

# STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY

Committee Room 5, Woodhill house, Aberdeen  
WEDNESDAY 3 DECEMBER, 2008

**Present:-** Councillors Argyle, Cassie, G J Clark (as substitute for Councillor Pratt) Cormie, Cox, Donnally (as substitute for Councillor Milne), Jaffrey, Merson, Ross (substitute for vacant Aberdeenshire Place), and Webster,

**Apologies:-** - Councillors Dean, Hunter, Milne and Pratt.

**Officers:-** **Strategic Development Planning Team:**  
Strategic Development Plan Manager, Senior Planners (B Strachan and L Robertson), and Planners (A Lyle and P Shannon)  
**Aberdeenshire Council:** Director of Planning and Environmental Services, Head of Planning Policy and Environment and Committee Officer  
**Aberdeen City Council:** Head of Planning and Infrastructure.

At the start of the meeting the Chair asked the Authority to amend Standing Order 7.2 (i) to read "six clear days at least before a meeting of the SDPA" in stead of "six clear working days". This amendment would mean that the Authority's Standing Orders allowed the same amount of notice period as detailed in the Standing Orders of Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils.

The Authority **agreed** the amendment to Standing Orders as detailed above.

The Chair advised the Authority that Peter Shannon, Planner, was the final member to join the SDPA Team and welcomed him to the meeting. In response to questions by Members prior to the meeting, the Chair indicated that the pre meeting was for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Authority and there would not be separate pre meetings for Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire representatives.

## 1. MINUTE OF MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY OF 3 DECEMBER 2008

The Authority had before it for its information a copy of the Minute of Meeting of the 18 September 2008. Comment was made that under Item 7, paragraph three, the first sentence should end "... which had been published."

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

to agree the minute subject to the amendment as detailed above.

## 2. PLANNING UPDATE

The Authority had before it a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager, which advised the Authority of development plan progress within Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council and other planning issues of interest to the Authority.

Officers highlighted the following updates to Members:

- In relation to the Menie Estate inquiry, Scottish Ministers had announced on 3 December, their decision that they were minded to grant outline planning permission for the proposed development subject to a number of conditions and completion of a section 75 agreement.
- It was anticipated that the process to develop the next Local Development Plans for Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City would begin shortly and would be prepared to implement the provisions of the emerging structure plan, and
- In relation to National Planning Framework 2, guidance was still awaited from the Scottish Government.

In response to questions it was highlighted to Members that despite press reports to the contrary, there had been no press statement on behalf of the developers of the Menie Estate suggesting any diversion of their attention away from Menie, and that they had confirmed the organisation had been looking at opportunities in Ireland in addition to the development at Menie.

**The Authority resolved:-**

- a) to note the report
- b) that a report be presented to a future meeting of the Authority proposing a development plan scheme for submission to Scottish Ministers by 31 March 2009 in accordance with the statutory requirements.

**3. STRUCTURE PLAN PROGRESS REPORT**

The Authority had before it a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager, which advised the Authority of the progress on the structure plan since the last meeting. The report gave information on the consultation undertaken and a summary of the responses received. Appendix 1 to the report contained those responses which were considered appropriate to respond to in some way in the context of the plan, and Appendix 2 contained those responses where no changes to the plan were considered necessary. Any changes to the proposed plan in response to the comments received would be presented to a future meeting of the Authority.

The Strategic Development Plan Manager began by highlighting that the discrepancy as referred to in paragraph 3.2 on the number of responses received during the consultation was due to whether individual letters or signatures had been counted. There had been a good response to the consultation, with comments being made on a variety of different parts of the plan. The report detailed the next steps in developing the plan and it was highlighted to Members that there would be a tight timescale in relation to the final preparation of the Plan, in order to submit the Plan to the Scottish Ministers by the end of February 2009.

During discussion Members were asked to inform Officers of any comments they may have on the proposed responses to the representation as soon as possible. In response to questions it was highlighted that the 'Background Paper' was being amended in response to comments received from Transport Scotland.

**The Authority resolved:-**

- a) to note the report and the way in which it was proposed to deal with the comments contained in Appendices 1 & 2 of the report,

- b) that a report be presented to the next meeting of the Authority outlining and seeking agreement on the proposed responses to the remaining comments.

#### **4. STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN AREA DETERMINATION**

The Authority had before it a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager, which advised the Authority of the determination by Scottish Ministers in relation to an Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Plan Area. The proposed boundary and justification had been submitted to Scottish Ministers on 24 September, 2008 and a copy of the submission was attached to the report. The Scottish Ministers had announced on 11 November 2008 that they accepted the Authority's proposal.

A Circular confirming the determination had been published since the agenda had been prepared and copies were provided to Members at the meeting.

**The Authority resolved:-**

to note the contents of the report.

#### **5. IMPLICATIONS OF THE HOUSING LAND AUDIT 2008**

Members were advised that this report had been withdrawn. A recent meeting had taken place with representatives from the House Building industry and a report, incorporating the outcome of the discussion, would be submitted to the next meeting.

#### **6 PROGRAMME OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Following on from discussion under Item 3, Members agreed the following dates for meetings in early 2009:

Friday 23 January at 10:00am

Friday 13 February at 10: 00am.

And a date in March to be identified.

**The Authority resolved:-**

to note the dates for meetings in early 2009 were Friday 23 January, Friday 13 February and a date in March to be identified. Confirmation of dates would be given once all dates had been identified.