

# **SDPA Bulletin – December 2012**

## **1 Strategic Development Plan Update**

- 1.1 Following approval of the Proposed Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan by the Strategic Development Planning Authority (SDPA) on 9 November, the plan is now going through its ratification process.
- 1.2 Aberdeenshire Council ratified the plan at its meeting of 22 November 2012, welcoming the plan and its aspiration for the future of Aberdeen City and Shire. Ratification was obtained by 60 votes to 2, with one abstention.
- 1.3 Aberdeen City Council is due to meet on 19 December 2012 to consider ratification.
- 1.4 Following ratification it is anticipated that the period for representations will start on 11 January 2013, allowing time for publication and avoiding the Christmas period. An update to the SDPA website will be provided following the meeting of Aberdeen City Council on 19 December.
- 1.5 A letter or email will be sent out to all those who responded to the Main Issues Report and others on the consultation database informing them of the likely timescales for the consultation period. This advance notice should help stakeholders by giving advance warning of the consultation.

## **2 Local Development Plans Update**

- 2.1 With both local development plans adopted earlier this year, work is focused on implementation and preparations for the processes of local development plan monitoring and review. This is particularly the case given the advanced stage reached by the strategic development plan.
- 2.2 Aberdeen City Council received a commendation for the Aberdeen Local Development Plan at the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning 2012 in October. The judges commented that “this initiative has been given a Commendation because of the open and inclusive nature of the consultation process, resulting in a quick turnaround time for the plan to be developed and adopted. Key to its success was the very early and straightforward engagement approach, providing opportunities to influence the proposal at the right time. The team was clear on what it wanted to achieve at each stage of the process and supported the delivery of community-led proposals”.
- 2.3 The adoption of the Aberdeen Local Development Plan had been challenged at the Court of Session by Tesco earlier this year but the challenge was rejected in

October (<http://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/opinions/2012CSIH81.html>). An appeal has now been lodged by Tesco with the Supreme Court.

- 2.4 Both Moray and Angus councils have published main issues reports for their local development plans over recent weeks. From an initial review it is not known that there are any strategic issues which would necessitate a response from the SDPA but if there are, this will be reported to the next meeting of the SDPA.

### **3 Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning**

- 3.1 In addition to the commendation for the Aberdeen City and Shire Local Development Plan noted above, Aberdeen City Council (with partners) received an Award for the Trinity Group at the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning 2012 (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/0040/00401139.pdf>) in the 'Quality of Service' category.
- 3.2 The initiative was given an Award because of "the unique and proactive partnership approach taken to address the current challenges being faced by the development sector in the North East. The varied group membership (including representation from the banking sector) facilitates the sharing of best practice and delivers a more holistic understanding of the issues being faced by the public and private sector. The Judges highlighted the solutions-focussed approach taken by the group to aid development as a key principle of Planning Modernisation".

### **4 Loch of Skene Update**

- 4.1 At the last meeting of the SDPA, questions were raised concerning the vulnerability of the Loch of Skene in the context of the SDP Strategic Environmental Assessment.
- 4.2 A short briefing has been provided in Appendix 1 which sets out the status of the Loch of Skene and the actions being taken forward by partners to address the challenges faced.

### **5 Scottish Marine Regions and National Marine Plan**

- 5.1 At a previous meeting in March 2011 the SDPA agreed a response to the Marine Scotland consultation on the boundaries of the proposed Scottish Marine Regions.
- 5.2 Marine Scotland has now published an analysis of the written responses to the consultation which is available on the Scottish Government website (<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2011/10/24105640/0>).
- 5.3 A total of 81 responses were received to the consultation representing a wide range of interests from local authorities and research organisations to energy companies and fisheries organisations. Eight responses were made from the Aberdeen City and Shire area.

- 5.4 It is expected that a further short consultation on marine region boundaries will take place early next year.
- 5.5 Following the publication of a 'pre-consultation draft' last year (to which the SDPA responded in June 2011), it had been anticipated that a draft National Marine Plan will be published for consultation in Spring 2012, with a final version prepared before the end of 2012. The participation statement for the plan has since been revised and new timescales identified. It is now anticipated that consultation on a draft plan will take place in June 2013 for 12-16 weeks, with adoption by the end of 2014.

