

Appendix 2: NPF2 ACTION PROGRAMME (NAMED ACTIONS)

Ref	Action	Milestones	Lead Partner(s) / Delivery bodies	Current Progress	Future Plans
NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS					
6	Deliver enhanced facilities at Aberdeen Airport and supporting improvements in surface transport and other infrastructure.	<p>2009 onwards - Reflect policy objectives of Air Transport White Paper and airport masterplan in development plans and associated action programmes, regional transport strategy and development management decisions. Consider need for further environmental assessment, appropriate assessment and detailed scheme level mitigation including design, protection of biodiversity, measures to reduce effects on health, air quality, noise, water, soils, landscape and cultural heritage and long term assessment of carbon impacts. Work with air transport operators to minimise emissions by deploying operational and technological measures.</p> <p>2009 onwards – Submission of planning application(s) for airport enhancements not subject to Permitted Development rights (as indicated within airport masterplan.)</p>	<p>Airport Operator: North East Scotland Transport Partnership (Nestrans), Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council, Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority (ACSSDPA), business groups, environmental and transport groups, community groups, Scottish Government - Transport Directorate.</p>	<p>The Structure plan promotes the Implementation of the Aberdeen airport master plan. The airport enhancements are included as a proposal in the Structure Plan, and are key to the improvement Aberdeen City and Shire's connectivity.</p> <p>The SDPA and Nestrans have been invited to join the Aberdeen Airport Masterplan steering group, comprising of airport representatives and key stakeholders.</p> <p><i>Nestrans continues to work through the Airport Business Development Forum to support the important role of the airport in the North East.</i></p> <p><i>In December 2008, Nestrans launched the Service 80 Dyce Shuttle bus which connects Dyce rail station with the airport terminal.</i></p>	<p>The SDPA and Nestrans will engage with the Aberdeen Airport Masterplan steering group in the review and implementation of the masterplan.</p> <p>The Regional Transport Strategy supports plans to extend the runway at Aberdeen Airport. In addition, Nestrans will continue to explore the most appropriate means for ensuring routes which are critical to the economic and social well-being of the north east are retained.</p> <p><i>Nestrans and partners to implement Bus Action Plan actions to improve public transport including fares, ticketing, information provision and bus priority. Improvements in access to the airport will be incorporated in such measures.</i></p>
	UPDATE at June 2011	<p>Two meetings of the Aberdeen Airport Masterplan Steering Group took place in August 2009 and May 2010, with the SDPA and Nestrans being represented at both. A revised masterplan is being prepared by BAA and it is anticipated that this will be subject to consultation within the next year.</p> <p>An enhanced car park was opened in September 2009 and improved cycling facilities and motorcycling facilities implemented with financial support from Nestrans. Enhancements to the road network were identified in a joint Nestrans/BAA study and Aberdeen City Council and BAA have now implemented traffic management changes identified through that report, including a bus/taxi lane to ease egress from the airport.</p> <p>The Nestrans/BAA supported Dyce shuttle bus was retendered in 2011 and a new operator took over the service in April 2011. A ScotRail commissioned study to investigate opportunities for the further development of Dyce station identified opportunities for enhancements.</p> <p>Work started in March 2011 on a £10million 124 metre extension of Aberdeen Airport's main runway, which is scheduled for completion by May 2012.</p>			

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13	Provide for new non-nuclear baseload capacity at other existing power station sites (Boddam).	<p>2009 onwards – Land to be allocated in development plans to allow implementation to proceed. Consider the need for further environmental assessment and appropriate assessment at a more detailed plan or project level to define scheme level mitigation measures to protect water resources, encourage high quality design, minimise effects on soils and cultural heritage, to take forward sustainable ash management and to mitigate the potential impacts of carbon capture infrastructure associated with the power station.</p> <p>2009 - Selection of relevant technology & submission of application(s).</p> <p>2010 - Detailed technical design.</p> <p>2011 to 2015 - Implementation and commissioning of replacement / refurbished plant.</p>	<p><u>Fife Council, East Lothian Council, South East Scotland Strategic Development Plan Authority (SESplan), Aberdeenshire Council; Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority (ACSSDPA),</u> Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). Scottish Government - Business, Enterprise and Energy Directorate.</p>	The Structure plan promotes the upgrade of the Boddam power station	Engage with the owners of Boddam Power Station (Scottish and Southern Energy) and other delivery bodies in the development of proposals for the upgrade of capacity at the Peterhead site.
	UPDATE	<p>No plans currently exist for the provision of new baseload capacity at Boddam Power Station.</p> <p>However, following changes to the rules for funding under the carbon capture and storage demonstration programme run by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (UK Government), Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) submitted a proposal for Boddam in February 2011. This was subsequently forwarded by the UK Government to the European Union for funding under their NER300 programme. Preliminary discussions have taken place between SSE, Aberdeenshire Council and the SDPA in relation to their proposal. The project, if implemented, would involve a full chain, post-combustion CCS facility which will be capable of capturing the CO₂ from one 385MW combined cycle gas turbine unit. Progress with the project will be dependant on UK and / or European funding.</p> <p>The SDP main issues report is likely to consider the inclusion of CCS as projects within the plan.</p>			

