

ABERDEEN, 24 August, 2018. Minute of Meeting of the STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY.

Present: Councillor Marie Boulton, Chairperson; Councillor John Cox, Vice-Chairperson; and Councillors Aitchison, Bell, Copland, Graham, Grant, Johnston, Latham, Topping, Wallace, and Yuill.

In Attendance: Councillor Mason.

Officers: **Strategic Development Planning Authority:** Ms C McArthur, Acting Team Leader, and Ms S Lamont and Mr T Walsh, Senior Planners;

Aberdeen City Council: Ms G Beattie, Chief Officer, Strategic Place Planning, Ms F Closs, Team Leader, Planning and Environment, and Mr D Dunne, Interim Planning & Environmental Policy Manager, Strategic Place Planning;

Aberdeenshire Council: Mr R Gray, Head of Service, Planning and Building Standards; Mr B Stewart, Planning Service Manager, Mr P Finch, Strategic Transportation Manager, and Ms J McRobbie, Committee Officer; and

Nestrans: Ms J Anderson, Transport Executive (Programmes & Delivery).

1. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

2. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY OF 27 JUNE, 2018

The Authority had before, and approved as a correct record, the Minute of its previous meeting of 27 June, 2018.

3. PROPOSED ABERDEEN CITY AND SHIRE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

With reference to the Minute of Meeting of 27 June 2018, (Item 1), there had been circulated a report by the SDPA Acting Team Leader requesting Members' consideration of, and agreement to, a Proposed Strategic Development Plan.

Having heard from Officers and having discussed various elements in the Proposed Plan, and particularly its interface with, and informing of, the Local Development Plans for each authority, Regional Transport Strategies, and also City Region Deal projects; the location of a new mortuary facility; and the Scottish Planning Policy's requirement to use "generosity" to inform the housing land requirement; the Authority **resolved:**

- a) to agree the Proposed Aberdeen City & Shire Strategic Development Plan as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report, and the supporting documents, listed in paragraphs 3.16 to

3.19 of the report, as the SDPA's settled view of the recommended final content of the next Strategic Development Plan for the City Region, subject to the undernoted amendments:

- **Amendment of Section 2: Our Vision**, (page 2), to make reference to fishing;
- **Amendments of Section 3: Spatial Strategy - Strategic Growth Area: Aberdeen City:**
 - Para 3.20 (Page 7) – to include “leisure” as a City Centre Masterplan challenge “Growing the City Centre employment base by promoting the area as a centre for business, trade, leisure, innovation and enterprise”;
 - Para 3.24, (Page 8), final sentence to read: “The Cross City Transport Connections Study will inform opportunities to provide a cross-city public transport service and enhance accessibility to more destinations by public transport”;
- **Amendments of Section 3: Spatial Strategy - Strategic Growth Area: Aberdeen to Peterhead:**
 - Para 3.29, (Page 10), second last sentence to read: “It is hoped that Hydrogen from St Fergus will be blended directly into the gas grid and enable phased decarbonisation of heat”;
 - Para 3.32, (Page 10) – add in “Aberdeenshire Council should also continue to work with Nestrans to investigate rail links to Buchan”. All paragraph numbers in this section to be updated as a result;
- **Amendments of Section 4: Our Communities:**
 - Delivery of New Homes, Table 3 – Local Development Plan Housing Allowances, page 24 – updated to whole numbers and delete decimal places;
- **Amendments of Section 5: Our Economy:**
 - Para 5.5 (Page 26) - references to tourism be clarified to give consideration to sustainable tourism: “Local Development Plans should consider opportunities to ensure the importance of sustainable tourism to the regional economy is properly recognised and safeguarded. The importance that the historic and natural environment makes to sustainable tourism must also, however, be properly recognised”;
- **Amendments of Section 7: Our Connections:**
 - Para 7.4, (Page 36) - include reference to local and strategic cycling links: “The Plan will help ensure sustainable land use patterns to reduce the need to travel and promote improved connections between both local and strategic active travel networks and public transport”;
 - Para 7.8 (Page 37) – include reference to high quality internet access across the City Region. “Internet access and significantly improved speeds are essential in both the Strategic Growth Areas and the Local Growth and Diversification Areas. ”;
 - How to Meet Targets (Page 38) – last bullet point should say Local Development Plans, not Plan. “Local Development Plans will consider appropriate ways to encourage the use of modern telecommunications networks in major new developments”;
- **Amendments to Schedule 1:-**
 - Summary of Potential Transport Interventions Options for Appraisal, (Page 40, table) – add in reference to “New rail stations to the north and south of Aberdeen Rail Station and to the north and south of Aberdeen”; and
- **Glossary:-** That consideration be given to providing a glossary definition of “adjacent to”, used in the context of the AWPR;

- b) to refer this report to Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council for ratification;
- c) to agree the arrangements for public consultation on the Proposed Aberdeen City & Shire Strategic Development Plan as identified in paragraphs 3.23 to 3.26 of the report;
- d) to commend staff across both Councils in their work to bring the Plan to the Authority; and
- e) to delegate to the Strategic Development Team Leader the preparation, including graphic design and printing, of the Proposed Aberdeen City & Shire Strategic Development Plan for public consultation.

Arising from consideration of the above, the Authority further **resolved:**

To note that Local Development Plans would explore the concepts of (a) electric charging points; (b) cycle routes, including dedicated, segregated lanes, to be progressed in partnership with NESTRANS and SUSTRANS; (c) protection against further development of land adjacent to historical railway lines, to future proof against potential blockages to any opportunities which may arise; (d) Park and Ride locations; (e) awareness of the need to consider land designations implications when determining if settlements are within the Rural or Aberdeen Housing Market Areas or otherwise as structural boundaries inform policy designations; and (f) in making future land allocations, that consideration be given to including accessibility of resources (energy/ water etc) in making appropriate allowance for business development to be sited close to necessary resources.

4. SDPA BULLETIN AUGUST, 2018

The Authority had before them an information bulletin on matters relating to the Strategic Development Planning Authority's work, including (a) the Scottish Ministers instruction, in a letter dated 3 August, 2018, that the Authority continue, in terms of Section 23B of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997, to prepare the next Strategic Development Plan; (b) an update on the progress of the Planning (Scotland) Bill, published in December, 2017, on which comments and objections had already been lodged by the Authority, with Stage 2 of the Bill, involving Committee debate and voting on amendments, scheduled to commence on 12 September, 2018; and (c) the continuing work on the Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Local Development Plans, with both Councils currently considering submissions received on the Call for Sites (approximately 150 and 622 submissions respectively), with both Main Issues Reports expected to be published in the first quarter of 2019.

The Authority **noted** the updates provided.

5. DATES OF FUTURE SDPA MEETINGS

The Authority heard from the Acting Team Leader, of the need to defer, until January, 2019, the date of the winter meeting of the Authority, to better allow officers to respond to consultations on the Proposed Strategic Plan.

The Authority **agreed** revised dates for future meetings as detailed below:
26 September, 2018 – Town House, Aberdeen City;
30 January, 2019 – Woodhill House; and
20 March, 2019 – Town House.

Councillor Marie Boulton, Chairperson.