## 6 Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)

- 6.1 On 30 October 2012 the Department for Energy and Climate Change announced a shortlist of four projects (out of eight submissions) in contention for up to £1bn of funding to develop carbon capture and storage projects in the UK ([http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pn12\\_136/pn12\\_136.aspx](http://www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/news/pn12_136/pn12_136.aspx)). The successful projects are now being invited to take part in a period of intensive commercial negotiations with Government before decisions on which projects to support further are taken in the new year.
- 6.2 The four short listed bids, all full chain capture, transport and storage projects, are in alphabetical order:
- Captain Clean Energy Project: A proposal for a new 570MW, fully abated coal Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (pre-combustion) project in Grangemouth, Scotland with storage in offshore depleted gas fields. Led by Summit Power, involving Petrofac (CO<sub>2</sub> Deepstore), National Grid and Siemens.
  - Peterhead: A 340MW Post-combustion capture retrofitted to part of an existing 1180MW Combined Cycle Gas Turbine power station at Peterhead, Scotland. Led by Shell and SSE.
  - Teesside Low Carbon Project: A Pre-combustion coal gasification project (linked to c330MWe net power generating capacity fuelled by syngas with 90% of CO<sub>2</sub> abated) on Teesside, North East England with storage in depleted oil field and saline aquifer. A consortium led by Progressive Energy and involving GDF SUEZ, Premier Oil, and BOC.
  - White Rose Project: An Oxyfuel capture project at a proposed new 304MW fully abated supercritical coal-fired power station on the Drax site in North Yorkshire. Led by Alstom and involving Drax, BOC and National Grid.
- 6.3 In addition to the Peterhead proposal, the Captain Clean Energy Project also has the potential to have an impact in Aberdeen City and Shire if CO<sub>2</sub> is transported up to St Fergus in the same way as the previous Longannet proposal.
- 6.4 The proposal at Peterhead also applied for funding from the European Union through its New Entrants Reserve (NER300). The announcement on 12 July 2012 of a provisional list for funding was less positive for Peterhead ([http://ec.europa.eu/clima/funding/ner300/docs/2012071201\\_sw\\_d\\_ner300.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/clima/funding/ner300/docs/2012071201_sw_d_ner300.pdf)). The Peterhead scheme was placed second on the reserve list, with eight projects on the list of candidates for award decisions. It is anticipated that only

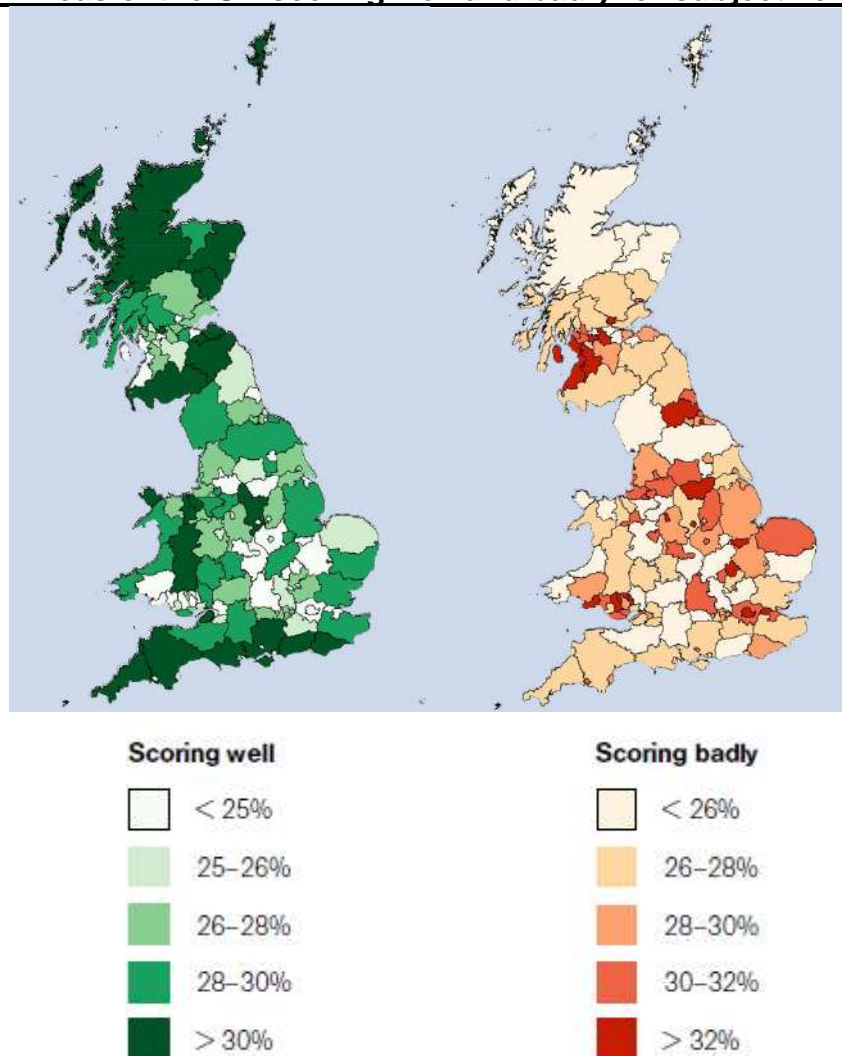
two or three projects could be funded but significant commitment from national governments will be required to unlock any of the projects for European funding.