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17	Upgrade the East Coast electricity transmission line to 400kV.	Post 2009 - Planning and delivery of reinforcements including environmental assessment and appropriate assessment to define mitigation and compensation measures to protect Natura 2000 sites, biodiversity, including siting and design, minimise effects on communities, the historic environment, landscapes, soil, water and an assessment of carbon impacts.	<u>Transmission system operators; Scottish Government – Scottish Government - Business, Enterprise and Energy Directorate</u> , Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Ltd (SHETL), Scottish Power Transmission (SPT), Ofgem, Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeenshire Council, Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority, Dundee City Council, Fife Council, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH).	The Structure plan promotes the upgrade of the East Coast transmission route which will help to facilitate new sources of renewable energy to be developed.	Engage with partners to both plan and deliver electricity transmission reinforcements.
	UPDATE	Proposal of Application Notices were submitted to Aberdeenshire Council for new or extended electricity substations at Rothienorman (March 2011) and Leylodge, Kintore (April 2011). Planning applications are anticipated for both sites in the next few weeks. An application under Section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989 is likely to be submitted by SSE to the Scottish Government in late summer or early autumn 2011.			

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ACTIONS FOR THE EAST COAST					
58	Strengthen East Coast Corridor connectivity and collaboration.	2009-2012 – Engagement between delivery bodies to realise vision in the preparation of strategic development plans for the Aberdeen, Dundee and Edinburgh City Regions, local development plans and associated action programmes, partners plans and programmes and in the consideration of planning applications.	North East Scotland Transport Partnership (Nestrans), South - East Scotland Transport Partnership (Sestrans), Network Rail, Aberdeenshire Council, Aberdeen City Council, Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority (ACSSDPA), Angus Council, City of Edinburgh Council, Dundee City Council, Fife Council, SESplan, Perth Council, Stirling Council, North East Assembly, Northumberland County Council, Scottish Borders Council, Transport Scotland.	<p>The strategies from the NPF2 and other documents such as the Strategic Transport Projects Review underpin the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan and so place an emphasis on strengthening the connectivity and collaboration along the northeast corridor.</p> <p>A key element of the Regional Transport Strategy is to work with the rail industry, Transport Scotland and others to promote and support measures to cut journey times, including addressing pinch points in Angus and Fife and at Edinburgh Waverley and Glasgow Queen Street Stations. Some of this is addressed in the Strategic Projects Review and some improvements made to journey times to Edinburgh have already been delivered.</p>	<p>Continue to work with partners to strengthen and sustain the Northeast's connectivity. Development of a Strategic development plan for the city region, building on the engagement and partnership working carried out in the preparation of the structure plan.</p> <p><i>Nestrans will continue to work with key stakeholders to promote improvements to the east coast rail line.</i></p>
	UPDATE at June 2011	<p>The SDPA and Nestrans raised issues of East Coast Corridor connectivity at a cross-boundary meeting with TAYplan in late 2009 and have responded to the TAYPlan MIR in relation to interventions on the road and rail network in their area which impact on Aberdeen City & Shire. This has been followed up with a meeting in advance of publication of the proposed plan. Issues relating to improved access on the east coast corridor, including improved transport around Dundee and improved rail corridor are included in STPR.</p> <p>After a Nestrans campaign, the UK Government announced new trains for the East Coast mainline, which will secure continued through-running between Aberdeen and London in the long term.</p>			

