

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY

ABERDEEN, 22 March, 2013 - minute of meeting of the STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY. Present: Councillor Milne (Chairperson); and Councillors, Boulton (as substitute for Councillor Grant), Corall, Finlayson, Thomson (Aberdeen City Council), Bellarby, Clark (as substitute for Councillor Topping), Cox, Gardiner (as substitute for Councillor Norman Smith and Merson (Aberdeenshire Council).

APOLOGIES AND WELCOME

1. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors Grant, Smith and Topping.

The Convener welcomed Clara Thompson to the meeting, who was recently appointed to the post of Planner for the Authority.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Authority had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 14 December, 2012.

In relation to article 3 (National Planning Framework 3 and Scottish Planning Policy), the Strategic Development Plan Manager advised that a report was to be published by the Scottish Government in mid-April and that the Authority would respond to the report in June 2013.

In relation to article 5 (SDPA Bulletin – December 2012), the Strategic Development Plan Manager provided an update in relation to Carbon Capture and Storage, specifically that Peterhead had been chosen as a preferred bidder for what could be the world's first commercial gas carbon capture project. A final investment decision is to be taken by the Government in early 2015 on the construction of up to two projects.

The Authority resolved:

- (i) to approve the minute as a correct record, subject to amending the wording at article 5 (bullet point 4) to read 'Loch of Skene Update'; and
- (ii) to otherwise note the information provided.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME 2013/14

3. With reference to article 6 of the minute of its previous meeting, the Authority had before it for consideration, a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which sought approval of a replacement Strategic Development Plan Scheme (DPS).

The report provided background information relating to the Plan, outlined good practice feedback and highlighted areas for amendment. The Plan Scheme was appended to the report.

The report also outlined the proposed limited circulation of hard copies of the Plan as follows:-

- Scottish Ministers (2 copies);
- all public libraries in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire;
- all key agencies (2 copies each);
- all community councils in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire; and
- on request from the Strategic Development Plan Team.

Finally, the report explained that in line with the decision taken by the SDPA in previous years, all Councillors would receive electronic copies of the DPS rather than hard copies.

The report recommended –

that the Authority –

- (a) agree the content of the DPS 2013/14 (Appendix 1) and its submission to Scottish Ministers by 31st March 2013; and
- (b) agree the publication and circulation of the DPS as set out in paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3 of the report (as outlined above).

During discussion, a number of amendments to the Plan were suggested as follows:-

- page 2 – under the heading ‘the development plan system in Scotland – strategic development plans’, to ensure wording reflects that this applies only to some parts of Scotland, major cities and the hinterland;
- page 5 – figure 3: Participation Statement (continued), row 2 column 4 – to amend the last sentence to read ‘We asked for comments by post or email’;
- page 5 – figure 3: Participation Statement (continued), row 3 column 1 – to amend the date to read ‘From April 2013 to June 2013’;
- page 5 – figure 3: Participation Statement (continued), row 4 column 2 – to amend typo to read ‘The Directorate for Planning and Environmental Appeals’;
- page 5 – figure 3: Participation Statement (continued), row 4 column 4 – to add sentence reading ‘This timescale is an estimate.’

The Authority resolved:

to approve the recommendations, subject to incorporating the amendments as above.

SDPA BUDGET MONITORING POSITION AT 31 JANUARY 2013

4. The Authority had before it a report by Alan Wood, Treasurer which outlined the budget monitoring and forecast position for 2012/13 as at 31st January 2013.

The report recommended:-

that the Authority –

- (a) notes the budget monitoring position and forecast outturn as at 31 January 2013; and
- (b) notes that partner Council contributions be limited to no more than £55,000 each this financial year.

Tom Buchan, Principal Accountant intimated that the contribution figure outlined in recommendation (b) of the report should read £60,000.

The Authority resolved:

to approve the recommendations, subject to amending the figure at recommendation (b) above to £60,000.

SDPA BUDGET 2013/18

5. The Authority had before it a report by Alan Wood, Treasurer which provided details of the proposed SDPA budget for 2013/14 and the draft budgets for 2014/15 to 2017/18.

The report recommended:-

that the Authority –

- (a) agrees the budget for 2013/14; and
- (b) notes the indicative budgets for 2014 to 2017/18

The Authority resolved:

to approve the recommendations.

SDPA BULLETIN – MARCH 2013

6. With reference to article 5 of the minute of the previous meeting, the Authority had before it an information bulletin prepared by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which informed members on key issues relating to the work of the Authority where no decisions were currently required.

Details contained within the bulletin included:-

- Local Development Plans Update;
- Cities Outlook 3013;
- Aberdeen International Airport Masterplan;
- Regional Transport Strategy Refresh;
- SDPA Annual report 2012/13.

During the discussion, it was noted that key telecommunications contacts have highlighted the potential for superfast broadband at the Chapelton of Elsick and Grandhome developments.

The Authority resolved:

to note the bulletin.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7. The next meeting was scheduled to be held on 19th June 2013 at 2.00pm in Woodhill House, Aberdeen.

- **COUNCILLOR MILNE; Convener**