- 6.5 It is likely that further announcements will be made in the next few months on both funding competitions.

## **7 Good Growth and Wellbeing**

- 7.1 Two pieces of independent research have recently cast a positive light on the economy of the area and wellbeing of the population in Aberdeen City and Shire. This follows in a long line of such information which rates the quality of life in Aberdeen City and Shire as among the best in the UK.
- 7.2 Research has confirmed the Aberdeen travel to work area (Aberdeen City and large parts of Aberdeenshire) as growing more successfully than almost every other city in the UK. The new report by PwC/Demos '[Good growth for cities: Our report on economic wellbeing in UK urban areas](#)', shows Aberdeen ranked third among the 36 cities surveyed. The report looked at a wide range of categories defined by the public as crucial to economic success and wellbeing.
- 7.3 In common with other high ranking cities in the report, Aberdeen performed well on indices such as jobs, income, health and transport (average commuting time to work) as well as the environment and providing for the future (percentage of households with long-term savings). However the results suggest that for many big cities there is a price for this, seen in relatively low scores for housing affordability and work-life balance.
- 7.4 Aberdeen City and Shire also performed well in new research by the New Economics Foundation which looked at subjective wellbeing across the UK ([http://www.neweconomics.org/sites/neweconomics.org/files/Unlocking\\_wellbeing\\_webReady.pdf](http://www.neweconomics.org/sites/neweconomics.org/files/Unlocking_wellbeing_webReady.pdf)). It found Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire both in the top 10 council areas in the UK, with either the highest percentage scoring well (Aberdeenshire) or the lowest percentage scoring badly (both Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire) – as shown in Figure 1.

**Figure 1: Areas of the UK scoring well and badly for subjective wellbeing**



Source: New Economic Foundation

## 8 Structure Plan Proposals

8.1 A number of structure plan proposals have progressed over recent months and an update has been provided for some of these below.

### East Coast Electricity Transmission Upgrade

8.2 This proposal (<http://www.sse.com/ECR400kV>) is also a 'national development' in NPF2 and involves upgrading the East Coast Electricity Transmission Line from 275kV to 400kV and the development of new and expanded substations along the route between Moray and Perth and Kinross through Aberdeenshire and Angus. In Aberdeenshire the proposal involves a new substation west of Rothienorman, an extension to the existing substation at Leylodge (Kintore) and the re-insulating of the electricity pylons themselves (increasing the insulation between the pylons and the electricity cables at each pylon along the route).

8.3 In relation to the Rothienorman substation ([F/APP/2011/2038](#)), planning permission was granted by Aberdeenshire Council on 19 January 2012. An extension to the existing substation at Leylodge, Kintore ([APP/2012/2133](#)) was approved by Aberdeenshire Council on 22 November 2012.

- 8.4 The final element of the proposal to impact on this area is an application under section 37 of the Electricity Act 1989 to the Scottish Government to re-insulate the electricity transmission line itself. Aberdeenshire Council will be a statutory consultee for that application which is expected in early 2013.

#### **New Prison (HMP Grampian)**

- 8.5 HMP Grampian in Peterhead will provide around 500 places for male and female prisoners, with both adults and young offenders being accommodated. The Scottish Prison Service awarded the contract to Skanska Construction UK Limited to design and construct HMP Grampian. Construction is now at an advanced stage, with completion due in late 2013 or early 2014.

#### **Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route**

- 8.6 On 17 October 2012 the Supreme Court issued its decision in the case of the legal challenge to the decision of the Scottish Ministers on 21 December 2009 to make various orders in connection with the construction of an Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route. The appeal to the Supreme Court followed unsuccessful appeals to the outer house (decided on 11 August 2011) and inner house (decided on 29 February 2012) of the Court of Session.
- 8.7 The Supreme Court's decision was to dismiss the appeal for a third time. A summary of the judgement can be found at Appendix 2, while the full judgement is available from the Supreme Court ([http://www.supremecourt.gov.uk/decided-cases/docs/UKSC\\_2012\\_0098\\_Judgment.pdf](http://www.supremecourt.gov.uk/decided-cases/docs/UKSC_2012_0098_Judgment.pdf)).
- 8.8 Since the appeal was dismissed, preparatory works such as ground investigations are already underway and an indicative timetable is set out below leading to completion in spring 2018:

Early 2013	Hold industry day to discuss tenders
Early 2013	Publish Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) notice
Spring 2013	Issue invitation to tender
Autumn 2014	Award contract/commence works
Spring 2018	Completion

- 8.9 Clearing the legal challenges on the AWPR unlocks work on the dualling of the A90 between Balmedie and Tippetty, two Park and Ride sites as well as the upgrade to the Haudagain roundabout and Dyce Drive.