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59	Strengthen the role of Aberdeen City and Shire as Scotland's Northern Gateway and sustain vibrant economic growth.	2009-2015 – Reflect Aberdeen City and Shire Economic Forum (ACSEF) Action Plan 'Delivering the Vision for 2025' and the objectives of the regional transport strategy in the preparation of development plans and associated action programmes, masterplans, development briefs and development management decisions. Consider the need for environmental assessment, appropriate assessment and detailed scheme level mitigation at plan or project level.	<u>ACSEF; Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority; Aberdeenshire Council; Aberdeen City Council;</u> Scottish Enterprise, Airport operator, Port operators, Rail operators, North East Scotland Transport Partnership (Nestrans), Scottish Enterprise.	<p>The structure plan was influenced by regional strategies and plans, including the North East Scotland Transport Partnership's (Nestrans) Regional Transport Strategy and Aberdeen City and Shire Economic Future's Economic Manifesto. Delivery of ACSEF's vision is integrated into the structure plan.</p> <p><i>Nestrans are a key stakeholder in the development of both Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Council's new Local Development Plans. Nestrans are also taking the lead in ensuring that the regional transport impacts of the proposed scale of development are fully assessed and taken into account.</i></p>	<p>Continue to work with partners to strengthen and sustain Aberdeen City and Shire's role as Scotland's Northern Gateway. Continued dialogue in the integration of partners objectives into action programmes, master plans and future development plans.</p> <p>Statutory timescales would indicate that it should be possible to integrate the preparation of the area's first strategic development plan and the next regional transport strategy. This will be worked up in more detail by March 2010.</p>
	UPDATE at June 2011	<p>The structure plan was approved by Scottish Ministers in August 2009 and this was widely welcomed by the business community.</p> <p>Nestrans continues to work with port and airport operators to promote the opportunities for direct links to/from the region. In particular, Aberdeen Airport is actively promoting opportunities for further direct flight links to key destinations in the UK, Scandinavia and continental Europe.</p> <p>It is proposed to refresh the Regional Transport Strategy in parallel with the preparation of a Strategic Development Plan to better link timeframes and ensure compatibility in policy terms.</p> <p>Nestrans, the SDPA and both councils commissioned work on the cumulative impacts of new development and are producing supplementary guidance to deliver a package of interventions to facilitate development proposals in the local development plans. Transport Scotland are also involved in discussions and the guidance will be consulted on in September 2011, subject to approval by the SDPA.</p> <p>In May 2011, Aberdeen Harbour Board announced the start of major works to widen and deepen the navigable channel into Aberdeen Harbour to ensure reliability and improve access particularly during bad weather and heavy swells.</p> <p>Nestrans and other regional transport partnerships are campaigning to secure commitment for landing slots to be retained at London airports.</p>			

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

3	Develop High Speed Rail Link to London.	2009-2012 - Discussions between Scottish Government with the UK Government on the development of a high speed link to reduce journey times between Central Scotland and London to under 3 hours and provide direct services to the Continent. Requirement for identification of route options, environmental assessment, appropriate assessment, and a supporting business case.	<u>Transport Scotland; High Speed 2; Regional Transport Authorities; Department for Transport (DfT).</u>	Nestrans are representing the interests of the North East on the High Speed Rail Stakeholders Group.	Nestrans aim is to ensure that as part of any High Speed Rail link to Scotland, that rail connections from the North East to the central belt are enhanced to allow improved connections to a HSR route and that airport landing slots in London are maintained for Aberdeen flights - air travel to London will remain vital, particularly for businesses in the North East.
	UPDATE at June 2011	<p>Nestrans represents interests outwith the Central Belt on the Scottish Group promoting High Speed Rail to Scotland. The group has emphasised the importance of HSR to Scotland, but also the important contribution that Scotland makes to making the business case for HSR.</p> <p>Nestrans has also emphasised the importance of connectivity within Scotland to ensure that the whole country can benefit from investment in HSR and made the links to other aspects of national planning, including the potential for reducing short-haul domestic flights from areas such as Manchester and central Scotland with the potential that this provides for available slots at Heathrow then being made available for priority destinations within the UK such as Aberdeen, Inverness and Belfast which will not have competitively-timed alternatives through HSR.</p> <p>Nestrans Board approved a paper outlining its policy relating to HSR and links to Heathrow at its meeting on 16 June 2010, following the coalition Government policy statements on these issues. Nestrans continues its involvement in promoting the concept of High Speed Rail, the need for it to extend to Scotland, the case for developing the entire length of the line rather than developing in phases and the linkages to aviation policy in ensuring benefits throughout the country.</p>			

NATIONAL ACTIONS

Development Planning

7	<p>Development Plans to take NPF2 into account.</p>	<p>2009 onwards – Development plans to reflect NPF2 Strategy and National Developments and take forward the mitigation and compensation measures identified in the NPF2 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and NPF2 Appropriate Assessment.</p> <p>2009 onwards – Lead partners and delivery bodies to work in partnership to deliver Planning Reform in accordance with Service Delivery Plans.</p>	<p><u>Planning Authorities;</u> <u>Strategic Development Planning Authorities,</u> Key Agencies – Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Water, Scottish Enterprise, Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE), Regional Transport Partnerships, Crofters Commission, Health Boards, Historic Scotland, Transport Scotland, The Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS), Community Councils, neighbouring planning authorities, Scottish Government – Directorate for the Built Environment.</p>	<p>There is great synergy between the NPF2 and the Structure plan, both in the key strategy and in the inclusion and promotion of the national developments.</p> <p>The NPF2 has been a central framework in the development of the structure plan.</p>	<p>Continue to work with partners in the integration and implementation of NPF2, the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan and in the future development of a strategic development plan.</p> <p>Both Nestrans and the SDPA will take account of NPF2 and emerging thinking about NPF3 in the preparation of the next regional transport strategy and the first strategic development plan.</p>
	<p>UPDATE at June 2011</p>	<p>The SDPA has been engaging with the Scottish Government around the monitoring of NPF2 and ideas for inclusion in NPF3 if such a document is produced. This work will inform the main issues report for the strategic development plan.</p>			

