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ABERDEENSHIRE
COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT
PLAN SCHEME
APRIL 2012



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ABERDEENSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2012

DEVELOPMENT PLAN SCHEME

1. Introduction

This Development Plan Scheme sets out our programme for preparing (and reviewing) the Local Development Plan. We have written it to provide information on what our programme for the adoption of the new Local Development Plan and associated Supplementary Guidance will be, and how and when businesses, landowners and communities can become involved in preparation of supporting publications.

2. The development plan

The current Development Plan for Aberdeenshire is the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan (2009) and the Aberdeenshire Local Plan (2006). These are informed by the National Planning Framework for Scotland, which is prepared by the Scottish Government. This framework sets out their strategy for the development of different areas of Scotland, including national developments and priorities.

The Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan sets out a long term development strategy for the area. A Strategic Development Plan will replace it in 2013 and a Main Issues Report for this plan was published in 2011.

In the course of this year the Aberdeenshire Local Plan will be replaced by the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan. This plan will be in conformity with the Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan 2009.

We have to consider applications for Planning Permission against the current Development Plan, associated Supplementary Guidance, and other material considerations.

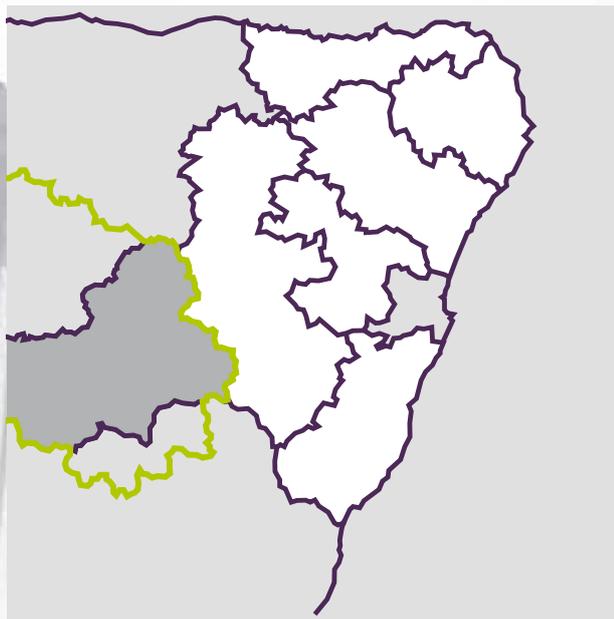
The current statutory Planning framework is described below:

Statutory Plans	
Aberdeen City and Shire Structure Plan	August 2009
Aberdeenshire Local Plan	June 2006
Supplementary Guidance	
Retail Impact Assessment Guidance	December 2004
Allocated and Existing Employment Land	December 2004
Development in the Countryside	December 2004
Use of Wind Energy in Aberdeenshire – Guidance for Applicants	August 2005
Use of Wind Energy in Aberdeenshire – Guidance for Assessing Wind Energy Development	
Applications for housing development on Phase II sites identified in the Aberdeenshire Local Plan	December 2005
Use of Biomass Energy in Aberdeenshire – Information Requirements and Policy Interpretation	January 2006
Carbon Neutrality in New Developments	January 2009

The new local development plan will replace the Aberdeenshire Local Plan as the local planning framework for the area early in 2012. This plan is supported by a new set of 7 volumes of supplementary guidance that will extend and replace all the existing Supplementary Planning Guidance referred to above.

The local development plan is supported by an “Action Programme”. This will identify what is required to deliver development proposals included in the local development plan; the name of who is to carry out each action; and the timescale for carrying out each action. We are required to review regularly the Action Programme and intend to do so on a rolling basis. It will be formally published every 2 years.

The local development plan will cover all of Aberdeenshire except for that area which is within the Cairngorms National Park. This area has its own Local Development Plan. The area covered by the Local Development Plan is shown on the adjacent diagram.



Key to Areas

Aberdeenshire and its six areas	
Cairngorms National Park	
Local Development Plan Area	

3. The timetable for plan preparation

Over the past three years we have engaged in an inclusive and open process for producing the Local Development Plan based on the presentation of major options within the “Main Issues Report”. Consultations on this concluded in July 2009. The comments provided were used to prepare a Proposed Plan published in June 2010.

We invited people to make their views known on the proposed plan and we received over 2800 submissions. These were examined by a reporter from the Directorate of Planning and Environmental Appeals (DPEA), appointed by Scottish Ministers who have made binding recommendations on ways in which the plan should be changed.

In a parallel and related process we published the 7 volumes of Supplementary Guidance and comments were invited. Aberdeenshire Council will consider the views expressed on these volumes and is able to adopt some of these immediately. Where changes made to the plan through examination require change to the Supplementary Guidance we will re-draft and re-consult on the updated Supplementary Guidance during 2012.