#### **Better links between Aberdeen and the north coast of Aberdeenshire**

- 8.10 Actions are continuing to take forward the Route Action Plan developed for the A947 between Banff and Aberdeen. Information events and public meetings have taken place over recent months. A range of measures to improve road safety have already been implemented and the next step in the project, which is currently under way, is an examination of all the bends along the A947, with a view to providing a consistent message about signing and lining.

## **9 Housing Market Activity**

- 9.1 This section provides an update on activity within the Aberdeen City and Shire housing market. This combines intelligence on housing market activity from various sources, including data from the Local Authority Housing Bulletin

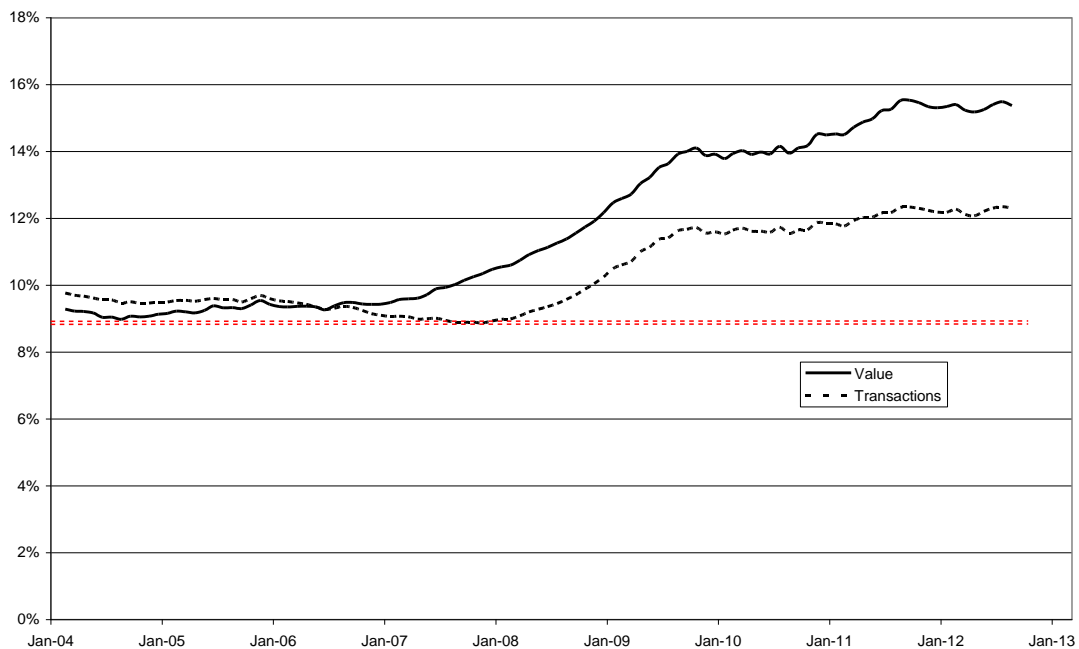
(Registers of Scotland) and the Scottish Government's 'Housing Statistics for Scotland'.

### Local Authority Housing Bulletin

9.2 The Local Authority Housing Bulletin collates a range of time-series statistics on the volume of transaction and house prices by council area in Scotland. The bulletin is produced by the Scottish Government Centre for Housing Market Analysis (CHMA), based on Registers of Scotland data, with the latest edition covering the period to end September 2012.