Energy

8	Promote the development of a sub-sea electricity transmission super grid.	<p>Post 2009 – Feasibility studies.</p> <p>2009 – 2012 Liaison between Scottish, Norwegian, Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland Assembly Governments to investigate potential for developing sub-sea super grid to harness marine energy resources and transmit the electricity generated to major continental European markets.</p> <p>Post 2012 – Further assessment in NPF3.</p>	<p><u>Scottish Government - Business, Enterprise and Energy Directorate.</u></p> <p>Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland Assembly, Norwegian Government, the European Commission, Crown Estate, Local Authorities, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Enterprise Highlands and Islands (HIE), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) , Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Planning Authorities, Strategic Development Planning Authorities.</p>	<p>The Structure Plan highlights the potential of a subsea energy network off the east coast, as promoted in the NPF2.</p>	<p>To work with all partners to discuss and promote a sub-sea electricity super grid.</p>
	UPDATE at June 2011	<p>Further discussions have taken place with SHETL, Aberdeenshire Council, SNH, Marine Scotland, SNH and JNCC regarding among other things the onshore implications of offshore grid infrastructure. The SDPA is aware of a number of potential interconnectors that are considering the use of Peterhead as a hub (North Connect and IceScot being two potential projects) as well as feeding offshore transmission into the grid. The SDPA is seeking to ensure that these projects are not seen in isolation.</p>			

9	<p>Promote decentralised energy production, develop local heat networks, combined heat and power and micro-generation.</p>	<p>Pre 2011 – Encourage a mix of renewable and clean energy technologies, harness renewable sources of heat, promote decentralised energy production, including local heat and power schemes and micro-generation, and improve energy efficiency. Reflects Scottish Planning Policy on Renewable Energy Development and Opencast Coal in new development plans and associated action programmes, supplementary planning guidance, and consider the need for environmental assessment, appropriate assessment and detailed scheme level mitigation at plan or project level.</p>	<p><u>Planning Authorities;</u> <u>Strategic Development</u> <u>Planning Authorities,</u> Transmission system owners and operators, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Industry Stakeholders, Scottish Government - Business, Enterprise and Energy Directorate,</p>	<p>The structure plan promotes the development both renewable and efficient energy usage such as combined heat and power schemes. This will be achieved through local development plans, master planning and supplementary guidance.</p>	<p>Engage with lead partners and delivery bodies in the development of local development plans, master planning and supplementary guidance.</p>
	<p>UPDATE</p>	<p>None</p>			

Water and drainage

10	Deliver improvements to water and drainage infrastructure to meet strategic development needs.	2009 onwards – Liaison by delivery partners and Scottish Water to align long term investment in water and drainage infrastructure in accordance with Scottish Water’s quality investment programme, the spatial priorities identified in this Framework and the development priorities identified in development plans. Consider the need for environmental assessment, appropriate assessment and detailed scheme level mitigation at plan or project level.	Scottish Water: Planning Authorities, Strategic Development Planning Authorities, Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Drinking Water Quality Regulator for Scotland.	The structure plan promotes the delivery of improvements to drainage infrastructure	Liaison with the partners to ensure the future water and drainage needs for strategic growth are achieved.
	UPDATE	The SDPA have been involved in discussion with Scottish Water over improvement to water and drainage infrastructure and the need to overcome the piecemeal approach inherent in its investment criteria. The SDPA has also facilitated an increased understanding of the operation of the networks by the two councils.			

