



From mountain to sea

Planning Information and Delivery Team

September Newsletter



Hello!

Welcome to the Planning Information and Delivery (PI&D) Team's latest newsletter. Outlined within this bulletin is a summary on the Team's most recent publications as well as scheduled release dates for upcoming work.

In this latest issue some of the Team members have provided a case study from projects they have recently been involved with, providing a flavour for the variety of work we undertake.

Should you have any queries regarding any of these projects, or you are interested in how the PI&D Team could assist you please do not hesitate to get in contact. A full list of contact details is provided at the end.

Did you know.....?

Between 2015 and 2016 there was a 1% net increase in the number of rural shops in Aberdeenshire.

Rural Facilities Monitoring Report



Visit aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Recent Publications

Rural Facilities Monitoring Report 2016



Provides an annual account on the number of facilities available within Aberdeenshire's rural communities. All settlements with a resident population of under 3,000 are monitored. The availability of services such as shops, post offices, banks, libraries, village halls and petrol stations have been tracked year on year since the first report in 1981.

SIMD Full Report Aberdeenshire

Detailed report on the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) 2016 data release, for Aberdeenshire. Provides information on the authority's overall ranking, the most and least deprived areas, a break down for each domain as well as an overview for each of our main settlements on the topic of deprivation.



Fishing Bulletin

Annual bulletin summarizing the current state of the fishing industry in the North East of Scotland. Provides figures on the tonnage, type and value of fish landed into the area's harbors as well as the local fishing employment and fleet stock.

Employment Land Audit 2016

Provides information on the supply and availability of employment land in the North-East of Scotland. The audit is undertaken annually by Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils with a base date of April 2016. The audit lists sites which are allocated for employment purposes in the local development plan and any recent completions.

Did you know.....?

Six of Aberdeenshire's 340 data zones are in Scotland's 20% most deprived areas.
2.1% of Aberdeenshire's population resides in these six zones.

SIMD Full Report

Draft Housing Land Audit 2017

The audit is undertaken annually by Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Councils in consultation with a wide range of stakeholders. It has a base date of 1st January 2017 and lists sites which are allocated for housing in the local development plan or have planning consent for housing development. Recent and anticipated completions are recorded for each site.

It is used to determine if there is sufficient land available for housing development and also to inform the planning of future infrastructure such as roads, schools and drainage.



Action Programme July 2017

The Delivery Team is behind Aberdeenshire's latest planning blueprint for future development by producing the 2017 Action Programme. The Action Programme supports delivery of the recently adopted 2017 Local Development Plan and serves as a project management tool to implement the strategy of the plan. The document identifies what is required to deliver the policies and proposals within the plan, the stakeholders responsible for the delivery of the identified actions and timescales involved.

The Action Programme, is considered to be a "live" document, which is periodically refreshed to reflect progress and provide the latest position on sites allocated for development.



Did you know.....?

In 2016 1,151 new homes were built across Aberdeenshire, down 13% from 2015.

**Draft Housing Land
Audit 2017**

Scheduled to be Published August – December 2017

Main Town Profiles	September
Housing Land Audit 2017 (final)	September
House Price Bulletin	September
Household Income Bulletin	September
Quarter 3 Labour Market Bulletin	September
Rural Facilities Monitoring Report	November
New! Economic Bulletin	November
Settlement Statements	December
Employment Land Audit	December
Fishing Bulletin	December



Planning Information & Delivery Team Case Studies

Housing Land Audit



The annual Housing Land Audit (prepared jointly with Aberdeen City Council) has recently been completed and is due for publication shortly. Compiling the audit involves monitoring a wide range of data on housing sites, such as planning consents, completions, developer details and information on any constraints to development. We also consult widely with local house builders and Homes for Scotland, both to obtain details of programming for their own sites and to agree that overall programming for all sites in the audit is realistic. The “5 year effective” housing land supply is calculated by comparing the expected delivery of housing units over the next five years with the housing supply requirement in the Strategic Development Plan for both the Aberdeen and Rural Housing Market Areas.

By annually measuring the quantity of land available for new housing, it can be ensured that an adequate supply is maintained at all times. The audit is also used to inform the local development plan process for future housing land allocation, for school roll forecasts, and future infrastructure provision.

Sarah Shaw - Senior Information and Research Officer

Affordability Analysis



I've recently done some work looking at the affordability of housing in Aberdeenshire. This involved analysing data from a variety of sources including the [Registers of Scotland Sasines](#) for house prices, and [CACI](#) data on household income. The analysis allows for different scenarios to be tested such as varying the mortgage multipliers, the amount of deposits house buyers might have or the cost of housing in different sectors of the market.

Despite the recent downturn in the local housing market due to the fall in oil price, the affordability of housing is still a big issue for Aberdeenshire as increases in household income have not kept pace with rising house prices. In many locations, particularly close to Aberdeen, average house prices are seven or eight times higher than average household income.