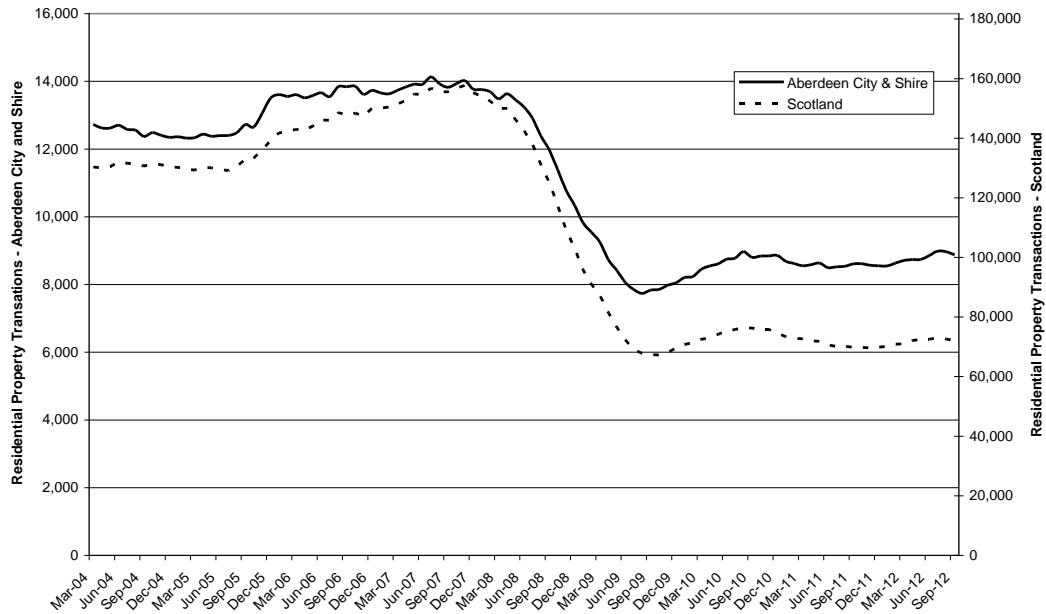
9.3 From Figure 2 it can be seen that up to mid-2007, Aberdeen City and Shire's proportion of the total residential property market (by value) in Scotland was quite stable at between 9% and 9.5%. However, from March 2007 onwards this area has seen that percentage increasing up to 14% in October 2009. After a period of stability at that level for a number of months, the upward trend has continued with Aberdeen City and Shire representing over 15% of Scottish residential property market by value in September 2012. A similar trend is followed in terms of the number of transactions in Aberdeen City and Shire, reaching over 12% of the Scottish total in September 2012. As a basis for comparison, 8.8% of Scottish households live in Aberdeen City and Shire.

**Figure 2: Aberdeen City and Shire as a percentage of the Scottish residential property market by value**



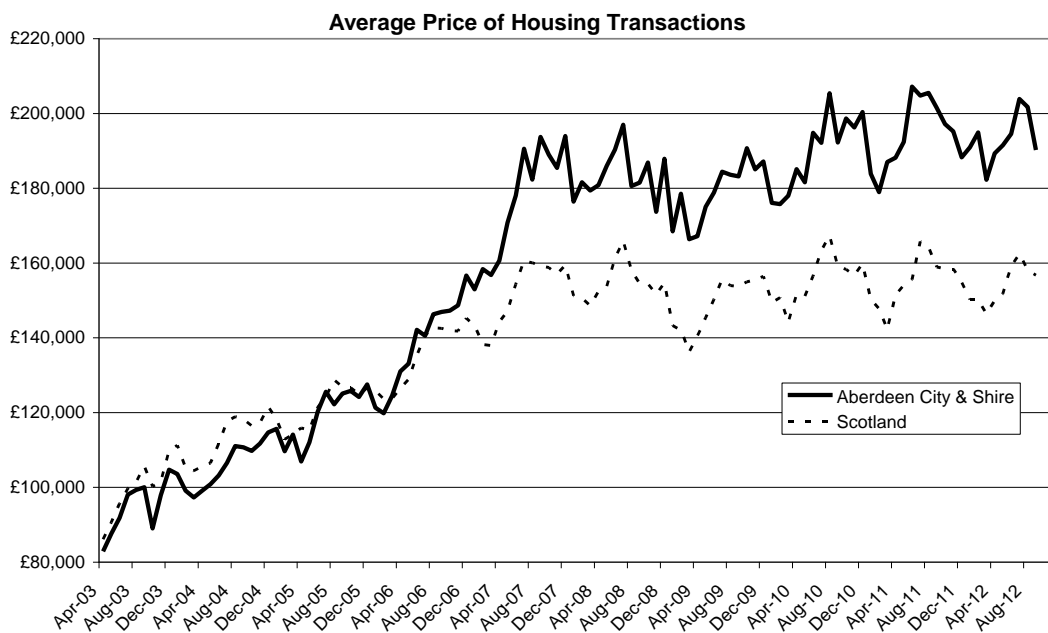
9.4 Figure 3 shows that, between 2004 and 2007, residential property transactions slightly increased from an annual rate of around 12,500 to 14,000 in Aberdeen City and Shire. Following the steep falls in 2008 (which were not as significant as elsewhere in Scotland), annual transactions have stabilised and increased slightly to around 8,500 in the year to the end of September 2012 (although still 40% below the peak).