11	<p>Deliver sustainable water management supporting diverse industries to flourish whilst recognising the need to protect and improve the water environment.</p>	<p>2009 - Strengthen the links between land use planning and river basin management planning to ensure implementation of the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) with regular liaison between delivery partners.</p> <p>2009 - Scottish River Basin Management Plans (RBMPs) in development plans and Supplementary Planning Guidance</p>	<p><u>Scottish Government-Environmental Quality Directorate; Planning Authorities; Strategic Development Planning Authorities, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Water.</u></p>	<p>The structure plan promotes the delivery of sustainable water management through key targets for water extraction and water saving. The plan emphasises the importance of sustainable use of water.</p>	<p>Liaison with the partners will be required improve the links between river basin management and land use planning.</p> <p>Monitoring water taken from the River Dee by Scottish Water.</p>
	<p>UPDATE at June 2011</p>	<p>A position paper was agreed between the SDPA, both councils, Scottish Water, SEPA and SNH in August 2010. This identified Scottish Water's next investment programme (SR15) as key to identifying and delivering any strategic infrastructure required.</p> <p>The SDPA responded to the Scottish Government consultation on 'sustainability labelling within building standards' which has the potential to increase the efficiency of water use in new homes. Work on this theme will continue through the SDP's main issues report.</p>			

12	Deliver Sustainable Flood Management.	<p>2009 onwards – Flooding Risk Management (Scotland) Act 2009 to create a framework for a strategic approach to flood risk management in Scotland and streamline the planning and flood risk management statutory processes. Have regard to flood risk management plans to be prepared at national (by Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)) and local (by local authorities) levels in partnership with other stakeholders. Management of flood risk will be based on improved risk assessments.</p> <p>Ongoing – Liaison between land use planning and flood risk management planning to ensure implementation of new flooding legislation taking account of long term climate change predictions impacts and associated requirements for adaptation.</p>	<u>Scottish Government- Environmental Quality Directorate; Planning Authorities; Strategic Development Planning Authorities, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Water.</u>	<p>The structure plan highlights the potential problems relating to flood risk, and sets the strategic framework to deliver sustainable flood management.</p>	<p>To work with all partners to promote sustainable flood management.</p> <p>Monitoring development built on land which is at an unacceptable risk of flooding.</p>
	UPDATE at June 2011	<p>The SDPA continues to participate in meetings of the North East Scotland Flood Liaison Group. A strategic flood risk assessment will be prepared as part of the SEA accompanying the main issues report and flooding issues will be considered as part of the Climate Change Study to be published at the same time.</p>			

Transport

13	Develop, Design and Deliver recommendations of the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR) for the 20 years post 2012.	<p>Post 2009 – Continue to develop, design and deliver projects.</p> <p>Post 2012 – 2022 - Develop, Design, Deliver Strategic Transport Projects in line with the recommendations from the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR), taking forward the mitigation measures identified within its Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment. Continue to invest in the national strategic transport networks to support sustainable economic growth.</p>	Transport Scotland, Planning Authorities, Strategic Development Planning Authorities, Regional Transport Partnerships.	<p>The regional strategies and plans such as, the North East Scotland Transport Partnership’s (Nestrans) Regional Transport Strategy and the STPR have a key influence on structure plan.</p> <p><i>The projects relevant to the North East that are contained within the STPR are aligned with the objectives of the Regional Transport Strategy. Discussions have been initiated with Transport Scotland on how these projects can be progressed.</i></p>	<i>To work with all partners on the development, design and deliver recommendations of the Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR)</i>
UPDATE at June 2011	<p>Nestrans and partners have met with the relevant officers with Transport Scotland on a number of occasions to offer to help advance the STPR projects within the north east. In particular, the strategic Park & Ride sites are being taken forward with planning permission secured for the A96 site and design being progressed for the A90 (south) site, including pre-application consultations. These are likely to be constructed as part of the AWPR contract to secure efficiencies.</p> <p>In 2010, Transport Scotland commissioned Network Rail to undertake a major study into the Aberdeen-Inverness railway line. This has now been published, confirming that a two-hour journey time with hourly frequency is feasible, including a new station at Kintore and additional passing loops. The study also confirmed that improvements to Inveramsay Bridge would not impact on the line and this project has now been passed to trunk roads division to progress – they have appointed consultants to develop a preferred option for removing the restriction at this location. Again, Nestrans has offered any support required to progress these issues.</p>				

