

**STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AUTHORITY  
COMMITTEE ROOM 1, WOODHILL HOUSE, ABERDEEN  
FRIDAY, 18 JUNE, 2010**

**Present:** Councillor Argyle, Chairperson; Councillors G J Clark (as substitute for Councillor Pratt), Cormie, McCaig, Merson, Penny (as substitute for Councillor Hunter), Ross (as substitute for Councillor Cox), Stewart, Sullivan and Webster.

**Apologies:** Councillors Bolton, Cox, Dean, Hunter and Pratt.

**Officers:** **Strategic Development Planning Team**  
Strategic Development Plan Manager.  
**Aberdeen City Council**  
Head of Planning and Sustainable Development.  
**Aberdeenshire Council**  
Director of Planning and Environmental Services, Head of Planning Policy and Environment, Corporate Finance Manager and Committee Officer.

**1. MINUTE OF MEETING OF 26 MARCH, 2010**

The Authority had before it the Minute of its meeting of 26 March, 2010.

**The Authority resolved:-**

To approve the Minute.

**2. TAYPLAN AND SESPLAN MAIN ISSUES REPORT CONSULTATIONS**

There had been circulated a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which informed Members of the publication of two recent main issues reports (MIR) from other parts of Scotland and sought approval for a response to the TAYplan MIR from the Strategic Development Planning Authority (SDPA). Members were informed that while a number of MIRs had been published for local development plans, including for Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire, these were the first two for strategic development plans. It was highlighted that the SESplan SDP area covered Edinburgh City, West Lothian, Midlothian, East Lothian, Scottish Borders and South Fife, and as this was not adjoining to the SDPA there was not the same level of shared interest and requirement to respond to their consultation. In contrast, the TAYplan covered the area of Dundee, Angus, Perth and Kinross and North Fife and was therefore a neighbouring authority. As such, there were some mutual areas of interest between the SDPAs and these included transport connections, housing and affordable housing and cross boundary national development.

During discussion, it was highlighted to Members that the response to the TAYplan consultation could only be submitted electronically. Members indicated that while the response from the SDPA could be submitted electronically, a letter from the Chair should also be sent indicating that there should be options available for alternative means to respond as an electronic response may not be suitable for all who may wish to comment.

**The Authority resolved:-**

- (a) to note the content of the report and
- (b) to agree Appendix 2 as the SDPA's response to the TAYplan consultation and that the Chair submit a letter on the response options for the consultation.

### **3. ACTION PROGRAMME UPDATE**

There had been circulated a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which provided the SDPA with an update on the Structure Plan Action Programme and highlighted where progress had been made since it was agreed in December, 2009. The report detailed that while there was no statutory requirement to publish an action programme for a structure plan, the SDPA had agreed to its production; a decision supported by the Scottish Government when they approved the Structure Plan in August, 2009. Appendix 2 of the report highlighted what the SDPA and Nestrans had done against the actions identified in the National Planning Framework's Action Programme.

During discussion, comment was made on objective 51 of the Action Programme, the Energetica Initiative, and Members were advised there would be a report back to the Infrastructure Services Committee, Aberdeenshire Council, following engagement with key stakeholders due to take place mid-July. In response to questions on water supply required to support the Strategic and Local plans for the area, Members were advised that Scottish Water had indicated that there was sufficient water provision, extraction and treatment for 20-35,000 new homes with the existing infrastructure. The SDPA recognised the need for Scottish Water to ensure that work was planned to improve infrastructure in order that further homes may be accommodated. The Chair highlighted that while a 6-monthly report was welcome, it should be in the form of an exception report with a full report being considered annually.

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

- (a) to note the content of the report and to approve the Action Programme update,
- (b) a letter be sent to the Scottish Government to inform their monitoring of the National Planning Framework Action Programme, and
- (c) to receive reports at least twice a year (one of which to be an exception report) which both monitor progress with implementation and update it as required.

### **4. ANNUAL REPORT 2009-2010**

There had been circulated a report by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which sought approval from the SDPA for the publication of its second Annual Report. It was highlighted that the first annual report had been published in July, 2009 and covered the first nine months of the SDPA's existence. This received a limited hard copy circulation as well as being made available on the SDPA's website. It was proposed that there would be a similar circulation this year. Copies would however be available in libraries, and sent to a number of groups and Key Agencies and the document would be available on the SDPA's website.

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

To approve the 2009/10 Annual Report for publication.

### **5. DRAFT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2009/10**

There had been circulated a report by the Treasurer of the SDPA which asked the SDPA to note the outturn position of the SDPA as at 31 March, 2010 and to approve the draft Statement of Accounts for 2009/10. It was indicated that the draft statements for 2009/10 were attached as Appendix 1 to the report and that the statements were subject to audit.

**The Authority resolved:-**

- (a) to note the financial performance and outturn of the Authority and
- (b) to approve that the Statement of Accounts for 2009/10 be issued to Audit Scotland.

**6. INFORMATION BULLETIN**

There had been circulated an information bulletin prepared by the Strategic Development Plan Manager which was designed to keep Members up to date on issues relating to the work of the Authority where no decisions were currently required.

Details contained in the information bulletin included:-

- Minute of Agreement update
- Household Projections
- Population Estimates
- Local Development Plans
- Aberdeen Western Peripheral Route
- Third Don Crossing
- Housing Need and Demand Assessment
- Communication Strategy (ACSEF/NESTRANS/ACSSDPA)
- Greenhouse Gas Assessment
- SDPA Website Statistics (January 2010 to March 2010)
- Strategic Development Plan Transport Assessment
- Union Terrace Gardens
- Draft Plan for Offshore Wind Energy
- Cairngorm National Park - Proposed Extension
- Enquiry into the Relationship between Transport and Land Use Planning
- Water Supply and Demand.

**The Authority resolved:-**

To note the details contained in the information bulletin.