**Figure 3: Residential property transactions (2004 – 2012)**



9.5 Figure 4 displays the average quarterly house price for sales in Aberdeen City and Shire compared to national averages. It shows that the average house price in Aberdeen City and Shire rose to record levels in late 2010 and once again in Q3 2011 (£204,015), well above the national average of £163,091 (Q3 2011). Average house prices in both Aberdeen City and Shire and Scotland as a whole peaked in July 2008 before bottoming out in March 2009 at 15.5% and 17.9% respectively below their peak values.

**Figure 4: Average quarterly house price trend (2003 – 2012)**

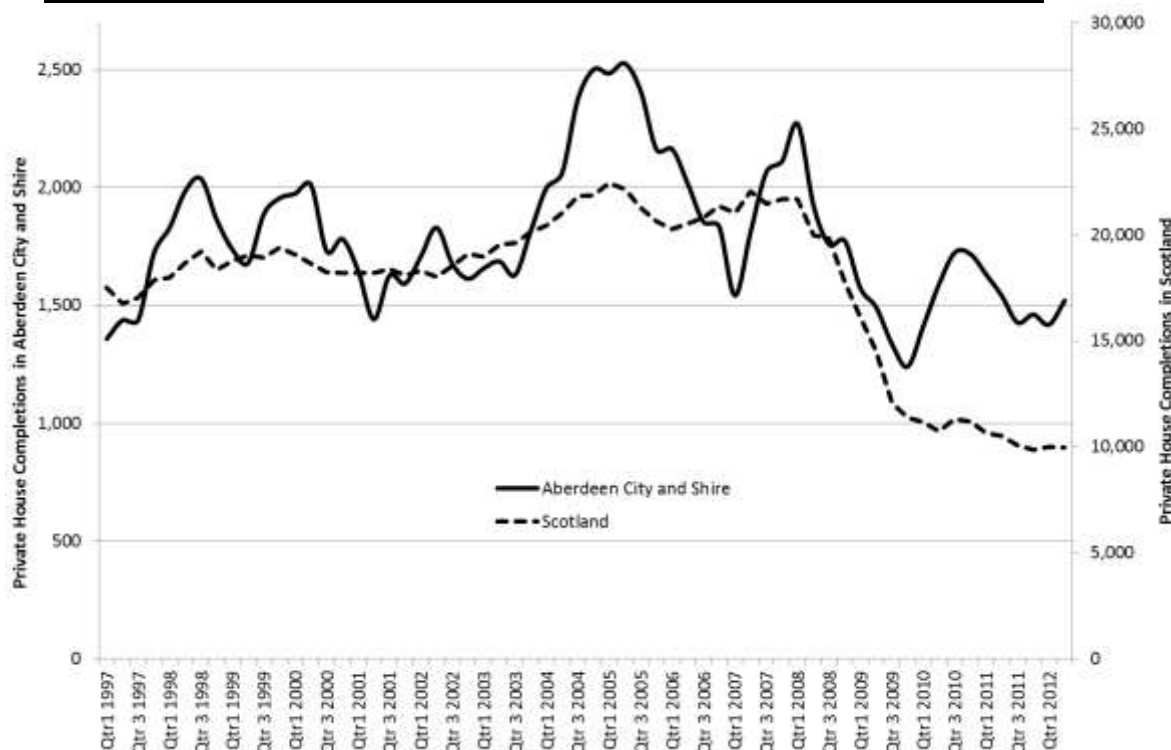




## Housing Statistics for Scotland – New Build

- 9.6 Figure 5 shows that within Aberdeen City and Shire, although housing completions have fallen since the peak of the market, the fall has not been as dramatic as in the rest of Scotland. In the period July 2011 to June 2012, Aberdeen City and Shire accounted for over 15% of private sector housing completions in Scotland against a long-term average of around 9.5%. The completions envisaged in the Housing Land Audit indicate a return to pre-recessionary levels over the next two years, performance which is not envisaged elsewhere in the country.

**Figure 5: Annual Private Sector Housing Completions (1996-2012)**



### Key Messages

- 9.7 A number of key messages can be drawn from the information presented above:
- The residential property market in Aberdeen City and Shire continues to out-performing the Scottish market, although both are operating at levels well below their long-term average levels;
  - Aberdeen City and Shire average house prices have been generally rising over the last three years and are now at a level higher than those seen prior to the recession;
  - New house completions are significantly down on the long-term average across Scotland but the decline has been less significant in Aberdeen City and Shire.

## 10 SDPA Website Statistics (October 2011 – September 2012)

- 10.1 The summary of web statistics for Q4 2011 to Q3 2012 is set out in Figure 6 below. This shows a range of data on visitors and site traffic.