The action programme will be developed and kept up to date as a live document. It will be published shortly after the adoption of the Local Development Plan, probably in June 2012. Further Supplementary Guidance may be produced for sites in association with the Action Programme.

Finally, following consultation with stakeholders, we will continue to produce Planning Advice to illustrate how policies included in the Plan should be interpreted. Details of the proposed timing of these stages are provided below. How people can become involved is provided in section 4 titled “The Participation Statement”.

Table 1 Our timetable for the production of the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan

Period	Description	Comment
May 2009	Publication of the Main Issues Report, draft Environmental Report and Monitoring Report.	This resulted in 3090 responses and a total of 28024 individual comments.
June 2010	Publication of the Proposed Plan and associated supplementary guidance, Environmental Report, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Equalities Assessment and draft Action programme.	This resulted in 2836 responses. Analysis identified 5666 points raised, which were considered against approximately 144 "Issues" for the purposes of examination.
March 2011	The Proposed Plan was submitted to Ministers for examination. DPEA undertook Examination of the Plan.	10 Hearing sessions were held on the Local Development Plan, including consideration of topic based and area based policies. 7 Requests for further information were received from the DPEA
June – December 2011	Additional Supplementary Guidance and Planning Advice was prepared on design and layout of development in the Energetica Corridor, and the methodologies for the calculation of the exact levels of developer contributions. Planning advice was prepared to detail the method used to identify a shortfall in the effective land supply and to clarify how issues of landscape character should be addressed in development management decisions.	Preparation for and attendance at the Hearings associated with the examination resulted in the Planning Advice on Landscape Character not yet being completed. This will be completed early in 2012.
February 2012	The DPEA report on the examination. The Environmental Report and Habitats Regulations Assessment will be modified to reflect proposed changes.	We will publicise the DPEA's report on the Council website and through the media.

<p>March 2012</p>	<p>We will re-draft Supplementary Guidance affected by the Reporters' recommendations for initial consideration by Members of Aberdeenshire Council</p> <p>We will redraft Supplementary Guidance on Developer Contributions in the light of responses to a targeted consultation started in 2011.</p> <p>We will commence a programme of review of existing non-statutory supplementary planning guidance so as to make it fit for use as planning advice in the context of the Local Development Plan.</p>	<p>This Guidance will also be subjected to Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitats Regulations Assessment and Equalities Assessment. The existing assessments will be revised to reflect changes in the Supplementary Guidance.</p> <p>This will entail the revision of references within the advice and the abandonment of advice that is no longer relevant.</p>
<p>April 2012</p>	<p>Aberdeenshire Council will resolve whether to accept the recommendations in whole or in part and adopt the plan. If so decided we will publish the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2012.</p> <p>Aberdeenshire Council will adopt Supplementary Guidance that is unaffected by the reporters recommendations.</p> <p>We will publish the amended Supplementary Guidance for consultation.</p>	<p>We will write to all those who made representations on the proposed plan and / or Supplementary Guidance advising them of its adoption.</p> <p>Full consultation will be undertaken on the amended Supplementary Guidance including publishing it on the Council's website, lodging it in local libraries and ensuring that community councils and those who made representations to the Supplementary Guidance in 2010 are made aware of the consultation.</p>
<p>July 2012</p>	<p>We will publish the local development plan action programme.</p> <p>We will publish draft planning advice on Rural Development.</p> <p>We will publish draft Planning Advice on the use of Landscape Character.</p>	<p>The planning advice will reflect targeted consultations undertaken with stakeholders as detailed in Section 5.</p>
<p>October 2012</p>	<p>We will report on submissions made to the amended Supplementary Guidance and adopt and publish the amended Guidance.</p> <p>We will review the Environmental Report and the Habitats Regulations Assessment associated with this supplementary guidance.</p>	<p>We will write to all those who made representations on the Supplementary Guidance advising them of its adoption.</p>
<p>2013</p>	<p>Research will start on the production of a main issues report for the 2016 local development plan.</p>	<p>This marks the start of the production of the 2016 Local development Plan.</p>

4. How can you get involved: The Participation Statement

Aberdeenshire Council is committed to the principles that:

- Community engagement must be meaningful.
- Community engagement must be at an early stage to influence the shape of plans and proposals.
- It is essential for people and interest groups to get involved in the preparation of Development Plans as this is where decisions, at the larger scale, for instance on the strategy for growth or protection, are made.

Aberdeenshire Council has adopted the “Standards for Community Engagement” in the development of its strategy for getting people involved in the drawing up of the Local Development Plan.

