

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY

ABERDEEN, 24 September 2014 - minute of meeting of the STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY. Present: Councillor Milne, Chairperson; and Councillor Argyle, Vice Chairperson; and Councillors Boulton (as a substitute for Councillor Finlayson), Corall, Thomson and Yuill (Aberdeen City Council); and Councillors Cox, Merson, Norman Smith and Topping (Aberdeenshire Council).

Officers: Robert Gray (Head of Planning and Building Standards, Aberdeenshire Council) and Tom Buchan (Finance, Aberdeenshire Council); Maggie Bochel (Head of Planning and Sustainable Development, Aberdeen City Council) and David Jennings (Strategic Development Plan Manager, SDPA).

Also In Attendance: Jim Boyle and Karlyn Watt (Deloitte).

APOLOGIES

1. Apologies for absence were intimated on behalf of Councillor Bellarby, Finlayson and Taylor.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING

2. The Authority had before it the minute of its previous meeting of 26 June 2014.

The Authority resolved:

- (i) to note that both Councils had agreed to an alteration of the Minute of Agreement to vary the current and subsequent term of Chair and Vice Chair and this will be in effect after the December meeting; and
- (ii) to approve the minute as a correct record.

AUDITED STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2013/14 AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

3. The Authority had before it the audited Statement of Accounts for 2013/14, the independent auditors report on the audit and a covering report by the Head of Finance, Aberdeenshire Council.

The purpose of the report was to submit to the Authority for consideration the audited Statement of Accounts for 2013/14 and the independent auditors report on the audit.

Jim Boyle and Karlyn Watt off Deloitte talked the Authority through the report.

The report recommended –

that the Authority consider and comment on the audited Statement of Accounts for 2013/14 and the independent auditors report.

The Authority resolved:

to note the contents of the report.

PLANNING PERFORMANCE REPORT 2013/14

4. The Authority had before it a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which asked the authority for agreement of a Planning Performance Report for 2013/14; that the report be published on the SDPA website and also be submitted to the Scottish Government by the submission deadline of 30 September 2014.

The Strategic Development Plan Manager talked the Authority through the report.

The report recommended –

that the Authority:

approve the Planning Performance Framework 2013/14, as well as its publication and submission to the Scottish Government.

The Authority resolved:

- (i) to approve the recommendation; and
- (ii) to request that in the future officers make the reports and other papers easier to read and not use light coloured fonts.

SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDANCE - UPDATE

5. The Authority had before it a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager.

The purpose of the report was to submit to the Authority an update on the preparation of Supplementary Guidance in support of the Strategic Development Plan.

The Strategic Development Plan Manager talked the Authority through the report. Thereafter, there followed some discussion about the report and the timescales for approving the Supplementary Guidance on the Strategic Transport Fund in particular.

The report recommended –

that the Authority:

- (a) note the progress with the preparation of the supplementary guidance in support of the Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan; and
- (b) note the intention to carry out informal engagement on the Strategic Transport Fund prior to the preparation of revised guidance for consultation following the next meeting of the SDPA.

The Authority resolved:

- (i) to agree that the approval of the Supplementary Guidance on the Strategic Transport Fund be at the earliest available opportunity and therefore agreed that a report on the consultation be submitted to the Authority in March, 2015; and
- (ii) to otherwise approve the recommendations.

MATTER OF URGENCY

The Convener intimated that he had directed in terms of Section 50(B)(4)(b) of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973, that the following item be considered as a matter of urgency to enable the Committee to determine the matter without delay.

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN BASELINE MONITORING REPORT

6. The Authority had before it a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which sought approval for the publication of a Strategic Development Plan Baseline Monitoring Report.

The Strategic Development Plan Manager talked the Authority through the report. Thereafter, there followed some discussion about the report.

The report recommended –

that the Authority:

approve the content of the Monitoring Report 2014 for publication following a review to make it more visually engaging.

The Authority resolved:

- (i) to approve the publishing of the report;
- (ii) to request officers prepare reports for the next SDPA meeting on what can be done to improve broadband speeds around Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire; and
- (iii) for officers to clarify to Councillor Corall how many heritage designated and listed building at risk there are in Aberdeen.

REVIEW OF STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS IN SCOTLAND

7. The Authority had before it a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which sought agreement of a response to the publication “Review of Strategic Development Plans in Scotland”.

The Strategic Development Plan Manager talked the Authority through the report.

The report recommended –

that the Authority:

approve the response to the Review of the Strategic Development Plans in Scotland as set out in Appendix 2 to the report.

The Authority resolved:

- (i) to approve the recommendations; and
- (ii) to note that there was no case at present to merit the extension of the membership of the SDPA (as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report).

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY BUDGET MONITORING

8. The Authority had before it a report by the Treasurer to the SDPA which asked the Authority to note the budget monitoring and forecast position for 2014/15 as at 31 August 2014.

The report recommended –

that the Authority:

note the budget monitoring and forecast position for 2014/15 as at 31 August 2014.

The Authority resolved:

to note the content of the report.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

9. Members were reminded by the Chairperson that the date of the next meeting was 10 December 2014 at Woodhill House.

The Authority resolved:

- (i) to note the date of the next meeting; and
- (ii) to request that officers prepare a list of meeting dates for 2015 in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair.

- **COUNCILLOR MILNE; Chairperson.**