14	Electrification of the Rail Network Programme.	2009-2016 – Work towards creating an electrified rail network across Scotland to reduce journey times, operating costs and emissions in line with Strategic Transport Projects Review (STPR) Project 6.	Transport Scotland: Network Rail, Regional Transport Partnerships.	The structure plan's proposals include rail improvements to make environmentally friendly forms of transport more attractive, including reducing journey times to Edinburgh, Glasgow and beyond.	<i>Nestrans to continue to work with the rail industry, Transport Scotland and others to promote and support measures to cut journey times, operating costs and emissions and also to improve reliability and reduce overcrowding of rail services.</i>
	UPDATE at June 2011	Nestrans Board had agreed a Rail Action Plan for the north east, identifying medium and long-term priorities for developing rail services within and to/from the north east. Long term electrification of the network to the north east (and possibly between Aberdeen and Inverness) are included as aspiration in that document. The Scottish Government has indicated an aspiration to electrify the primary rail network in Scotland.			
37	Promote active travel.	2009 – 2012 – Work in partnership to promote active travel, including improving cycling and walking opportunities and the completion of a national cycle network well connected to local neighbourhood networks in the preparation of development plans, associated action programmes and development management decisions, and consider the need for environmental assessment, appropriate assessment and detailed scheme level mitigation at plan or project level.	Sustrans: Planning Authorities, Strategic Development Planning Authorities, developers, communities, landowners, Scottish Government.	The structure plan emphasises and promotes active travel. A key aim of the plan in support of the vision is to 'make the most efficient use of the transport network, reducing the need for people to travel and making sure that walking, cycling and public transport are attractive choices'. <i>To achieve increased use of active travel is a key objective of the Regional Transport Strategy and much work has already been done in this area, including establishing the Getabout brand.</i>	Working with partners to further promote and provide the opportunity for active travel.
	UPDATE at June 2011	Nestrans and partners continue to work cooperatively through the Getabout brand and have undertaken a number of high profile activities and events during the past year. The Getabout partners have established a resource including banners, marquee, bicycles including novel vehicles and a range of promotional materials which are used for delivering promotional activities through an agreed calendar. Promoting Active Travel is one of the key themes of the Health & Transport Action Plan and is being delivered jointly with NHS Grampian and local authority partners. A sub-group has been established to ensure that initiatives such as Getabout are effectively managed within the wider health and transport agenda.			

38	Investigate potential for a National Coastal Trail as Scotland's contribution to Europe's North Sea Trail.	2009 onwards - Work towards the creation of a long-distance coastal footpath linked to heritage features and businesses in the preparation of development plans and development management decisions and consider the need for environmental assessment, integrated approach to appropriate assessment and detailed scheme level mitigation at plan or project level.	<u>Planning Authorities;</u> <u>Strategic Development</u> <u>Planning Authorities</u>	Aberdeenshire Council were the lead partner in the North Sea Trail project leading to a waymarked path system covering 91km of the coastline.	This issue will be considered in the context of the preparation of the first strategic development plan.
	UPDATE	Both Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeenshire Council are developing Core Paths Plans and have recognised the importance of coastal links within these plans.			

Housing

39	Deliver growth in the long term supply of homes and improve affordability.	2009 onwards – Deliver in line with Government’s planning policy for housing through the preparation of development plans, Local Housing Strategies, Strategic Housing Investment Plans, masterplans, development briefs and development management decisions and consider the need for environmental assessment, appropriate assessment and detailed scheme level mitigation at plan or project level.	<u>Planning Authorities; Strategic Development Planning Authorities;</u> Scottish Government Housing and Regeneration Directorate, Directorate for the Built Environment, utility companies, developers, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (CoSLA).	The structure plan promotes a long term strategic supply of housing across the plan area (outlined in schedule 1). Providing affordable housing is also critical to delivering sustainable mixed communities objective in the plan. The first phase of the Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA) has been carried out.	Engagement with partners to deliver the government’s planning policy. Working with partners to complete the HNDA. Monitoring of the HNDA and housing land audit.
	UPDATE at June 2011	Aberdeen City and Shire’s first HNDA was assessed as ‘robust and credible’ by the Scottish Government’s Centre for Housing Market Analysis in 2010. An updated assessment was prepared to inform the SDP and local housing strategies. This was assessed as robust and credible in May 2011. Work is ongoing to ensure a robust and consistent relationship between the SDP and local housing strategies prepared by the two councils.			
40	Create Sustainable Communities.	2009-2011 – Targeted support for the 11 exemplar projects and general support available to everyone participating in Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative (SSCI), and monitor and review the impact of the support put in place. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of individual plans as required.	<u>Scottish Government Directorate for the Built Environment; Scottish Government Housing and Regeneration Directorate; Planning Authorities; Strategic Development Planning Authorities,</u> landowners, developers, communities, Architecture and Design Scotland (A&DS), Sust. the Lighthouse.	The structure plan promotes the creation of sustainable mixed communities.	Working with partners to support Scottish Sustainable Communities Initiative proposals, and the creation of sustainable communities in general.

**UPDATE at June
2011**

The SDPA issued an e-alert in March 2011 which informed recipients of the Scottish Government's call for submissions for an SSCI mainstreaming project.

Scotia Homes were the overall winner of the Scottish Awards for Quality in Planning 2010 for a mixed use scheme in Rothienorman, Aberdeenshire. The scheme was on a brownfield sites and incorporated 71 homes of mixed size and tenure, along with commercial space and integrated live/work units.