Engagement on the Development Plan Scheme

- The Development Plan Scheme will be published and press attention drawn to it. A copy will be sent to all of the groups listed in section 5: titled “Who will we consult?”
- The development plan scheme will be published on the www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk web site.

Engagement on the amended supplementary guidance

Once the draft amended Supplementary Guidance has been approved by Aberdeenshire Council for consultation:

- We will publish statutory notices in local papers, allowing 6 weeks for people to give us their views.
- We will place a copy of the guidance on our website and distribute copies to the Area offices and all libraries within Aberdeenshire.
- We will write to all those who made representation to the proposed plan or on topics related to the Supplementary Guidance, alerting them to the publication of the Guidance.
- We will write to all relevant Community Councils, key agencies and other stakeholders identified in Section 5 with a copy of the proposed additional Supplementary Guidance.

Throughout the consultation periods:

- We will meet with those wishing to make representations to try and resolve any issues.

In September 2012:

- We will acknowledge all responses made to the additional Supplementary Guidance and publish a report on whether any submissions made will result in a change.

Engagement on the Planning Advice

Once we have prepared draft Planning Advice:

- We will engage with stakeholders identified in Section 5 by providing them with a copy of the draft planning advice

5. Who will we consult?

The following table identifies with whom we will consult on the proposed supplementary guidance (SG) and planning advice (PA) proposed for development in 2012:

	Amended Supplementary guidance	Developer contributions SG (2011)	Landscape Character PA	Rural Development PA
Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce	✓	✓		
Aberdeen City and Shire Economic Futures (ACSEF)	✓	✓		
Aberdeen City and Shire Strategic Development Planning Authority	✓	✓		✓
Aberdeen City Council	✓	✓		✓
Aberdeen Design Forum	✓		✓	
Aberdeen Renewable Energy Group	✓		✓	
Aberdeen Solicitors Property Centre	✓			✓
Aberdeenshire Environmental Forum	✓		✓	
Aberdeenshire Local Housing Strategy Group	✓	✓		✓
Angus Council	✓	✓		✓
British Airports Authority, Aberdeen	✓		✓	
British Telecom	✓	✓		
Banffshire Coast Tourism Partnership	✓		✓	✓
Buchan Partnership	✓		✓	
Centrica	✓	✓		
Civil Aviation Authority	✓	✓	✓	
All Community Councils or Community Associations within the Local Development Plan area	✓	✓	✓	✓
Disability 2 Opportunity				
Federation of Small Businesses NE Scotland	✓			✓
Freight Transport Association	✓			
Friends of the Earth	✓	✓		

	Amended Supplementary guidance	Developer contributions SG (2011)	Landscape Character PA	Rural Development PA
Formartine Partnership	✓		✓	
Grampian Community Care Charitable Trust	✓	✓		
Grampian Forum of Voluntary Organisations	✓	✓		
Grampian House Builders Committee of Homes for Scotland	✓	✓	✓	✓
Grampian Primary Care NHS Trust	✓			
Gypsy Traveller Education and Information Project (GREC)	✓	✓		✓
Historic Scotland	✓		✓	
Institution of Civil Engineers Agriculture Advisory Group	✓		✓	
Marr Area Partnership	✓		✓	
National Farmers Union	✓		✓	
National Grid plc	✓		✓	
National Trust for Scotland	✓		✓	
North East Banffshire Tourism Trust	✓		✓	
North East Forest Industries Group	✓		✓	
North East of Scotland Transport Authority (NESTRANS)	✓	✓		
North East Scotland Joint Public Sector Property Group	✓	✓		
Peterhead Business Association	✓			
Peterhead Port Authority	✓			
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	✓		✓	
Royal Town Planning Institute, Grampian Chapter	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scottish and Southern Hydro Electric	✓			
Scottish Enterprise	✓	✓		
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	✓		✓	

	Amended Supplementary guidance	Developer contributions SG (2011)	Landscape Character PA	Rural Development PA
Scottish Gas	✓	✓		
Scottish Natural Heritage	✓		✓	
Scottish Land and Estates	✓		✓	✓
Scottish Water	✓	✓		
Scottish Youth Parliament	✓	✓		
Sports Scotland	✓	✓		
The Cairngorms National Park Authority	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Moray Council	✓	✓		✓
Towns Together Forum	✓			
Transport Scotland	✓	✓		
Youth Dialogue, Aberdeenshire Council	✓	✓	✓	✓

This document is the Development Plan Scheme. It identifies the timetable and our proposals for consultation on the Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2012

If you need help reading this document (for example if you need it in a different format or in another language), please phone us on 01224 665168.

Если требуется помощь при выборе языка /переводчика или других способов общения, звоните по телефону :01224 665168

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