

Ref: EIR / 6038

30th October 2025

Environmental Information Regulations Request - Local Plans Layers

I refer to your FOI request and respond as follows. As your request relates to environmental information, it has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Request

I am writing to formally request the provision of the most recent Local plans shape file in vector format for Derry and Strabane.

Currently, the mapped local plans maps cannot be assessed in sufficient detail, and having access to them in vector format is crucial for our analysis for planning purposes. I am happy to receive map/shape files in any recognised vector format which contains the coordinates describing the shape of the local plans, so can be used in GIS software.

As local plans are part of land designation, these shape files should be publicly accessible. Therefore, I kindly ask that you provide these shape files in a compatible vector format.

If the shape files are not available, please provide information about any Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) that you may have relating to conservation areas. Such APIs will help us accessing the files directly without the use of email. Please treat this request under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, ensuring that the files and documentation are provided in the requested formats.

Derry

C/o Council Offices
98 Strand Road
Derry
BT48 7NN

Strabane

C/o Council Offices
47 Derry Road
Strabane
BT82 8DY

+44 (0) 2871 253 253
info@derrystrabane.com
www.derrystrabane.com

 Derry City & Strabane District Council
 @dcsdcouncil

Response

You are advised that this Council has adopted its Local Development Plan (LDP 2032) Plan Strategy (PS) in July 2025. It is currently working on the preparation of the second part of the LDP, the LDP Local Policies Plan (LPP) – which is expected in approximately three years. The LDP Plan Strategy only contains two strategic maps of the District; see Appendix 1 of the Plan Strategy, publicly available on the Council's website at: <https://www.derrystrabane.com/subsites/ldp/ldp-plan-strategy-%E2%80%93-adopted-2025>

The LDP Local Policies Plan will contain all the updated settlement maps and zonings, designations, etc., so these will not be available for a few years yet.

In the meantime, the 'most recent Local plans' maps are those that are identified / shown in the former Departmental Area Plans. These are the Derry Area Plan (DAP) 2011 and the Strabane Area Plan (SAP) 2001. All the maps in the DAP 2011 and the SAP 2001 can be accessed on the Council's website, mid-page under 'VIEW OUR DISTRICT'S CURRENT AREA PLANS' at: <https://www.derrystrabane.com/subsites/ldp>

Unfortunately, the Council has not had a GIS Officer or capability for some time. Therefore, the Council is not in a position to send you the information in the LDP Plan Strategy, DAP 2011 or SAP 2001 - in the requested vector format. Similarly, the Council does not hold information about any Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) relating to conservation areas. Those maps are available on the website at: <https://www.derrystrabane.com/services/planning/useful-links>

It is the Council's intention to employ a new GIS Officer as we embark on the site-specific stage of LDP preparation - the Local Policies Plan, during the early part of 2026. We would then be able to map and make available the most recent mapping in GIS vector format.

Therefore, in response to your information request, this Council does not hold the information that you have requested. You can keep updated on progress in the preparation of the LDP Local Policies Plan at: <https://www.derrystrabane.com/subsites/ldp>

I trust that this clarifies the current situation, though it unfortunately does not provide you with the information you requested.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you have rights of review and appeal; these rights consist of two review processes.

Firstly, our internal review procedure is available by contacting:

John Kelpie
Chief Executive
Derry City and Strabane District Council
98 Strand Road
Derry BT48 7NN
Tel: 028 71253253 or email: john.kelpie@derrystرابane.com

Secondly, you can appeal directly by contacting the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
CHESHIRE SK9 5AF
Tel: 0303 123 1113 (local rate) or email: casework@ico.org.uk

I would however advise that the Information Commissioner has indicated that a review will not be undertaken unless the Council has first had an opportunity to re-consider its decision.

Yours sincerely

P. Mc Caughey
Principal Planning Officer