Forestry Strategy

41	Deliver Scottish Forest Strategy.	2009 – 2012 – Inclusion of Scottish Forest Strategy (SFS) aims to expand woodland cover in development plans and sustainable management of proposals for national level expansion of woodland cover to mitigate any potential effects on other environmental resources and sensitivities, as identified within the SFS Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).	Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) , Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Forest Research, Central Scotland Green Network partners, Local Authority partnerships, Planning Authorities, Strategic Development Planning Authorities, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Central Scotland Forest Trust, Green Network Partnerships, Scottish Government – Rural Payments and Inspections Directorate, Climate Change Network Directorate for the Built Environment.	The structure plan places a strong emphasis on adaptation and mitigation to climate change. Expanding woodland cover could be an element to achieving this.	This issue will be considered in the context of the preparation of the first strategic development plan.
UPDATE		None			

National Ecological Network

42	<p>Develop a National Ecological Network potentially encompassing large strategic habitat restoration projects.</p>	<p>Pre 2010 - Ecological network modelling to be developed and disseminated, to include the development and testing of a land-use decision support toolbox.</p> <p>Pre 2010 - Assessment of habitat fragmentation and landscape permeability for selected key designated locations, to identify concrete, cost-effective and appropriate measures to reduce fragmentation. Links to be strengthened with River Basin Management Planning and Regional Assessment Proposal Committee (RPAC) priorities to facilitate dissemination of findings.</p> <p>Pre 2011- Development of an accessible, quality assured web-based data portal for ecological modelling, to facilitate consistent modelling and joined-up planning decisions</p> <p>Pre 2011 - Inclusion of National Ecological network considerations in relevant development plans and associated action programmes, potentially encompassing large strategic habitat restoration projects.</p>	<p><u>Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)</u>; Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS), Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Forest Research, Central Scotland Green Network partners, Local Authority partnerships, Planning Authorities, Strategic Development Planning Authorities, Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Water, British Waterways, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB), Central Scotland Forest Trust, Green Network Partnerships, Scottish Government-Environmental Quality Directorate, Rural Directorate, Rural Payments and Inspections Directorate, Climate Change Network, Directorate for the Built Environment.</p>	None to date by the SDPA.	This issue will be considered in the context of the preparation of the first strategic development plan.
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		<p>Pre 2011 - Local actions such as projects with potential to encompass large strategic habitat restoration to be taken forward through development plans, associated Action Programmes, supplementary planning guidance and partnership agreements. Consider the need for environmental assessment, appropriate assessment and detailed scheme level mitigation at plan or project level.</p>			
	<p>UPDATE</p>	<p>A meeting is planned with SNH to inform the SDP main issues report.</p>			

Climate Change

43	Implement Scottish Government's policy commitments on Climate Change.	2009 onwards - Reflect the Scottish Government's Climate Change targets, Climate Change Adaptation Framework and Energy Efficiency Action Plan in the preparation of development plans, associated action programmes, supplementary planning guidance and in development management application decisions.	<u>Scottish Government- Climate Change Directorate; Planning Authorities; Strategic Development Planning Authorities;</u> Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) , Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), non-governmental organisations, business and industry, the public sector, communities, and academic / research sector.	Climate change is a main aim of the structure plan and the strategy outlined within the document clearly reflects and in many cases exceeds the targets outlined by the government.	Work with partners in the implementation of climate change commitments through future development plans, action programmes and decisions.
UPDATE at June 2011	<p>The SDPA was invited to sit on a Scottish Government steering group looking at the development of a tool to assess the greenhouse gas impacts of spatial planning policy. The Phase I report was published in February 2011 and work is ongoing regarding the development of the tool to assess the greenhouse gas impacts of SPP.</p> <p>The SDPA facilitated work carried out on behalf of Scottish Enterprise to prepare greenhouse gas reduction scenarios for the area with the North East Climate Change Partnership.</p> <p>Both of these pieces of work will help inform the strategic development plan, with a Climate Change Study being prepared alongside the main issues report. This will incorporate the scenario work carried out with Scottish Enterprise and the NECCP.</p> <p>Nestrans and Aberdeen City Council are partners in CARE North, a European project aimed at reducing carbon emissions from traffic and improving air quality in Aberdeen City Centre. The project has helped develop initiatives such as a proposed car club in Aberdeen, bicycle points, and the consideration of a Low Emission Zone in the City Centre.</p> <p>The Community Planning Partnerships have successfully bid for Scottish Government funding for Low carbon Vehicles, which will be deployed to provide a shared mail service reducing the number of vehicles required by improving efficiencies, reduced mileage and utilising cleaner fuels will further reduce emissions.</p>				

