

## **20 Minute Neighbourhoods**



## **Priorities in rural and island place-making:**

**Definition of conceptual framework:** Being able to meet one's daily needs within a 20 minute walk.

If this is the Scottish Government definition, we need to ask:

How do rural and island residents identify with it?

**Planning** 

 NPF4 must address gulf between rhetoric of wellbeing/environmental sustainability and economic growth. It must also address gulf between what communities need and what they get in relation to housing, health, infrastructure etc.

Collaboration

 Local Place Plans must act as vehicles for improved collaboration between communities, local authorities and others e.g. land owners, transport providers.

Capacity Building  Home-working may free up local people to volunteer on Boards etc. but volunteering should not be exclusively relied on. Community bodies must be funded to enable them engage with place planning. Peer learning (e.g. <u>Scottish Community</u> <u>Alliance Programme</u>) should be supported

Investment

 Communities attract significant investment but should expect simplified and streamlined access to funding and subsidies where this is required to realise the social or environmental benefits of projects that do not generate financial profits.

Mobility
(digital and physical access to services)

 Current mapping must look beyond infrastructure to combine access, quality of experience and social/environmental factors. Community selfassessments could provide authentic data but outputs must be taken seriously by authorities.

## **Implementing Priorities:**

- Work with the Development Trust
   Association of Scotland to re-define the 20
   Minute Neighbourhood conceptual framework so it is relevant to both urban and rural contexts.
- Develop 20 Minute Neighbourhood mapping systems that are grounded in the lived reality of local communities.
- Invest in paid staff (+ core costs) to support local communities in conducting inclusive consultations, finding consensus on local priorities and implementing these in partnership with others.
- Proactively map and identify communities that may require additional support to achieve above.
- Invest in expert organisations who can enable local communities to shape the National Planning Framework (NPF4) development and implementation process.