

## STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY 14 December, 2012

**Present:-** Councillors R Milne (Chair), P J Argyle, P W Bellarby, B Cornie (Substituting for J Corall), J B Cox, I W Gray (Substituting for B A Topping), A Finlayson, R J Merson, N J Smith, R Thomson and I Yuill

**Apologies:-** Councillors J Corall, R Grant and B A Topping

**Officers:-** **Strategic Development Planning Authority:** Strategic Development Plan Manager.  
**Aberdeen City Council:** Head of Planning and Infrastructure Services  
**Aberdeenshire Council:** Head of Planning and Building Standards, Principal Accountant and Committee Officer (F Brown).

### MINUTE OF MEETING OF 9 NOVEMBER, 2012

1. The Authority had before them the Minute of the Meeting of 9 November, 2012.

**The Authority resolved:-**

(i) To approve the minute as a correct record.

### SHAPING THE FUTURE OF YOUR WATER AND WATER WASTE SERVICES – CONSULTATION RESPONSE

2. The Authority had before it a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which sought consideration of a proposed Authority response to the Scottish Water consultation on shaping the future of water and waste water services. The Authority were advised that the consultation document published on 14 November, 2012 as contained in Appendix 1 of the report had set out what Scottish Water thought were the key challenges and opportunities facing Scotland's Water Industry in the years to come and also its long term strategy to address those issues.

The Strategic Development Plan Manager advised the Authority that the opportunity to comment on the future of water and waste water services in Scotland was welcomed by the SDPA as it had long had an interest in water supply issues on a strategic scale, particularly in light of the River Dee's economic, social and environmental importance to the area.

The Authority were advised that the proposed SDPA response had focused on three key strategic planning issues relevant to Aberdeen City and Shire which included (i) responding to demographic changes; (ii) improving the resilience of water supplies and (iii) significant improvements to water efficiency.

The Authority were further advised that the closing date for formal responses to be submitted was 12 February, 2013 and if members were happy with the content of the report, this would form the Authorities formal response.

**The Authority resolved:-**

(i) To agree to submit the report as presented as the Authorities response to the Scottish Water Consultation.

## **NATIONAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK 3 AND SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY – CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

3. There had been circulated a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which sought consideration of an Authority response to two Scottish Government consultations on National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy.

The Strategic Development Plan Manager introduced the report and advised the Authority that following the last meeting, officers had worked with interested parties to bring forward four potential national developments which were consistent with the proposed Strategic Development Plan as provided in Appendix 3 of the report:-

- Carbon Capture and Storage
- Aberdeen and Peterhead Harbours
- Electricity Transmission Upgrade
- Completion of A96 Aberdeen-Inverness Dual Carriageway

The Strategic Development Plan Manager highlighted that the SDPA at their last meeting had also requested consideration of a further national development for a regional food park. The Authority were advised that discussions had been undertaken with Scottish Enterprise and while there was merit in exploring this in greater detail there was insufficient information at the current time to allow a national development proposal to be submitted. The SDPA Manager agreed to facilitate a meeting between interested parties.

The Authority recognised the merit in exploring the proposals for a regional food retail park with Scottish Enterprise who were considered to be key to any proposals going forward to fit in well with their focus on the food and drink industries. More clarity would be required to focus on very clear objectives for this proposal and while it may not currently be considered as a National Development it was still very important.

### **The Authority resolved:-**

(i) To agree an SDPA response to two Scottish Government consultations on National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy.

## **SDPA BUDGET MONITORING POSITION AS AT 30 NOVEMBER, 2012**

4. There had been circulated a report by the Treasurer of the SDPA which provided the Authority with the budget outturn position as at 30 November, 2012 as provided in Appendix 1 of the report.

The Principal Accountant introduced the report and advised the Authority that the outturn position had shown an under spend for 2012/13, however, it was noted this had been largely attributed to staff vacancies throughout the year. The Authority were then advised that as contributions from partner councils received to-date were in excess of the forecast expenditure, therefore consideration should be given to limiting contributions for the current year to £55,000 each.

The Authority were then advised that discussions were still ongoing with partner councils with regards to the proposed SDPA budget for 2013/14 and it was envisaged that a full report would be presented to the next meeting of the SDPA.

**The Authority resolved:-**

- (i) To note the budget monitoring position and forecast outturn as at 30 November, 2012;
- (ii) To note that partner Council contributions will be limited to no more than £55,000 each this financial year; and
- (iii) to agree to receive a budget proposal at the next SDPA meeting in March, 2013.

**SDPA BULLETIN – DECEMBER 2012**

5. The Authority had before them an information bulletin prepared by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which was designed to keep members informed on key issues relating to the work of the Authority where no decisions were currently required.

Details contained in the information bulletin included:-

- Strategic Development Plan Update
- Local Development Plans Update
- Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning
- Local of Skene Update
- Scottish Marine Regions and National Marine Plan
- Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS)
- Good Growth and Wellbeing
- Structure Plan Proposals
- Housing Market Activity
- SDPA Website Statistics (October 2011 – September 2012)

**The Authority resolved:-**

- (i) to thank the officers involved in preparing the bulletin; and
- (ii) to note the updates contained within.

**PROPOSED MEETING DATES 2013/2014**

6. The Authority were provided with a list of proposed meeting dates for future SDPA meeting for 2013/14 by the Clerk. The Clerk advised the Authority that all meetings would be scheduled for a Wednesday afternoon with pre meetings for each authority being scheduled prior to the formal meetings:-

The proposed meeting dates were:-

19 June, 2013

11 September, 2013

11 December, 2013

12 March, 2014

**The Authority resolved:-**

- (i) To agree the meeting dates for 2013/14; and
- (ii) To request that the Clerk notify all Strategic Development Planning Authority members and Officers of the agreed dates, times and locations of all meetings to ensure each member had those dates in their diaries.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

7. The Authority were advised that the next scheduled meeting of the Strategic Development Planning Authority would be on Friday 22 March, 2013 at 2.00pm in Committee Room 2, Town House, Aberdeen.

**- COUNCILLOR MILNE; Convener**