Air Quality

44	Improve Air Quality.	Reflect the objectives set out in the Air Quality Strategy and the Limit Values set out in the EU Directive 2008/50/EC on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe in the preparation of development plans.	<u>Scottish Government- Environmental Quality Directorate;</u> Planning Authorities, Strategic Development Planning Authorities, Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Health and Safety Executive (HSE).	<p>The structure plan promotes a sustainable transport strategy that aims to ensure new development contributes towards reducing travel and encourages sustainable transport options.</p> <p>A more sustainable pattern of transport has a wide range of benefits such as improving accessibility, air quality and provides wider transport benefits.</p> <p><i>Achieving increased use of active travel and improved air quality as part of wider strategies to improve health of north east residents is a key objective of the Regional Transport Strategy. Many of the actions being delivered through the RTS are aimed at reducing car trips and congestion and improving air quality.</i></p>	<i>Nestrans will be working in partnership with Aberdeen City Council to implement measures to improve air quality in the Air Quality Management Areas that have been designated.</i>
	UPDATE at June 2011	Aberdeen City Council has updated and further developed its Air Quality Management Plan, publishing a draft in 2010 with input from Nestrans and other partners.			

Noise

45	Implement Noise Action Plans.	<p>Reflect the objectives of Noise Action Plans required under the terms of EU Directive 2002/49/EC relating to the assessment and management of environmental noise in the preparation of development plans and associated action programmes, supplementary planning guidance (SPG) and development management application decisions.</p>	<u>Scottish Government – Environmental Quality Directorate; Strategic Development Planning Authorities; Planning Authorities.</u>	None to date by the SDPA.	This issue will be considered in the context of the preparation of the first strategic development plan.
	UPDATE at June 2011	<p>EU legislation requires member states to produce maps of their areas showing transport related noise levels and take action to reduce levels in the worst affected areas. Maps were produced by the Scottish Government in 2008 and subsequently Candidate Noise Management Areas (CNMAs) produced identifying the potentially worst areas, including several CNMAs in the north east.</p> <p>Following further consideration of noise exposure in 2010, no CNMAs in the north east will be designated as Noise Management Areas in the near future. However, it should be noted that Aberdeen City falls within a second phase of the requirements of the EU legislation. This means that all transport networks in the City will require to be mapped by 2012 and any potential Noise Management Areas identified by Aberdeen City Council..</p>			

Waste Management Infrastructure

46	<p>Develop network of waste management installations for managing and recycling of waste.</p>	<p>2009 onwards - Development plans to identify locations for the network of waste management installations identified in the National Waste Management Plan.</p> <p>2009 onwards – Reflect Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)'s Thermal Treatment of Waste Guidelines 2009 in determining applications for the next generation of thermal treatment facilities in Scotland to support Government policy on need for energy from waste plants to have high efficiency levels.</p> <p>2009 – Consultation on a new National Waste Management Plan. This will address the need for a network of waste management installations, treating both municipal waste and commercial and industrial waste, to enable EU and domestic waste targets to be met, in line with the Scottish Planning Policy (SPP) and Government objectives on Zero Waste, waste prevention, recycling and composting, energy from waste and heat.</p> <p>2009 - Consider, with CoSLA, the scope for obtaining data on the number of planning applications for waste management infrastructure and on the outcome of such applications. ...⇒</p>	<p><u>Scottish Government;</u> Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), the Scottish Environmental Services Association, Planning Authorities, Strategic Development Planning Authorities, Forum for Renewable Energy Development in Scotland (FREDS), Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (CoSLA), developers, site operators.</p>	<p>The structure plan identifies the need for the development of a waste management solution for the region. It identifies that the two councils should work together to identify and put in place appropriate residual waste management solutions.</p> <p>The draft National Waste Management plan was published on 20 August 2009, a response to this consultation will be made by the SDPA.</p>	<p>Prepare strategic supplementary planning guidance to provide a context for making decisions on future planning applications for waste-management facilities which are regionally significant.</p> <p>This issue will be considered in the context of the preparation of the first strategic development plan.</p>
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	UPDATE at June 2011	<p>The SDPA worked with the two councils, CoSLA and the Scottish Government to clarify the role of land use planning in the delivery of waste management infrastructure. These discussions resulted in the publication of Annexe B to the Zero Waste Plan.</p> <p>Waste management is likely to be a main issue in the SDPA's main issue report to be published in September 2011. It is intended that the policy output from this consultation will find early expression in supplementary planning guidance in advance of SDP approval.</p>			

NOTE: The full NPF2 Action Programme can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/National-Planning-Policy/npf/action-plan>