This analysis has been used to inform the 2017 [Housing Need and Demand Assessment](#) which is nearing completion, and the ongoing monitoring of affordability carried out by colleagues in Housing.

Mel Greig – Senior Information and Research Officer



Local Plan Monitoring

The new Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2017 was approved on 17 April 2017. My role involves monitoring this plan to provide accurate data to various teams including the policy team and the delivery team. The data informs a number of monitoring documents, such as the housing and employment audits, the action program and the review of the ALDP policies, which in turn informs the next development plan. The monitoring process needed to be in place from the start of the new plan.

Following a review of the ALP2012 monitoring processes and discussions with the local plan and development management teams, new processes have been implemented. These include a TASK monitoring sheet for DM planners to guide them through the monitoring fields in the planning database. Similarly, I forward the monitoring data (planning decisions, policy usage and constraints) to the policy planners on a weekly basis for them to analyse the information.

This 2 fold approach, working closely with these 2 teams, means that if issues arise they can be considered and dealt with timeously. The processes will be regularly reviewed and up-dated over the life span of the development plan.

Jane Whytock-Celeste - Information and Research Officer

Settlement Profiles



As an Information and Research Officer I've been working on a "Settlement Profiles" project, the aim of which is to ensure there is a comprehensive understanding of Aberdeenshire's settlements, in terms of their composition, situation, and character. This will be achieved through the consolidation of all identified data currently held on each settlement while simultaneously identifying any knowledge gaps and proposing mechanisms to address these.

Once completed the data will be used to form individual Settlement Profiles and a corresponding database. These profiles will be presented as "Fact Sheets", one for each for Aberdeenshire's settlements. The information will be displayed in an ease to use format, including graphics and maps were applicable, thus creating a "one-stop-shop" for all information concerning that settlement. The corresponding dataset is the underlying data which supports the profiles. There will also be a source list outlining where information has been obtained from to assist with future updates.

Vicky Morris – Information and Research Officer



Action Programme

As a member of the Delivery Team I have been involved in the preparation of the Action Programme (see **Recent Publications above**). This work is carried out with consultation from key agencies, landowners and the development industry. As a Team we are actively working with developers and others to deliver sites allocated in the 2017 Local Development Plan and can offer assistance to any developer or landowner wishing to progress a development site.

Aoife Murphy – Project Officer (Delivery)



Macduff Small Grant Scheme

As a member of the Delivery Team I have been working on the “Macduff Small Grant Scheme”, a project which aims to improve the visual appeal of the north coast town. Working in partnership with Economic Development’s Regeneration Team, we are ensuring activities tie in with the rest of the planned regeneration work and supports the Town Action Plan.

The project is still in the early stages but so far the main thoroughfares of Macduff have been assessed and appropriate works which would support the project aims have been identified. Contact has been made with the occupiers/owners of the key buildings which would benefit from these works. Individuals have been encouraged to submit an application for grants to be used for repairs to improve their building’s aesthetics.

The next stage will be to assess the applications following the submission deadline on the 31st August.

Fiona Thompson – Project Officer (Delivery)



Chapelton Project Team

I assist the Kincardine and Mearns area manager, Willie Munro, by organising monthly project team meetings for the new settlement of Chapelton. These meetings bring together key stake holders involved in the project to facilitate communication and promote positive actions, ensuring development progresses efficiently. My role involves compiling agenda items, taking minutes and monitoring subsequent actions.

These meetings have been generally well attended by different parties throughout the life of the development to date and it is beneficial to be able to adjust attendees as necessary depending on the stage(s) of the construction and emerging matters.

Having the project team work so closely together and be kept informed of progress/ issues has meant that any issues arising are better understood by each party and are therefore easier to be resolved.

As part of this role, I also assist with the organisation of the bi-annual Liaison Committee meetings which involve the Duke and Duchess of Fife, members of the Elsick Development Company, Councillors, Aberdeenshire Council officers, Community Council members and resident representatives of the new community

Kirsty Black – Project Officer (Delivery)

Delivery Team in Banff, visiting sites for development brief



Contact Us

Team Leader David MacLennan
01467 619 786

Information, statistics and research enquires

Contact: Mel Greig/ Sarah Shaw (Senior)

Jane Whytock-Celeste

Paula Argo

Vicky Morris

Call 01467 536 230

Email statistics@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/statistics



Delivery enquires

Contact: Kirsty Black

Aoife Murphy

Fiona Thompson

Call 01467 536 230

Email delivery@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/planning/plans-and-policies/delivering-development/

Strategic Environmental Assessment Enquiries

Contact: Joseph Somevi

Call 01467 536 230

Email joseph.somevi@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Website <http://www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/environment/green-living/strategic-environmental-assessment-sea/>
