

**STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY  
WOODHILL HOUSE, ABERDEEN  
WEDNESDAY, 11 DECEMBER, 2013**

**Present:-** Councillors R Milne (Chair), P W Bellarby, J Corall, G J Clark (substituting for J B Cox), A Finlayson, R J Merson, N J Smith, A Taylor and B A Topping.

**Officers:-** **Strategic Development Planning Authority:** Strategic Development Plan Manager and Planner (Strategic Development Plans).  
**Aberdeen City Council:** Head of Planning and Sustainable Development.  
**Aberdeenshire Council:** Head of Planning and Building Standards, Principal Accountant and Committee Officer (C Robertson).

**PRELIMINARIES**

On behalf of the Authority, the Chair extended best wishes and support to Councillor Argyle and his wife.

**DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interests.

**APOLOGIES**

1. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillors P J Argyle and J B Cox.

**MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING 11 SEPTEMBER, 2013**

2. The Authority had before them the Minute of its previous meeting of 11 September, 2013.

At the previous meeting it was highlighted that the Regional Transport Strategy refresh document contained an error and the completion date for the Third Don Crossing was in fact 2015. An update was provided that Nestrans were highlighting this error in their communication with Scottish Ministers.

**The Authority resolved:-**

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

**SCOTTISH PLANNING POLICY CONSULTATION**

3. The Authority had before them a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which proposed a response to the Scottish Government on their 'Scottish Planning Policy: Sustainability and Planning' Consultation.

**The Authority resolved:-**

- (i) To agree the report as their response to the Scottish Government consultation.

## **SDPA BUDGET MONITORING POSITION AS AT 30 NOVEMBER, 2013**

4. The Authority had before them a report by the Treasurer dated 1 December, 2013, to which was appended the budget monitoring report and forecast outturn.

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

- (i) To note the budget monitoring position and forecast outturn as at 30 November, 2013.

## **SDPA BULLETIN**

5. The Authority had before them an information bulletin prepared by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which informed members on key issues relating to the work of the Authority.

Details contained within the bulletin included –

- Strategic Development Plan Update
- Scottish Government Review of Strategic Development Plans
- Local Development Plans Update
- Design Awards
- Draft Scottish Planning Policy and National Planning Framework 3 Update
- Monitoring
- Housing Market Activity
- Unemployment
- Good Growth for Cities
- Planning Scotland's Seas: Consultation
- Transport
- Scottish Land Use Strategy – Regional Pilots
- Planning Performance Framework / Annual Report

With regards to the Strategic Development Plan, it was unknown how far through the examination process the reporters were given that there had been an expectation of the report being published by now. It was hoped that there would be a clearer position by the next meeting of the Authority in March, noting that the 9-month deadline for the report to be published (set out in the Scottish Government Circular) was 14 April, 2014.

It was highlighted that the Proposed National Planning Framework was due to be laid before the Scottish Parliament for 60 days at the end of January. It was likely that there would be a call for submissions on the framework to inform the parliamentary consideration of it, and therefore it was proposed that the SDPA would submit a response and that this would be signed off by the Chair and Vice-chair, as the submission would be required before the next meeting of the Authority in March, 2014.

Concern was raised about the increasing levels of rental and house prices for properties in Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire and it was suggested that assistance should be sought from the Scottish Government to assist Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire in providing affordable and mid-market rentals and properties for purchase. Further to discussion it was agreed that the SDPA would liaise with the two housing services, with a report being presented to the Authority in due course for consideration.

**The Authority resolved:-**

- (i) To note the bulletin,
- (ii) To agree that the Chair and Vice-chair should sign off a response on behalf of the SDPA to the Proposed National Planning Framework, and
- (iii) To instruct the Strategic Development Plan Manager to co-ordinate discussions around the concerns about Housing Market Activities and to bring back a report to a future meeting of the SDPA for further consideration.

**DATES FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

6. The SDPA had before them a list of proposed meeting dates for 2014/15. It was highlighted that all relevant parties had been consulted on the dates. It was further noted that 12 March, 2014 had previously been agreed as the date of the next meeting.

**The Authority resolved:-**

- (i) To agree the following meeting dates:-
  - Thursday 26 June, 2014
  - Wednesday 24 September, 2014
  - Wednesday 10 December, 2014
  - Wednesday 25 March, 2015

The venue for each of the meetings would be confirmed in due course.

- (ii) To note that the next meeting would take place on 12 March, 2014 at 2.00pm in the Town House, Aberdeen.