**Figure 6: Website Summary Statistics**

	<b>Q4 2011</b>	<b>Q1 2012</b>	<b>Q2 2012</b>	<b>Q3 2012</b>
<b>Visits</b>	2,304	2,089	1,556	1,509
<b>Unique visitors</b>	1,400	1,321	1,063	1,012
<b>% new visitors</b>	51.6	53.8	58.2	57.5
<b>Page views</b>	8,163	6,972	4,207	4,674
<b>Average pages viewed</b>	3.5	3.3	2.7	3.1
<b>Average time spent at site</b>	3:23	2:49	2:00	2:35
<b>Direct / Referral / Search (%)</b>	22/29/49	17/27/56	11/30/64	12/27/61

	<b>Q4 2010 – Q3 2011</b>	<b>Q4 2011 – Q3 2012</b>
<b>Visits</b>	6,522	7,458
<b>Unique visitors</b>	3,572	4,359
<b>% new visitors</b>	50.8	54.8
<b>Page views</b>	22,725	24,016
<b>Average pages viewed</b>	3.48	3.22
<b>Average time spent at site</b>	2:46	2:47
<b>Direct / Referral / Search (%)</b>	20/32/48	16/27/57

10.2 In total, over 7,450 visits to the SDPA website were recorded in the last year, with over 1,000 unique visitors each quarter. However, peaks of activity can be seen when the Main Issues Report was published, committee papers are released and when e-notifications are sent to registered users.

10.3 The average number of pages viewed (around 3.2) and time spent on the site (2min 47sec.) vary each quarter, although this excludes time spent viewing PDF documents such as the structure plan itself. Between 11% and 22% of visitors accessed the site using previous bookmarks (or directly typing in the address), 49-64% used a search engine (e.g. Google, Bing, BT-yahoo) and 27-30% were referred via a link from another websites. Top referrals are still from Aberdeen City Council (1,033) and Aberdeenshire Council (377), although the BBC website and the Scottish Government also referred considerable traffic.

10.4 Of the 4,219 search engine requests which resulted in traffic to the website, 3,742 (89%) were made via 'Google', down from 91% the previous year. Figure 7 below shows the top 10 search terms used in search engines which resulted in a visit to the SDPA website. Two new search terms this year were 'strategic transport fund aberdeen' and 'aberdeen city and shire sdpa'. These replaced 'aberdeen city and shire housing need and demand assessment' and 'strategic development planning authority aberdeen' in the top 10.

**Figure 7: Top 10 search engine search terms**

	<b>Search term</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
1.	aberdeen city and shire structure plan	293
2.	sdpa	237
3.	strategic transport fund aberdeen	146
4.	aberdeen strategic development plan	123
5.	aberdeen city and shire	122
6.	aberdeen city and shire sdpa	101
7.	aberdeen structure plan	101
8.	aberdeen city and shire strategic development plan	82
9.	aberdeenshire structure plan	76
10.	aberdeen sdpa	73

10.5 In terms of the most viewed pages, six received more than 1,000 page views (up from 3 last year) as set out in Figure 8 below. In addition, nine news items received more than 100 views each (up from 5 last year).

**Figure 8: Most visited web pages**

<b>Pages</b>	<b>Pageviews</b>	<b>% Pageviews</b>
Home	7,038	29.3%
Home / Development Plan	1,453	6.1%
Home / Publications	1,434	6.0%
Home / Current Consultations	1,127	4.7%
Home / Development Plan / Strategic Development Plan / Main Issues Report	1,055	4.4%
Home / Development Plan / Structure Plan	1,016	4.2%

## Appendix 1: Loch of Skene

This loch is used for sailing by up to 30 boats in the summer. It is also used for sport fishing and the margins are occasionally used for wildfowling but these current levels of use are not thought to cause significant disturbance to the Special Protection Area (SPA) interest. Inputs of nutrients associated with sewage works and agricultural sources (diffuse and point source pollution) have led over the last 20 years to hypertrophication which causes algal blooms. These algal blooms affect the aquatic flora and fauna and may reduce food availability to the SPA interest.

Aberdeenshire Council is collaborating with other partners and agencies to manage the Loch. Since Loch of Skene is in the sub-catchment of the River Dee, it is being managed within the context of the Dee Catchment Management Plan. The partnership involved in the management is the Dee Catchment Partnership comprising:

- Aberdeenshire Council
- Dee Catchment Partnership
- Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group
- Householders
- Landowners
- Land managers
- Hutton Institute
- Loch of Skene Working Group
- North East Area Advisory Group
- National Farmers' Union Scotland
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
- Scottish Agricultural College
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- Scottish Government Rural Payments & Inspections
- Directorate Scottish Rural Property & Business Association
- Scottish Water

