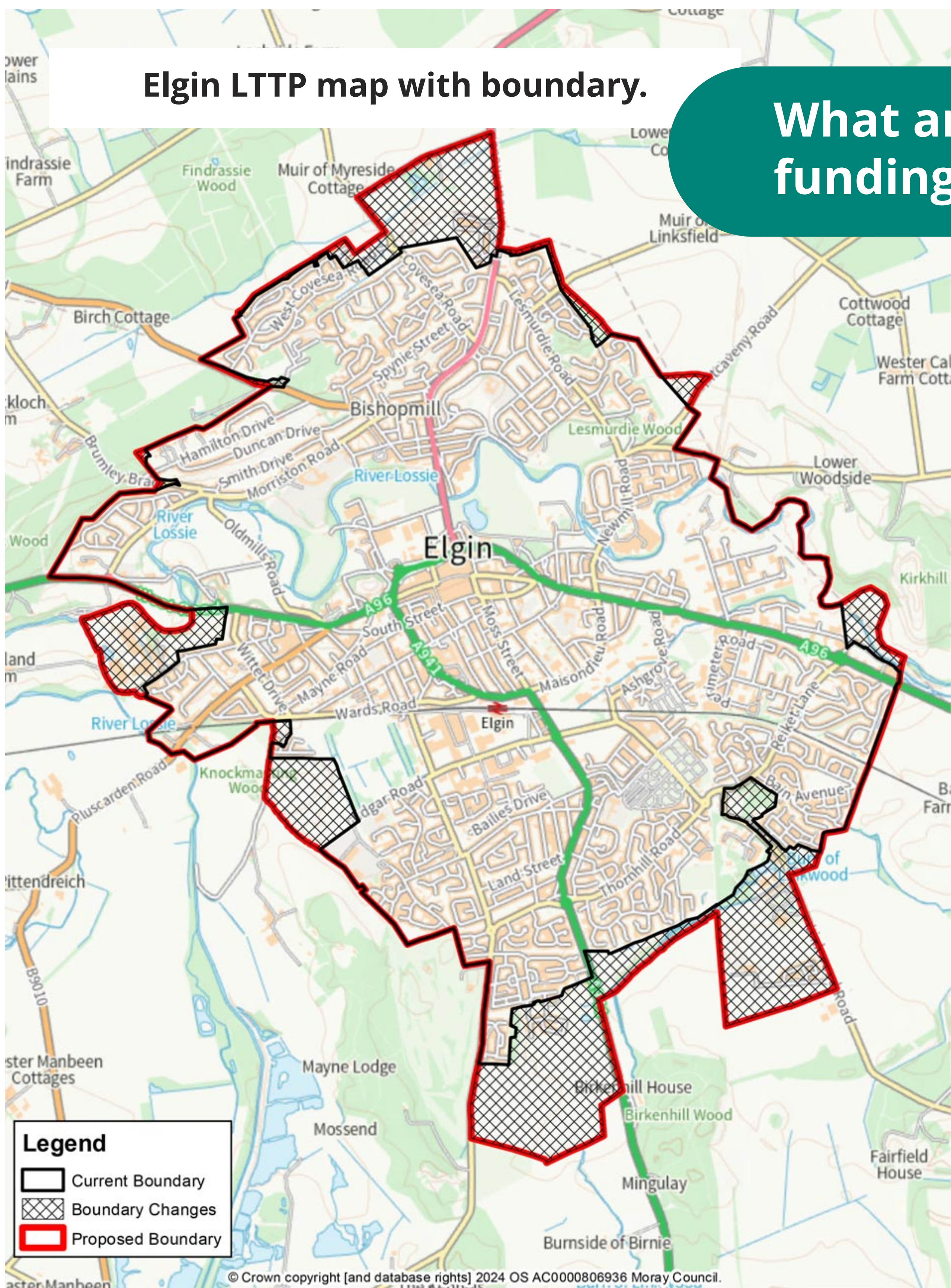
### Reducing vehicle emissions

- EV charging facilities
- procuring zero emission buses

### Digital infrastructure for local community facilities

Elgin LTTP map with boundary.

What area does the funding cover?



What will happen with my comments and ideas and what are the next steps?

All the feedback and ideas received from the series of engagement events will be used to inform an Investment Plan which the Town Board is required to submit to the UK Government by 1st August. It will also inform a Local Place Plan which Elgin Community Council are preparing. The Elgin Town Board is working closely with other partners using a series of subgroups for each theme to support the board to ensure the work is driven by the community.

How can I contribute my ideas and comments?

**Future engagement**

Further engagement will be undertaken in June/July 2024 at which stage the draft Investment Plan will have been developed and views will be sought on the content of the plan.

Please advise if you would like to be kept informed by providing your email address (please read privacy notice) at this event.

Scan the QR code to find out more, and fill in the survey to submit your ideas

Please identify the topic your idea relates to and to provide a short summary of your idea, the benefits, timescales, costs where known and who will deliver the project.

There are also maps and post it notes on the tables today to capture ideas as well as paper copies of the forms, guidance and a comments board.