### What is the Action Plan?

Ref	Action	<b>PARTNERS (lead partners in bold)</b>
36.1	Update the NERP (now SEPA) report on phytoplankton in the loch in order to confirm the sources and the relative loads of nutrients within the catchment.	SEPA / SW / SAC / RSPB
36.2	Reduce nutrient inputs to the Loch of Skene catchment.	SEPA / SW / SNH / Landowners / NFUS / MI / SAC / FWAG / RSPB / NEAAG / AC / Householders / SRPBA / SGRPID / Land managers
36.2.1	Develop and implement a Programme of Measures to reduce nutrient input from	NEAAG / SEPA

	agriculture and sewage.	
36.2.2	Develop a nutrient management plan for the Loch of Skene catchment.	SEPA / SW / SNH / Landowners / NFUS / MI / SAC / FWAG / RSPB
36.2.3	Ensure all future developments draining to Loch of Skene incorporate appropriate level of SuDS to protect the ecological status of the loch and its importance for wild birds.	AC / SEPA / SNH
36.2.4	Promote and implement best practices to reduce nutrient input from agriculture and sewage.	NFUS / SRPBA / AC / SEPA / Landowners / Householders /
36.2.5	Implement the Controlled Activities Regulations.	Landowners / SEPA / SNH / NFUS / Land managers / SGRPID
	Review the impact of measures taken and plan further	SEPA
	Encourage greater awareness and participation amongst local land managers, land managers and communities	DCP / SEPA / SGRPID / NFUS
	Assess the likely impacts of increased recreational activity on water quality of the loch. Draw up guidance on use and promote to recreational users.	Loch of Skene Working Group / Landowners / AC / SNH / SEPA

#### **What are the current /recent initiatives?**

- As part of the River Basin Planning process a programme of measures is being designed with the aim of reducing inputs of nutrients from agriculture and sewage sources, in order to halt and reverse the process of eutrophication.
- Scottish Water will reduce the amount of nutrients from their treatment plants at Dunecht and Kirkton of Skene.
- The loch catchment lies within the Aberdeenshire Nitrate Vulnerable Zone. Farmers within the catchment are required to prepare farm action plans to reduce the input of nitrogen into the catchment.
- New developments such as the housing at Elrick are required to have SuDS in order that the nutrient run-off load remains no greater than it would have been from the natural catchment on which the development is built.
- The Loch of Skene has been monitored as part of the Grampian blue-green algae Action Plan. A working group made of representatives from Dunecht Estate, Aberdeenshire Council, Scottish Natural Heritage, sailing and bird interests has been formed to investigate the potential to extend the period of use throughout the year and to expand the use to include windsurfing and canoeing. Increased use may however impact on water quality and the frequency of algal blooms.

#### **What are actions required?**

- Review and update the existing report on phytoplankton in the Loch of Skene.
- Develop and implement a Programme of Measures to reduce nutrient input from agriculture and sewage.

- Develop a nutrient management plan for the loch catchment.
- Promote good practice for agriculture and draw on financial incentives to help farmers remediate problem areas and implement good management of soil, nutrients, agro-chemicals, manures and slurry.
- Promote involvement and awareness amongst land managers and communities.
- Coordinated reduction of pollution over the whole catchment.
- Monitor recreational use and potential effects on water quality.

#### **What is the law under which actions are proposed?**

- Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004
- Conservation of Wild Birds Directive 79/409/EEC
- EC Nitrates Directive (91/67/EEC)
- Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004
- Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (Scotland) Regulations 2003,
- NVZ (Grants) (Scotland) Regulations 2003,
- Nitrogen Vulnerable Zone Action Programme Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968
- Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil (Scotland) Regulations 2003
- The Conservation (Natural Habitats and Species) Regulations 1994
- The Conservation (Natural Habitats and Species) Regulations 1994.
- Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997
- Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005
- Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003
- Water Framework Directive
- Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

#### **What guidelines & information are available to farmers and developers?**

- Causes and effects of nuisance populations of phytoplankton in the Loch of Skene, Aberdeenshire by Roger Owen (North East River Purification Board, now SEPA. 1980.)
- Diffuse pollution initiative (SEPA)
- Drainage Assessment, A Guide For Scotland
- Farm Soils Plan
- Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)
- Forests and Water Guidelines (Forestry Commission)
- Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF)
- Nature Conservation: Implementation in Scotland of EC Directives on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna and the Conservation of Wild Birds June 2000
- Planning Advice Note PAN 61
- Prevention of Environmental Pollution from Agricultural Activities (PEPFAA Code) 2005
- SEPA Best Management Practices
- SEPA Pollution Prevention Guidelines
- Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems design manual for Scotland and Northern Ireland
- Targeted Inputs for a Better Rural Environment
- Watercourses in the Community